



# Jednota

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## Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving 2014

For most of us Thanksgiving is a very pleasant event. We have family gatherings and relax and enjoy each others' company. In many instances, Mom or Grandma (Babička) put in long hours of work to prepare and serve the meal or meals. We should thank them for their loving efforts. Household family members who live many miles away gather and share their latest life experiences.

But not all of us are all that fortunate at Thanksgiving. Those who face unemployment or

illness or loneliness need compassion and help. In our nation of overall plenty there are many of those less fortunate.

I urge you to reach out in any way possible, whether it be with time, money or other caring ways to those in need. There are many unrecognized people who volunteer their time and efforts in helping the elderly, infirm or others in need. God bless them.

Christ said that whatever you do for the least of my brethren you do for me.

What lies ahead none of us knows, however we can be assured that Christ will provide us the strength we need if we open our heart to Him and to our brothers and sisters in need.

Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to you and your family, from my family, and all of us at the First Catholic Slovak Union.



Andrew M. Rajec

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Members on Thanksgiving Day!

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

### Christmas Coloring Contest in this issue



**Hey, Kids.**  
Sharpen your  
crayons!

It's time once again for the annual National Christmas Coloring Contest. See pages 4-5 of this issue for details.

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## GOBBLE UP THESE RATES... AND YOU'LL BE THANKFUL

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# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.

**November 23, 2014 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus**

**Christ, King of the Universe**

**Gospel Matthew 25 – 31 - 46**

Let us begin by quoting some of the beliefs we regularly profess in the Nicene Creed; “the Only Begotten Son of God, ... begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father, ... by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man ... He suffered death and was buried, and

rose again on the third day, ... He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.”

Only one man, Jesus, can claim all of the statements above, no one else who has ever walked upon this earth can claim even one of them.

The last Sunday of the Church year is commonly known as Christ the King. Next Sunday we begin the new Church Year with the First Sunday of Advent. This last Sunday of the Church year is one on which we sum up all that we celebrated in the past year, under the title of “Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.” As we come to the end of the Church Year it is similar to our coming to the end of the calendar year when we take stock of our lives and make “new year’s” resolutions.

The Gospel is a story of judgment that reflects the line we profess in the Creed, “He will come to judge the living and the dead.” How am I preparing for judgment? Have I grown in my faith and how have I live my faith during this past church year? What Jesus presents as the criteria for eternal life is how we recognize and care for him. He identifies himself with those in need. The list he gives is the basis for what we know as the Corporal Works of Mercy; feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting those in prisons. To this the church adds, to shelter the homeless and bury the dead. The failure to practice these works of mercy is a failure on our part to care for Jesus himself. Jesus is telling us that the attitude we have and our actions or lack of actions toward the hungry, thirsty, the homeless, the naked, the sick, the prisoners, is the attitude and action or lack of action toward Jesus Himself.

If you feel a little unsettled because you are lacking in attitude or deed in helping the various needs as identified above, then this is the time of year to rethink those attitudes and to work at seeing Jesus more and more in those in need. Maybe this is the “new (church year) resolution” that we should make, to grow more aware of Jesus in the various needs of the people around us. We can begin Advent next Sunday not only with hearts generous in donating to the numerous charities that make appeals to us, but also in working to change the way that might not be to accepting and loving, and might even be judgmental toward those who are in need.

Finally, I believe that when Jesus speaks of judgment he does not do so to frighten us away from him, nor to beat ourselves up because of our failings. Jesus desires that we be with him in the Father’s house, and his words are a call for us to change for the better. They are words that challenge us to leave behind our faults, and then to move ahead with new zeal to follow more faithfully Christ our King.

**First Sunday of Advent — November 30th 2014 —  
Lectionary #2**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new year in the life of the Church, yet the gospel today speaks of the coming of the Lord in judgment at the end of time. If we think about it for a moment we realize that the hope-filled expectation we show during Advent and the waiting that Jesus commands in the gospel both stand in anticipation of the same event: the coming of the Messiah.

Each year of course we look ahead with joy and longing to the celebration of Jesus’ birth on Christmas Day, and throughout our lives we await, if in a less formal though more tremulous way, his definitive coming in glory and in judgment. This latter expectation is reflected in a solemn doctrine of our Catholic faith, recorded in the creed we pray at mass each Sunday: “...He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead”.

These two periods of expectant waiting highlight the importance of such watchfulness in the life of Israel, and in the life of the Church throughout the ages as well as at the present time.

As noted in the first reading Isaiah the prophet expected the coming of the Lord in power, leading Israel to victory over her foes: “Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage!...Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!” (Isa 63:17, 19). What we behold on Christmas Day, however, is the coming of the Lord not in conquering power, but in powerlessness, in the humble crèche in Bethlehem. Then again, maybe it wasn’t powerlessness as much as power expressed in a very different way—through mercy and redemption.

After all, this is what Jesus taught his disciples throughout the course of his ministry, in which he was focused so clearly on proclaiming the coming and the presence of the Kingdom of God—that realm in which blessedness is measured not by worldly standards of dominion but by true justice and by the teachings of the beatitudes: a Kingdom where as St. Paul would later say: “power is made perfect in weakness...” (2 Cor 12:9).

The Kingdom of God which we await will indeed be characterized by justice, which can be fearsome at times, yet the Lord’s return in glory will also be marked by mercy and gracious kindness to us, his people, in spite of our frequent infidelities. Already from the beginning of his life in the flesh Jesus is thus teaching us about the Kingdom, even though it will only come in its fullness at the end of time.

Our watchfulness therefore needs to be carefully attuned to the hallmarks of the Kingdom, and we need to call ourselves to task continually in order that we may pursue these same virtues and qualities in accordance with the urgent command of Jesus himself in the gospel.

As we begin a new year of faith this Advent, we are surrounded by many causes for both hope and concern in our world. Amidst all of this let us rest assured that we will be prepared as people of hope, justice, and mercy for the coming of the Messiah—for his birth in Bethlehem, for his final coming in judgment, and for all those moments when he may appear in the course of our lives—if only we are faithful to the words of the Lord which he speaks to us in the liturgy today: “What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’” (Mark 13:37).



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

## 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, DEC, 3	MONDAY, NOV. 24
WEDNESDAY, JAN, 14	MONDAY, JAN. 5
WEDNESDAY, JAN 28	MONDAY, JAN 19

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FAX: 216-642-4310

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

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## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

# Appreciate and Embrace Life This Thanksgiving

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I can't help but think of a TV show I watched over the summer: season two of the documentary TV series "NY Med" (season one won a 2013 Christopher Award). In case you're not familiar with it, producers took cameras into New York Presbyterian Hospital and Newark's University Hospital. There, they acted as invisible observers, providing a window into the perils, tensions, and comic moments that constitute everyday life for doctors, nurses, and patients.

So what does that have to do with Thanksgiving? Well, the holiday's purpose is expressing gratitude for our blessings. But with the busyness of modern life, we sometimes need reminders of how precious our loved ones really are. And boy, does "NY Med" bring that truth home!

Consider the case of Chris Molnar, a 19-year-old who went through basic training as a Marine only to come home on leave and suffer a stroke. Doctors discovered that Molnar suffers from a severe cardiac disease that enlarged his heart to five times its normal size. As a stopgap measure, they surgically implanted a pump that would help his heart function, but recovery was so uncertain that doctors and the hospital chaplain told his parents and sisters to prepare themselves for his passing.

Though Molnar survived that incident, he was told he needed a heart transplant in order to live. "NY Med's" crew followed his family's journey, and the conflicting emotions of this sad predicament. For instance, Molnar's mom admitted, "The bottom line is that somebody else has to die so that he can live, and it feels a little selfish."

Still, the call comes that a heart has become available, and we get to see both the surgery itself and the family's excruciating wait for news. Watching the Molnars pull together during this time offers a reminder that love becomes more deep and intense when you're threatened with its loss. Thankfully, this story has a happy ending. Chris pulled through and is doing well with his new heart.

Another example is the story of Rita Respass-Brown, whose kidneys were functioning at only six percent. She would need a transplant in order to stay alive. When her 24-year-old son Tony heard the news, he got tested to see if his kidney would be a match for his mom. It was a perfect match, so he told her that he would be her donor. Rita felt reluctant because she didn't want Tony to make such a big sacrifice for her. But he asked her, "Mom, what does it mean to you for someone to give you a kidney?" Rita responded, "Life!"

Tony answered, "That's why I'm going to give you my kidney. You gave me life—and you don't have the right to deny me the ability to do for you what you did for me." The transplant went well, giving both mother and son a new appreciation for each other.

As you celebrate Thanksgiving with your family this year, remember to look at the people you love through the eyes of gratitude. Our culture may tell you that happiness is grounded in great Black Friday sales. But as "NY Med" reminds us, happiness is found in much simpler, less financially costly things: showing love to family, friends, and strangers; seeking fulfillment in helping others; being grateful for all your blessings; and using the pain in your life to make you a better, more compassionate person. If you pursue those avenues in your life, with the grace of God, you'll always have something to be truly thankful for.

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

## March for Life



Our presence at the 42nd Annual Right to Life March on Thursday, January 22, 2015 in Washington, DC is extremely important. The First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association support the position of the Pro Life Movement.

The FCSU and the FCCLA are once again offering free transportation from the FCCLA Home Office in Beachwood, OH, for this very important trip. For the past

few years we have filled two buses for this march. Again this year, we will reserve two buses for the March. Our organizations are proud to encourage our members, along with many young students from area Catholic High Schools, to participate. It is a very rewarding experience to actively participate and help relay this very important message of supporting the Right to Life mission.

Will you join us? Please call Kelly at the FCCLA home Office. Her phone number is 800-464-4642 EXT. 1051 or email her at [Kelly@fcsla.org](mailto:Kelly@fcsla.org) for details or questions and to reserve your seat on the bus before December 29th. The buses fill up quickly and seating is limited so don't wait until the last minute to reserve your seat.

If you would like to attend and are unable to join those leaving from the FCCLA Home Office, please look online for information and transportation. Call your local church or diocese, they may be able to help.

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

## SS. Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Christian Mothers Will Host a Slovak "Vilija"



On Friday, December 5, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in their church hall at 50 N. Morgantown St., Fairchance, PA 15436 Admission is \$20.00 per person and children \$7.00 for 14 and under.

Checks payable to "Ss. Cyril and Methodius Christian Mothers" and mailed to:

Jean Thompson, 24 E. Church St., Fairchance, PA 15436, her phone 724-564-2641

The Vilija (vah lee ah), literally "vigil" in Slovak, is the Christmas Eve Holy Supper and will include a meatless 12-item meal to commemorate Christ's birth. Each of the 12 items represents the 12 apostles.

The evening will also include entertainment by The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PÁS) who are one of the premier ethnic performing groups in Pittsburgh for more than 40years. They recreate the splendor of Slovakia through traditional folk music, song and dance. They will also be selling Slovak items.

Jean A. Thompson – Chairman of Vilija  
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Roman Catholic Church  
50 N. Morgantown St.  
Fairchance, PA 15436

## United Slovak Societies Traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner in Lorain

United Slovak Societies will host a traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner on Sunday December 7, 2014, at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH, featuring the Ladies Auxiliary Perch, Pierohi, Bobalki, Sauerkraut Soup, Oplatky, Kolacki and more.



- 5:30PM, cocktails, 6:00PM dinner
- Entertainment by Ralph the Accordion Man
- Open to the Public and Advanced Ticket Sales Only
- Tickets for Vilija dinner are \$20.00 per person.
- Contact Len at 440/988-3236

Michele Mager  
Secretary-United Slovak Societies  
Board of Director Member,  
American Slovak Club- Lorain, O.

## Nov. Benefit at St. Andrew Abbey Benedictine Order of Cleveland



The Abbey Annual Benefit was held this year on Sunday, November 2, 2014 at the Church of the Assumption in Broadview Hts., OH. Mass began at 12:15 PM and the Banquet at 1:15 PM, followed by a welcome from Master of Ceremonies Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB, and the innovation by Abbot Gary A. Hoover, OSB.

After dinner, attendees enjoyed music by the Benedictine High School Men's Choir and a Slovak Auction Drawing. The First Catholic Slovak Union, represented by Home Office employees Karen Davis, Robert Kopco, Andrew P. Rajec, and Barbara Sutilla. The day concluded with a benediction from Rev. Timothy Buyansky, OSB, and singing of the Ultima by the Benedictine Monks.

All the monks of St. Andrew Abbey are members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 24.



[L-R] FCSU members and home office staff: Andrew P. Rajec, Karen Davis, Barb Sutilla, and Robert Kopco.

# *FCSU 2014 Christmas Coloring Contest*

Christmas Angels  
by P.Z. Mann

A

The Whittles lived in Humbleburg,  
As poor as poor can be,  
But all their neighbors loved them,  
For their generosity.

For though the Whittles' shelves were bare,  
Their cottage tumbledown,  
When Christmas came they made a toy,  
For every child in town.

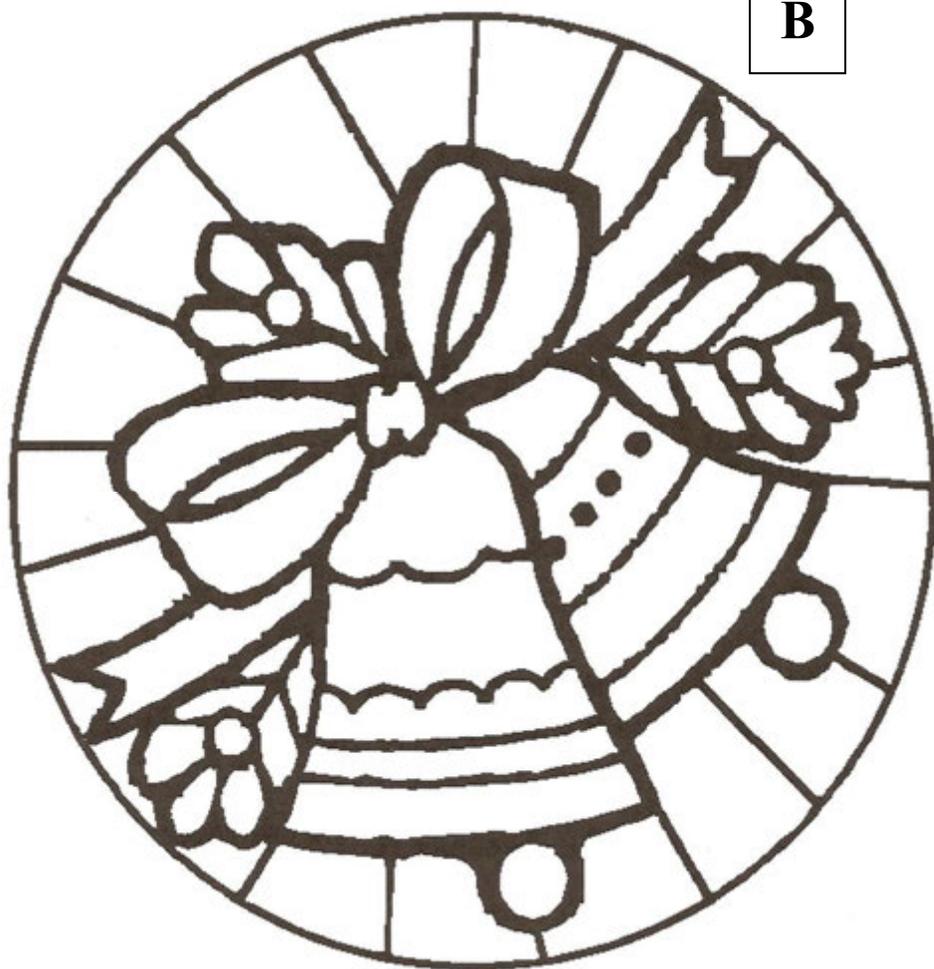
One Christmas Eve they climbed in bed,  
After all the toys were made;  
And while they dreamed of better times,  
The Whittles were repaid.

That night three Christmas angels came,  
To give them a reward --  
For heaven won't let any act  
Of kindness be ignored.

One angel searched the cupboard  
And found just a crust of bread;  
"Now, this won't do", she whispered,  
"Let's prepare a feast instead!"



B



The angels flapped their magic wings,  
As only they are able,  
And in a flash a flood of food  
Filled all the shelves and table!

The tiny house still looked quite drab,  
It needed to be cheered;  
And as the angels waved their wings,  
A Christmas tree appeared!

Two angels trimmed the pretty tree;  
The third flew to and fro,  
Hanging bells and holly boughs,  
And sprigs of mistletoe.

Outside, the angels dressed the house  
With icicles and snow,  
And on the door they placed a wreath,  
Complete with a bright red bow!

They finished all they came to do,  
Before the break of day,  
And as the Whittles roused from sleep,  
The angels flew away.

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

# FCSU 2014 Christmas Coloring Contest

C

Now, when the Whittles saw the food  
And all the decoration,  
They pinched themselves and wept for joy,  
Then danced in celebration!

As word spread through the village  
Of their heaven-sent surprise;  
Every Humbleburger came  
To see with their own two eyes!

The Whittles shared their Christmas feast-  
They emptied all the shelves;  
Their kindness wouldn't let them keep  
Good fortune to themselves.

When everyone had cleaned their plate,  
They all joined in a song;  
And up above-though no one heard-  
The angels sang along!



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## RULES

- Each age group is assigned a certain picture:  
**4 – 6 year olds – picture A**  
**7 – 9 year olds – picture B**  
**10 – 12 year olds – picture C**
- Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
- Pictures are allowed to be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
- Children **MUST** be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
- Your child's completed entry form, colored picture, and a photo of your child must be postmarked by **December 31, 2014**.
- Mail to:  
Rudy Ondrejco  
Fraternal Activities Director  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

*Please submit this form with your child's entry by December 31, 2014*

Child's Name: _____	Age: _____
Certificate Number: _____	Branch Number: _____ (MUST be filled in)
Street Address: _____	
City, State, Zip: _____	
Phone Number: _____	
Email Address: _____	
T-Shirt Size: (Please Circle One)	
Child	S    M    L    XL    Adult    S    M    L    XL

## PRIZES

*Winners in each Region and age group will receive the following:*  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$25.00**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$15.00**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$10.00**  
**Honorable Mention - \$5 Gift Card**



## Christmas Oplatky 2014

*Oplatky*, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 20 until December 19, 2014.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests

can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to **Jankola Library** is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

# Daughter of Greek Catholic immigrant parents from Bardejov in Slovakia Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Beatified at the Cathedral-Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J.

By Daniel F. Tanzone

The long-awaited beatification of the Venerable Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth of Convent Station, N.J., took place on Saturday, October 4 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. Presiding at the Mass of Beatification was His Eminence Angelo Cardinal Amato, S.D.B., Prefect of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints and representative of the Holy Father Pope Francis. Sister Miriam Teresa was the first American to be beatified in the United States following the revised rules for the process of canonization. In the past, all beatifications took place in Rome. The Newark beatification was a tribute to the American Church in general and the Church of New Jersey in particular.

The damp, rainy weather did not deter the nearly 3,000 of the faithful from all parts of the country and walks of life who enthusiastically filled the Cathedral Basilica to overflowing for the spirit-filled liturgy. Cardinal Amato celebrated the Mass. Joining him were the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, Newark Archbishop John J. Myers, Paterson Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, in whose diocese Sister Miriam Teresa served and in which her cause was first introduced in 1946; Paterson's Bishop-emeritus Frank J. Rodimer, who greatly advanced the cause; and Bishop Kurt Burnette, head of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, in which Sister Miriam Teresa was baptized and chrismated. An additional six bishops, headed by Newark's Coadjutor Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda, along with more than 100 priests of both the Roman and Byzantine Rites concelebrated. These Church leaders all claim the daughter of Greek Catholic immigrants from Bardejov in eastern Slovakia. Archbishop John J. Myers offered a welcome at the beginning of Mass.

At the beginning of the liturgy, Cardinal Amato read the declaration of beatification in Latin followed by an English translation after a short biography was read by Dr. Silvia Correale, J.C.D., Postulator of the cause. A large portrait of the Blessed was then unveiled in the sanctuary followed by great applause from the faithful. Then a procession of Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, and family members processed to the Portrait with a reliquary containing the locks of Sister Miriam Teresa's reddish brown hair, cut after her death of appendicitis at age 26. Sister Miriam Teresa was known for her poor eyesight. In 1964, her intercession was invoked for Michael Mencer, an eight-year old boy who was going blind. His complete cure that year was authenticated by the Vatican as having no medical explanation and was endorsed by Pope Francis in December 2013. Michael was present at the liturgy and participated in the Offertory procession carrying the gold reliquary containing the locks of hair of Sister Miriam Teresa. In general, one confirmed miracle is needed for beatification and a second such miracle for canonization.

The liturgy then continued. Deacon Stephen Russo of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic then chanted the gospel in English and Old Slavonic, the liturgical language of Sister Miriam Teresa's Byzantine Catholic Ruthenian Rite in which she was baptized, chrismated and received her first holy communion. The homilist at the Mass was the Most Rev. Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson.

The offertory gifts were presented by members of the Demjanovich family, including Brother Edward Demjanovich, O.F.M., a member of the Friars Minor Province of St. John the Baptist in Cincinnati, OH, as well as Sisters of Charity. Also participating was Michael Mencer, who as a child was diagnosed with macular degeneration, which his doctors told him was irreversible and would soon make him blind. His mother contacted the Sisters of Charity and prayed to Sister Miriam Teresa to intercede. The Sisters placed a lock of her hair on the eyes of Michael. Within six weeks, he could see again. Michael Mencer carried the relic of that lock of hair in a gold reliquary in the procession. During the presentation and preparation of the gifts, a beautiful work by Sister Marie Therese Sokol, OCD, "Therese's Canticle of Love" was performed in tribute to the new Blessed by the combined choirs of the Cathedral Basilica and the Sisters of Charity.

At the conclusion of the liturgy, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, S.C., General Superior of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth spoke. She opened her remarks in Slovak, Dobre Rano, in tribute to Blessed Miriam Teresa's first language and as a welcome to the many in the basilica who were of Slovak ancestry. She thanked all who had a hand in the success of the process of beatification over the years. Beginning in 1946, the cause had the wholehearted support of the faithful throughout the state of New Jersey. Because of Sister Miriam Theresa's Slovak and Byzantine Catholic origins, organizations and groups from both the Roman and Byzantine Rites have prayed and worked for Sister Miriam Teresa's cause. The Slovak Catholic Sokol has been in the forefront of such support. Many Sokol members have served on the board of directors of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer over the years. The Slovak Catholic Federation, both on the national level and within its Eastern Region, hosted numerous meetings and pilgrimages at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. The First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association have also given wholehearted support to the work of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer in the cause of canonization. Over the years, the Slovak Catholic fraternal press has given its full support to the cause of Sister Miriam Teresa. When Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J., the Bishop of Nitra in Slovakia, in April 1992 visited the United States, he asked to be taken to Convent Station to pray at the tomb of the then Servant of God Sister Miriam Teresa.

The impressive Mass of Beatification concluded with the singing of the solemn Te Deum, Holy God We Praise Thy Name, an appropriate hymn of praise to the triune God which



Photos from the historic Beatification of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, S.J., whose parents were born in eastern Slovakia. Our Slovak Catholic fraternal have been active in her cause for many years, including a number of Jednota members who were present at the historic liturgy in Newark, NJ - D.T.



Blessed Miriam Teresa so often invoked in her writings. The beatification received wide coverage in the secular media. Extensive articles appeared in the New York Times and other area secular publications and New York and New Jersey area television stations covered the event. In addition, live coverage of the event was provided by the Catholic television network EWTN.

A number of priests of Slovak ancestry participated in the beatification liturgy including the Rev. Msgr. John J. Demkovich, retired pastor of St. Mary's Slovak Parish in Passaic, N.J. who has served as a director of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer for many years; the Rev. Msgr. Peter Smutelovic, a priest of the Newark Archdiocese who currently serves on the staff of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican; the Rev. Richard A. Bay, pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Church in Green Pond, N.J. and chaplain of Assembly 162 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in Clifton, N.J.; the Rev. Martin Vavrak, pastor of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, N.J., Rev. Frantisek, Conka, C.O., Rev. Jozef Krajnak, Rev. Stephen Chanas, Rev. Peter Kvasnak among others.

Hundreds of women religious from numerous congregations participated, including representatives of congregations with Slovak roots, including the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, the School Sisters of St. Francis, the Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great and the Byzantine Rite Benedictine Sisters.

Blessed Miriam Teresa becomes one of seven Beatified Americans. Only three native born Americans have become saints: Elizabeth Anne Seton, Katherine Drexel and Kateri Tekakwitha, a Mohawk Indian. The nine other American saints were all foreign born missionaries.

Under Pope Benedict XVI, beatifications were allowed to be held outside of the Vatican for the first time. Sister Miriam Teresa's was the first held in the United States. Blessed Miriam Teresa's feast day will be observed on May 8, the anniversary of her death in 1927 at age 26. While the Beatification Mass was celebrated at the Newark Cathedral, a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving was celebrated at the same time in St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Bayonne, N.J. with the Very Rev. Marcel Szabo, rector of the Byzantine Catholic Cathedral of St. Michael in Passaic, N.J. as principal celebrant. It was in this church that Blessed Miriam Teresa was baptized, chrismated and received her first Holy Communion in the Ruthenian Catholic rite of the Church in 1901.

*continued on page 7*

# Beatified at the Cathedral-Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J.

*continued from page 2*



A native of Bayonne, N.J., Blessed Miriam Teresa was born there March 26, 1901, daughter of Greek Catholic immigrants, Alexander and Johanna Suchy Demjanovich, who were natives of Bardejov in eastern Slovakia. They emigrated to the United States in the early 1890s and settled in Bayonne, N.J. She grew up in a house steeped in the Catholic faith and religious practices. From a very early age Teresa had the use of reason. She understood and tried to do God's will in all her actions. She was a very intelligent student and, although having poor eyesight, she graduated with high marks. She was the salutatorian of her 1917 class at Bayonne High School. After her graduation from high school, it was the decision of the family that Teresa should remain at home to care for their ailing mother. This she did willingly and well. After her mother's death the family decided that Teresa should attend college. She did what the family wanted although it was her ardent desire to become a cloistered Carmelite nun like her patrons saints, Teresa of Avila and Therese of Lisieux. Thus in 1919 she enrolled at the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. Once more, Teresa excelled in her studies, graduating with a Bachelor of Literature degree Summa cum laude. Her college days were filled with activity while at the same time she was continuing to grow in her union with God. Her piety was obvious to all who knew her. Often at Mass and found praying in the chapel, she grew in her intimacy with God especially being favored with insights and a sense of the indwelling of the Blessed Trinity. During her college years she told a friend that the Blessed Mother had appeared outside her dormitory window.

Believing it to be God's will for her, Teresa entered the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth on February 11, 1925 at their Motherhouse at Convent Station, NJ. As a novice, she met Father Benedict Bradley, O.S.B. to whom she confided the state of her soul. Under his guidance, she made numerous vows leading her to greater perfection. He asked her to write a series of conferences on the spiritual life which he gave to the novices. After her death in 1927, these were published under the title *Greater Perfection* and have been widely distributed even today. Sister Miriam Teresa's health declined while she was still a novice and she was given permission to profess her vows in articulo mortis (on her death bed) at the Motherhouse at Convent Station. She passed away on May 8, 1927 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Elizabeth, N.J. Upon her body's return to the Motherhouse from the hospital, one of the sisters cut locks of her hair. It was a lock of her hair which was placed on the eyes of the eight-year old boy, Michael Mencer in 1964 whose sight was completely restored. The restoration of the boy's sight was determined as miraculous and accepted by Pope Francis in December 2013 which

led to Sister Miriam Teresa's beatification. Over the years, many favors have been asked and received through Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich's intercession.

All Americans rejoice at Sister Miriam Teresa's beatification, especially those descended from the faith-filled nation of Slovakia, located in the very heart of Europe, first evangelized more than eleven centuries ago by the Apostles of the Slavs, SS. Cyril and Methodius. Through the intercession of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, may we remain faithful to the faith of our ancestors brought to these shores so many years ago. Blessed Miriam Teresa pray for us.

(Author's note: Contributing to this article were the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth)

## VISIT SLOVAKIA----

### “THE OLD COUNTRY”



Remember how your parents or grandparents referred to their birthplace as “the old country.” Well now is the time for you to go to Slovakia and visit the ancestral homeland and villages of your family.

Join Kay and Jim Bench as they host the 18th annual Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Tour July 13-27, 2015.

See the capital of Slovakia—Bratislava, enjoy award winning folk groups, visit Litmanova where there were documented apparitions of the Blessed Mother appearing to three school children in the 1990's, enjoy traditional Slovak food, attend several kolibas, enjoy shopping, go whitewater rafting on the Dunajec River, the natural border between Poland and Slovakia, visit villages such as Cicmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichy Potok, stay in a beautiful spa in Sliac and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools and other amenities. Visit relatives and enjoy a luncheon reception with our Sister City Spisska Nova Ves. There are many more activities and cities too numerous to mention in this short article. For further information call Jim or Kay Bench.

Jim Bench cell phone 724-858-5843 e-mail [jmbench@yahoo.com](mailto:jmbench@yahoo.com)

Kay Bench cell phone 724-771-7900

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel. Contact Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-mail [Paul@advintravel.com](mailto:Paul@advintravel.com)

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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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Public Information means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

Non-Public Information means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

Consumer Reporting Agency means an entity, which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

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- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

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It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.

## Scenes from “Spook-tacular” Halloween Party at American Slovak Club in Lorain

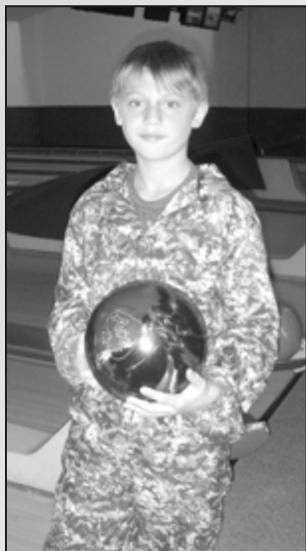
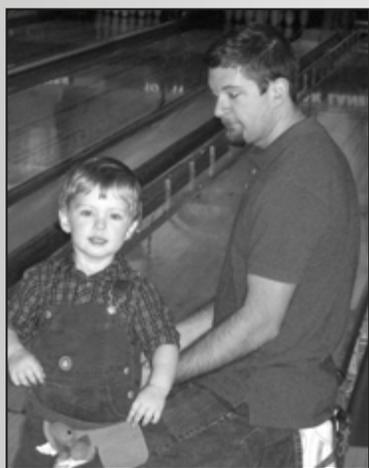
The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Ohio hosted a children's costume party this past Sunday October 26th at the American Slovak Club for children of the fraternal lodges that include FCSU br. 228, SCS v. 111 FCSLA br. 114 and NSS ass. 160.

The spook-tacular event consisted of an afternoon of bowling followed by hot dog and nacho treats and sweets.

The children, their parents and grandparents had a fabulous time and the highlight of the afternoon was the breaking of the spider and pumpkin pinatas that were abundantly filled with toys and candy.

Officers of United Slovak Societies were ever so pleased with the turn out and enjoyment had by the children and will continue to conduct this annual affair.

- Submitted by Michele Mager Secretary-United Slovak Societies, Member – Branch 228



## Slovak Sports Round Up

Tichomir Miko

### Our Boys in the NHL



Forward Alex Ovechkin overtook Peter Bondra as the leading scorer in Washington Capitals history with a first-period assist against the Calgary Flames on Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The assist on a goal by Nicklas Backstrom 10:18 into the period gave Ovechkin his 826th point, breaking a tie with Peter Bondra. Ovechkin was playing his 691st NHL game, all with the Capitals; Bondra accumulated his points in

961 games.

"It has been a thrill to watch Alex play for the Capitals during his young, illustrious career," Bondra said in a statement. "He is an extremely talented player and I couldn't be happier for him on achieving this great milestone. I extend to him my most sincere congratulations for passing my mark and becoming Washington's franchise points leader. I wish him good luck in the rest of his career as he continues to rewrite the Capitals' history books."

Left wing Marian Gaborik of the Los Angeles Kings has returned to action after missing several games due a recurring muscle injury first suffered in the preseason.

It's been almost two weeks since Chara left the Bruins' lineup with a ligament tear in his left knee that he sustained against the New York Islanders. The original prognosis for Chara's return was four-to-six weeks from Oct. 23. Not much has changed since then. "No, there is not a timeline right now," Chara said Tuesday while making his first remarks since the injury. "I wish I could tell you guys exactly when I'm going to return. But at this point really it's just such a slow process that who knows what the days are going to be."

Rookie Marko Dano returned to his team the Columbus Blue Jackets after an absence due to injury only to learn of his demotion to their AHL farm club in Springfield. "It's the right decision," agreed the the 19 year old Slovak on his Facebook page. "I need more playing time, and in this way I can improve." In his seven games with Columbus, the Bratislava native notched one goal and one assist.

Similarly, Tomas Jurco of the Detroit Red Wings was sent to their AHL farm team, the Grand Rapids Griffins. He had two assists in his ten games with the Red Wings. Our hopes of another Slovak line emerging (as in St. Louis with Demitra, Handzus, and Bartecko at the turn of the last millennium) have suffered a bit of a setback. There is no doubt that Jurco will be back and other young Slovak hockey players are on their way up.

### Slovak Juniors Win Four Nations

Speaking of young Slovak hockey players, the hard training and playing against Slovak Extraliga teams appears to be paying off for coach Ernest and Slovakia's Under 20 team as they sailed undefeated through The Four Nations tournament in Füssen, Germany.

On Friday November 7, they thumped Norway 6-0; on Saturday they edged out the host German team 4-3 in a game that went to a shootout. On Sunday, they closed the tournament by defeating Switzerland 3-2 in regulation time.

Canadians in the Montreal area will have a chance to watch this team live at the IIHF World Championships, beginning on December 26th. Slovakia's first game is against Canada. If Slovakia advances beyond the preliminary round, Slovak hockey fans in the Toronto area may get to see them play as well. We will have more details on the upcoming tournament in next issue.

The Slovak men's national team also took part in a tournament in Germany – the Deutschland Cup. They were less successful than their younger counterparts, winning only one game in the round robin tournament with Germany, Switzerland, and Canada. They handily defeated the Canadians 6-1 in their game, but then narrowly lost two 2-1 games in a row against the Swiss and the host Germans.

The Canadian team at the tournament was not the official Canadian team that represents Canada at the IIHF World Championships but a team mostly made up of Canadians playing in the DEL (German Elite Hockey League).

Coach Vladimír Vůjtek was not disappointed with the outcome. He took a number of rookies with him to Munich and did not carry any KHL players. "Our defense worked well, the forwards were coming back to help out. Unfortunately we were lacking a bit going the other way. The World Championships are still far off [May 2015] so we have time to make improvements and see what other players will be available. What is important is that we did not fail and played very good competitive matches, all the teams were evenly matched."

## Address Changes?

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# Slovak President Andrej Kiska Talks Business on Visit to USA

Sylvia Marcinko Chai

At the end of September 2014, Andrej Kiska, the fourth President of the Slovak Republic, made his first official visit to the United States of America. His first stop was the United Nations in New York City where he made a speech about the Ukraine and how Slovakia sees the role of the United Nations in helping to resolve the conflict there.

"No one really wants to sanction Russia for its activity in the Ukraine," Mr. Kiska said, "but we all understand that just continuing to talk about the problems, having political dialogues, won't bring any results. We have to do something more. I'm glad that the Slovak Republic along with other countries of the European Union have been united and are in agreement on the sanctions," said Mr. Kiska.

Vice President Joe Biden spoke with Slovak President Andrej Kiska on the phone about bilateral relations, the NATO summit, and the crisis in Ukraine.

Mr. Kiska also took part in the Central European Digital Economy Forum in New York City. In Boston President Kiska and the Slovak delegation visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At the Cambridge Innovation Centre, Kiska debated the interconnection of education and science with practice, and conditions that encourage the development of a start-up environment.

At one point Mr. Kiska asked the members of the MIT community, "What would you do to increase innovation and entrepreneurship if you were Slovakia's president?" A discussion ensued on how to make Slovakia more competitive. The group of experts agreed that collaboration among the government, corporate sector, and universities was key to this process.

In addition to visiting the Slovak Festival at the Garden State Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J. on Sept 28, while he was on the East Coast, Mr. Kiska also met with a number of successful Slovak businessmen along the east coast. He discussed opportunities for the businessmen to bring their expertise and know-how back to the Slovak Republic.

In San Francisco Mr. Kiska participated in a discussion at the Commonwealth Club about developing stronger business partnerships between the U.S. and the Slovak Republic. "As president, my role on an official visit is to talk about possibilities and the potential to create new opportunities for entrepreneurs or start-ups in Slovakia and in the U.S. The Slovak Republic is in a unique situation because we have a large auto industry. In addition, we have fantastic IT specialists."

"We are currently very proud of a new flying car project---it could revolutionize how people move in the future. I'm very glad that after years of hard work, a Slovak company has developed this successful project and we are currently presenting it here in the United States," Mr. Kiska said.

While in Silicon Valley, Mr. Kiska and delegation visited Facebook, and Lucille Packard Children's Hospital Stanford in Palo Alto. Stanford University dignitaries welcomed Mr. Kiska and the Prime Minister to the campus and discussed future possibilities and increased co-operation.

ESET, the global leader in internet security with North American headquarters in San Diego, hosted Mr. Kiska and the Slovak delegation for a one-day tour in San Diego. ESET was founded in Bratislava, Slovakia in 1992, and has quickly become a world leader in internet security. Its North American office opened in San Diego in 1999. Since its creation, ESET North America has grown steadily and given back to the community through sponsoring events for local children, ongoing support of Securing Our eCity, and numerous other charitable organization. More information on ESET at: [www.eset.com](http://www.eset.com)

The day in San Diego started at the University Club with welcoming remarks by U.S. Representative Davis. President Kiska talked about the similarities in technology, innovation and economic vitality that exist between Bratislava, the capital city of Slovakia, and San Diego, and highlighted the shared interest in developing the economic vitality of both regions.

President Kiska was joined by San Diego community leaders including County Supervisor Dave Roberts, Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner, U.S. Rep. Scott Peters, President and CEO of San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Jerry Sanders, and ESET North American CEO Andrew Lee.

"The Slovak Republic has a rich heritage of innovation and technological expertise, with advances in the fields of technology, science, music, and art," said ESET North American CEO Andrew Lee. "The parallels between our cities and the shared interests from both the public and private sectors to grow innovation technologies highlights an important similarity between San Diego and Bratislava, Slovakia," said CEO Andrew Lee.

At ESET North American headquarters President Kiska launched a business incubator for Slovak firms that want to assert themselves on the U.S. market. Cyber Center of Excellence, a public private partnership is dedicated to accelerating the regional economy by promoting collaboration within the cyber community. Mr. Kiska also negotiated a considerable increase in the number of positions the U.S. firm GlobalLogic is creating in its office in Kosice, east Slovakia.

At a meeting in San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer's office, Mr. Kiska was presented with a "Key to the City" and officials discussed how to better strengthen the relationship between Slovakia and San Diego.

"San Diego's world-class universities, research facilities, defense centers and leading technology companies have long attracted a talented workforce. Our human capital, combined with broad institutional support, has cast San Diego as a key hub of innovation producing ground-breaking technology," said San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer. "San Diego and Bratislava have a shared vision and long-term interest in capitalizing on our current leadership and investing in technology as a primary economic growth engine."

Slovak dignitaries and guests ended the day with a VIP gala entitled "Heritage of Innovation". Captain Eugene Cernan, the last man on the moon, and a Slovak-American delivered the keynote speech. Captain Cernan and other famous Slovaks and Slovak-Americans were highlighted for their contributions to modern society.



**ANDREJ KISKA, President of the Slovak Republic, greets Sylvia Marcinko Chai outside the Memorial Church at Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA on Tuesday Sept. 30, 2014. The President and Prime Minister with a delegation from Slovakia came to the United States to promote business ventures between Slovakia and the United States.**

**"You have an Eastern Slovak accent," one of the Slovak journalists told Sylvia. "That is because my grandparents on my mother's side came from Zemplin, okres Michalovce and my father's parents came from Saris, around Presov." "Our new President came from Eastern Slovakia, too, from Poprad," he said.**

Andrej Kiska, whose parents were teachers, was born Feb. 2, 1963 in Poprad, Slovakia. In 1986 he graduated with a degree in microelectronics from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, and began work as a design engineer at the Naftoprojekt Company in Poprad, Slovakia. Looking for better opportunities, Kiska came to the United States in 1990. Kiska, credits his experiences in America with teaching him some valuable lessons.

During his stop in San Francisco on his recent visit to the United States, Kiska told New America Media contributor Zdenek Kratochvil the following,

"I came to the U.S.A. as an engineer, but the truth was, I really didn't get a job as an engineer -- I started working in construction and at gas stations. I worked long hours -- sometimes 100 hours a week, for a very low wage. There were five of us, all Slovaks, living in a small room with no air conditioning, and with bugs all around. But on the other hand I was here, trying to make it happen.

After a year and a half I realized that the American dream wasn't for me and I returned home. However, here in the U.S., I learned one thing: if you want to be successful, you can't be afraid of failures because they are a part of each success. Actually, in the end, we just see the successes and we forget the failures. With all these experiences, I came back home to Slovakia where I became an entrepreneur."

For more than 15 years Kiska held various management positions and dabbled in business ventures. He founded several companies, the most successful were Triangle and Quatro established in 1996. These companies provided financial services to more than 1 million people and became the most successful rent-purchase companies in Slovakia. In 2005 Kiska sold his companies to the VUB bank and decided to devote himself to charity work.

With a friend in 2006 Kiska founded a non-profit called Good Angel using one million of his own euros for financing. Good Angel helps families in financial distress because of life-threatening illnesses that affect their children. Good Angel is the most successful non-corporate charity in Slovakia today. In 2011 Kiska founded a Good Angel charity in the Czech Republic.

In 2006 Andrej Kiska won the Trend magazine Manager of the Year award. In 2011 he was awarded the Crystal Wing for philanthropy.

In 2012 Andrej Kiska decided to run for President of the Slovak Republic as an independent, non-partisan candidate. What was the reason for his decision? He was indignant with the state of Slovak society where established politicians often forget the problems of real people.

Kiska appealed to voters despite, or perhaps because, of his lack of political experience in government. The global press labeled him a "political novice". Kiska entered the race using his experience in entrepreneurship and philanthropy as qualifications. The Slovak Republic was formed in 1993 after Czechoslovakia split into two separate countries, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

In the presidential election run-off on March 29, 2014 Andrej Kiska was elected the 4th President of the Slovak Republic. He received 1,307,065 votes, representing 59.38 percent of all ballots cast. He assumed the office of President of the Slovak Republic after taking the oath of office at the inauguration ceremony on June 15, 2014.

Comenius University in Bratislava awarded Andrej Kiska the Commemorative medal. Under the State Decorations Act, Andrej Kiska as President of the Slovak Republic holds the 1st class L'udovit Štur Order, the 1st. class Milan Rastislav Štefanik Cross, and the 1st Class Pribina Cross.

Andrej Kiska is married to Martina Kiskova, and their four children are: Andrej Kiska, Natalia Kiskova, Veronika Kiskova, and Viktor Kiska.

## Insights and Viewpoints

# November Traditions of Slovak Culture

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

November is upon us, and the inevitable coming of colder days and longer nights. Slovak cultural traditions during this month reflect the transition from autumn to winter. In the past, the typical peasant and villagers' lives very much revolved around the calendar and the weather.

Slovaks never celebrated Thanksgiving in November as we do in the USA, but they kicked off the month with the two religious holy days, Sviatok Všetkých svätých (the Feast of All Saints) on November 1, and All Souls Day on November 2, called Dušičky in Slovak (pronounced Doo-sheech-kee).

### All Saints Day and All Souls Day

Since the eighth century, when Pope Gregory III (731-741) proclaimed the Feast of All Saints Day, Slovak Catholics have kept that day holy and the faithful attended Holy Mass. November 1st is still a national holiday in Slovakia, with most businesses closed.

During the evening of All Saints Day, Slovaks did and still pay visits to cemeteries to show love and pay tribute to their ancestors. Across Slovakia, in both towns and villages, people still visit the graves of their deceased loved ones. On this day, most faithful light candles and/or place flowers on the graves. The attached photo by Rudo Pavlovič of Prešov, Slovakia, shows how fantastic the sea of candles looks on the night of All Saints Day.

In former times, the visits continued every day, from November 1 until November 8. Villagers also used to make place-settings on their tables for the deceased (mítvi), and placed moss (rašelníky), pine-branches (vetvičky), and pine-wreaths (vence) at the graves of the dead.

### Páračky -- Stripping Feathers

Another common Slovak custom during the month of November was that of páračky (pronounced "paa-raach-kee"). Because a full feathered down (perina) was traditionally part of the dowry of every girl of marriageable age, the family took great care to ensure that their young daughter were fully prepared when the right young man came along.

The process of making a good quality perina started long before November. All summer the lady of the house (gazdina) took care to collect just the right feathers from geese (husi) so there would be an ample supply when it was time to make a perina. Perina were huge, so they required lots of feathers and lots of work.

Feathers (pera) had to be soft and pliable, not hard and scratchy. By late October and November, the family assembled baskets of goose feathers, and would commence the laborious and time-consuming process of páračky for making periny.

Feathers had to be steamed and cleaned in pots, without the modern conveniences which we enjoy today. Work continued every day, except Saturdays, which was bad luck, and certainly not on Sunday, a holy day. When the gazdina had prepared and cleaned enough feathers, they had to be dried outside, but not in the sun, for that would dry out the feathers and also cause a foul odor, something not welcome in any bed. Rather the feathers kept their softness when gently dried in a nice breeze in the shade. When all was ready, a long winter provided ample time to sew the feathers to make the most comfortable feather-quilt that one might imagine.

### Priadky – Spinning

Another Slovak custom that began in late October and continued through the winter was the practice of priadky. Spinning was a major event, much like the American "quilting bees" of yesteryear. Women and young teenage girls of the village gathered to make yarn or thread by twisting fibers from flax and sheep's wool, so that they could in turn create a usable cloth. The process took many weeks and even months of work, and became major social events for the ladies. Young men also attended and played games or flirted with girls of eligible age. When the work finally finished, a feast of singing, dancing and merriment ensued.

### Katarína - St. Catherine's Day

The next noteworthy day on the traditional Slovak calendar was St. Catherine's Day, which arrived on November 25. Catherine of Alexandria was an early fourth century saint who suffered torture and martyrdom for refusing marriage because she claimed she was already engaged to Christ. Christians in Slovakia recognized her as a model of moral virtue and uncompromising faith.

Superstitious villagers believed that magic could occur on her feast day, both for ill and for good. To protect themselves from harm, they ate garlic and put crosses on their doors to keep out strigy (witches). Some believed that if the first visitor on that day was a woman, the gazdina would spend the whole year smashing dishes!

No one could work with wheels (kolesa) on Katarína, for the female martyr had endured torture on the wheel. So no priadky occurred on that day. To do so was asking for trouble.

Instead Katarína marked a time for merriment, for Advent was approaching, and song and dance was strictly prohibited during the season before Christmas. So villages often celebrated with feasting and dancing until the light of morning. At midnight, each young man would choose the girl he wished to dance with, and she would present him with a small gift, usually some tasteful homemade koláče (pastry).

### Ondrej - St. Andrew's Day

The last day of November, the 30th, St. Andrew's Day, was also considered a portent of things to come. Typically Slovak villagers would finish their last preparations for the worst



Slovak Cemetery on All Souls Day. Personal Photo Archive of Rudo Pavlovič, Prešov, Slovakia.



parts of winter. They would steam bleached lime on their windows to protect their cottages from the coming cold.

Another common practice on Ondrej was cooking halušky (Slovak dumplings). Young girls would mix flour dough and potatoes in a large bowl and then shape small bits of dough into the letters of names of eligible young men. Then when a girl put the pieces of dough into water, the first to float to the top was thought to be the name of her future husband.

Ondrej was also a time to forecast weather. If it snowed on Ondrej, the snow would be laying there for a long time (Keď na sv. Ondreja sneží, sneh si dlho poleží.)

Here are a few other common pranostiky (Weather Proverbs) about the month of November. We can only hope for this first one to bear fruit!

#### Slovak Pranostiky in November

Keď na deň Všetechsvätých prinesie zimu, tak Martin (11. novembra) prinesie leto.

When All Saints Day is wintery, St. Martin's Day (November 11) will bring summer-like weather.

But then there is this added warning!

Keď na Dušičky jasné počasí panuje, príchod zimy to oznamuje.

When clear weather prevails on All Souls' Day, that means the arrival of winter.

Then we have the truth about the inevitable onset of winter on St. Martin's Day.

Od sv. Martina zahreje len perina. From St. Martin's Day, only a feather quilt is warming.

And at the end of the month, we see predictions based on St. Katherine's Day.

Katarína (25. Novembra) na ľade, svätý Štefan (26. Decembra) na blate.

Ice on St. Katherine's Day (November 25) means mud on St. Stephen's Day (December 26).

Another reads, Na svätú Katarínu sneh už klope na oblok.

On St. Catherine's Day, snow is knocking on the window.

Let us hope we have a mild winter. But the traditional Slovak pranostiky offer us some good advice that even Ben Franklin would have found useful for his Poor Richard's Almanac.

All these traditions show how Slovaks prayed and amused themselves as they prepared for the beginning of Advent and the coming long and cold winters of Slovakia.

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"Pranostiky." <http://pranostiky.host.sk/pranostiky.htm#november> (accessed October 31, 2010).

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

## From the Office of the Executive Secretary

In observance of the following holidays, the Home Office and Jednota Estates will be closed:



**Thanksgiving** - Thursday, November 27, 2014, and Friday, November 28, 2014.



**Christmas** - Wednesday, December 24, 2014 - Friday, December 26, 2014

**New Year's** - Thursday, January 1, 2015, and Friday, January 2, 2015

## JEDNOTA

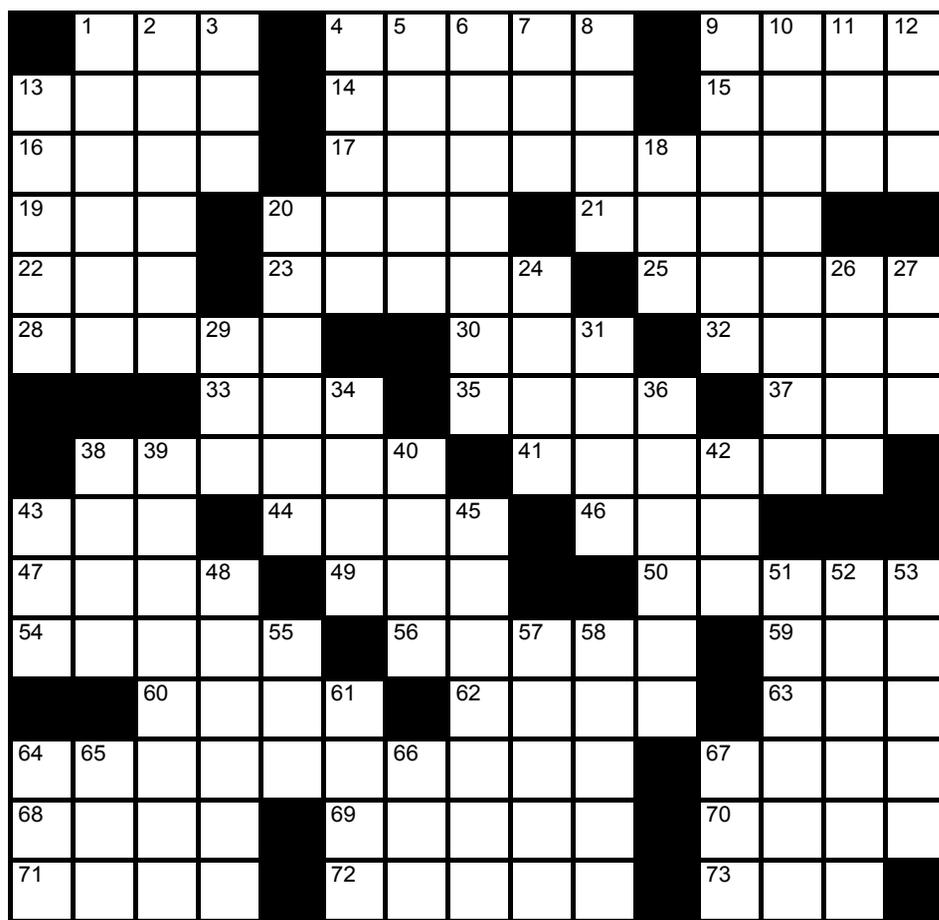
### Publication Schedule for 2014

<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
<b>December 3</b>	<b>November 24</b>

### Publication Schedule for 2015

<b>January 14</b>	<b>January 5</b>
<b>January 28</b>	<b>January 19</b>
<b>February 11</b>	<b>February 2</b>
<b>March 4</b>	<b>February 23</b>
<b>March 18</b>	<b>March 9</b>
<b>April 22</b>	<b>April 13</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>April 27</b>
<b>May 20</b>	<b>May 11</b>
<b>June 10</b>	<b>June 1</b>
<b>July 15</b>	<b>July 6</b>
<b>August 12</b>	<b>August 3</b>
<b>Sept 9</b>	<b>August 31</b>
<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>Sept 14</b>
<b>October 7</b>	<b>Sept 28</b>
<b>October 21</b>	<b>October 12</b>
<b>November 4</b>	<b>October 26</b>
<b>November 18</b>	<b>November 9</b>
<b>December 9</b>	<b>November 30</b>

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



#### Across

- 1 Victory sign
- 4 Boot camp boss
- 9 Paul Bunyan's ox
- 13 Price
- 14 Wept
- 15 Eager
- 16 Crumbs
- 17 Regroup, as a company
- 19 1968 hit *Harper Valley* \_\_\_\_
- 20 Tilt
- 21 Lamb alias
- 22 Soak flax
- 23 At full speed
- 25 Bar, legally
- 28 Skating jumps
- 30 Snout
- 32 Scouting outing
- 33 Ambition
- 35 Equipment
- 37 Puppy's bite
- 38 *Charlie Chan* actor Toler
- 41 Drag, as a lake
- 43 Japanese coin
- 44 Miners' finds
- 46 Compass pt.
- 47 Free ticket
- 49 Dine
- 50 Fort Knox bar
- 54 *Wonderland* girl
- 56 Frolics
- 59 Kimono sash
- 60 Soft drink
- 62 Booty
- 63 Employ
- 64 Urban center
- 67 Teen follower
- 68 Curved molding
- 69 Chris of tennis

#### Down

- 70 Jumble
- 71 Pea holders
- 72 Zealanders
- 73 Psyches
- 1 Whirlpool
- 2 Property
- 3 Aliens, for short
- 4 Vamoose
- 5 Boxing venue
- 6 Disorder
- 7 EU language
- 8 Brink
- 9 Cast out
- 10 Flying
- 11 Show \_\_\_\_
- 12 Dutch city
- 13 Dried coconut meat
- 18 Pub offering
- 20 Vegas attraction
- 24 Require
- 26 Dust Bowl refugee
- 27 Spirit
- 29 Boy
- 31 Unadorned
- 34 Paltry
- 36 Fight back
- 38 Close, as an envelope
- 39 Held firm
- 40 Calendar span
- 42 Family room
- 43 Watering hole
- 45 Pastry from Hamburg
- 48 Sports stats
- 51 Overcharged
- 52 Worry constantly
- 53 Layers
- 55 Tokyo, once
- 57 Watered-silk
- 58 Fence parts
- 61 Copied
- 64 Unkempt hair
- 65 Conceit
- 66 Egg cells
- 67 French friend



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

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

See Solution on Page 18

## Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

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# Come See District 2's Celebration of Slovakia in Christmas Around the World at Museum of Science & Industry, Chicago, IL



District 2's Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree is on display through Jan 4th at the Museum of Science & Industry in Chicago.

Celebrate "Christmas Around the World" + holidays of light. The display opened on November 13th, and will continue through January 4, 2015, at the Museum of Science and Industry, located at 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive in Chicago, IL. For further information call the Museum at 773-684-1414.

Among the 55 Christmas trees decorated by ethnic groups is the "Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree" sponsored by the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District Two of the First Catholic Slovak Union. This is the twentieth year of participation by our committee members: (L - R): Mark, Judy, Chelsea, Alex and Ayden Fayta, Michael Fayta, Noreen & Amber Miller, Barbara Fayta, Ed Uram, Andy Harcar, Matthew Manzella, Lynda Tanis, Larry, Lori, and Julian Seida. New members are Mary Jane Gloudeman and Katie Levia.

The tree is decorated with imported Slovak ornaments and many handmade ornaments, candle lights, a handmade tree skirt and Slovak Village train set made by the committee and family members. Placed under the 12-foot tall tree is a traditional handmade "Crèche" from Slovakia.

Vesele Vianoce

Mark Fayta

Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree Chairman



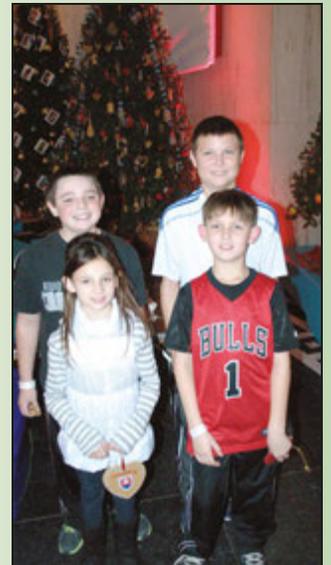
Committee members and their families have participated in decorating the tree for the past 20 years.



Committee and family members made this Slovak Village train set that sits under the magnificent 12 foot Christmas tree



This traditional crèche is handmade from Slovakia.



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday December 2, 2014, at 7pm at Silviani's on Babcock Blvd in the North Hills. On the agenda is election of officers for the 2015 term; plans for the 125th anniversary of our lodge and events for the coming year. If you plan to attend you must make a reservation by calling Joanne at 412 766 3222 or Susan at 412 421 1204.

Respectfully submitted

**Joanne Lako, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 06K, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington St., Streator, IL. A meeting will begin at 12 noon and will be followed with a lunch and fraternalism. The agenda will include: the election of officers for 2015, a discussion of the 2015 schedule, and a membership drive. We urge all our members to attend and call 815-822-8851 or 815-672-1764 for insurance questions or problems.

**Paul Chismar, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. Election of officers will take place. All members are urged to attend.

**Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, will hold its Annual Meeting, Audit and Election of Officers at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 7, at the Regal Room, 216 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

**William Nalevanko, Secretary**

## BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The branch's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 9:30AM in St. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. The election of officers will take place at this meeting and the distribution of our annual donations to our special charities.

We cordially invite our members to attend these meetings and enjoy seeing friends.

**Henry Zack, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 24- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will hold a branch meeting at 1:00 PM, Sunday, November 23, 2014 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence, OH. Free parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. Refreshments will be served.

The agenda will include the election of officers for 2015.

Please phone activities director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00 PM if you plan to attend. Thanks.

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Svorad Society, will again be providing complimentary tickets **for branch members** only for the St. Andrew Abbey Viliya Dinner Sunday, December 7, 2014 at St. Andrew Abbey 10510 Buckeye Road. Mass is at 12:00 with dinner to follow.

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

For non-members or to purchase additional tickets call the Abbey at 216/721-5300 extension 0.

For further details see announcement in this newspaper [Editor's note: see p. 9]

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 35 will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2014, at 1:00PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 1987 Centurion Drive, Pittsburgh, PA.

Agenda items will include convention reports from delegates, officers' reports, discussion of branch activities, general business and election of officers for the new year.

**Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Branch 38 will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at the home of Financial Secretary Florence Matta, 3409 Einsenhower Drive, White Oak, PA, at 6:30PM.

The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of branch business, and planning for 2015. Election of branch officers will be held. Please make every effort to attend.

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

## BRANCH 45- NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 30, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, a report on last year's activities, election of officers, and a discussion of events for the upcoming year. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

**Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 55 – BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Annual Meeting of Branch 55 K.J. is scheduled to be held on Sunday, December 28, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. at the residence of the Secretary-Treasurer in the Dining Room at the Wesley Enhanced Living complex, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA.

Elections will be held for Branch Officers and Delegates and their Alternates to the District 8 meetings, Regular business will also be conducted. Lunch will be served. Please bring non-perishable food for Aid for Friends in Need. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Lunch will be catered; therefore, we request that you RSVP by December 8th in order to make reservations at the Wesley.

For directions to the meeting, please call the President at (610) 356-7956 or Secretary at (215) 637-6530.

In the event of severe weather, or any other emergency, we will conduct a telephone conference meeting with those who cannot attend.

Fraternally yours,

**Helena T. Gaydos, President**

## BRANCH 60 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting Sunday, November 23, 2014 at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale, PA) at 1:00 p.m.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports, election of officers, and discussion of the Jednota 2014 convention in Philadelphia.

All members are urged to attend.

**Julie Perla, Secretary**

## BRANCH 75 - SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 75KJ will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 21, 2014, at 10:00AM. The meeting will be held at the home of the Financial Secretary, 8 South Shamokin St., Shamokin, PA, 17872. On the agenda: fiscal year end reports and financial statements will be presented. The auditor's report will be submitted. Nomination and election of officers for the coming year will take place. Any additional branch business will be entertained. All members are requested to attend this semi-annual meeting.

Fraternally,

**Ronald M. Anderson, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of St. John the Baptist, Branch 112, Mahanoy City, PA will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2014. The meeting will begin at noon at Palermo's Restaurant on the Pottsville-Minersville Highway. The agenda will include a report on the convention and election of officers. Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 for more information.

**Karen Sterling, Secretary**

## BRANCH 157 – CATASAUQUA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Andrew, Branch 157, will be holding a meeting at 1PM on November 23, 2014. The meeting will be held in the upstairs hall at 5th & Grove in N Catasauqua PA. On the agenda will be the Christmas party, discussion on the Convention, recent district meetings, and ways to get new members. Hope to see new faces at the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2014, in the upstairs hall at 5th & Grove in N Catasauqua PA. The meeting will begin at noon, and the agenda will include the election of officers. After the meeting, the branch will hold its annual Christmas party [please note the snow date for this meeting is Sunday, December 21, 2014; same time and place].

Branch 157 wishes everyone a Happy and safe Thanksgiving.

**Gregory Harakal, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 9:00AM at Denny's Restaurant Conference Room, 653 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

Branch activities will be discussed, officers' reports will be given, and donations to various organizations will be voted upon. Election of officers for the branch will take place. All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and breakfast. Call for reservations by December 1, 2014, for directions if needed, for any address changes or questions to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

## BRANCH 169P - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 169P will hold its yearly meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 2:00PM at the Slivosky residence: 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, PA 15905. Lodge business will be discussed. All members are welcome.

**Betty Slivosky, Secretary**

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

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre-Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its annual meeting on **December 7, 2014** at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, beginning at 12:30 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 officers will be elected for Branch 173.

Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-4032067, so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

**John A. Ungvarsky, President**

## BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The next meeting of Branch 181 will take place on Dec 6, 2014, immediately following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Church, 4261 Rt. 981, PO Box 187, United, PA. On the agenda: the election of officers.

**Geraldine Kovacina, Secretary**

## BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will hold their semi-annual meet-

ing for the election of officers on Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 PM at Jioio's Restaurant, Route 981, Latrobe, PA 15650. We encourage you to attend.

**Barb Patula, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 will hold its annual Election of Officers at our regular meeting on December 4, 2014, following our 7:00pm Board of Directors meeting upstairs in the Social Hall @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA.

We encourage ALL members to attend and get involved with. We are looking forward to seeing you there. There are open positions on the Board if anyone is interested in more details, please call Vicki Schaub @ 724-763-9229.

Fraternally,

**Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 213 - VALENCIA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael Branch 213 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014. It will be held at 2603 Eloquent Lane, Valencia, PA, at 1:00PM. Election of officers will be held at this meeting. All members are asked to attend ... Wishing everyone a joyful and blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**Joe Belechak, Secretary**

## BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union holds meetings at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH, on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 15, 2014. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. We have two vacant (2) lodge offices (Vice-President and Auditor) we would like to fill as current officers are doing double duties. I appeal to our younger members to become active in our lodge to help direct our branch as well as becoming involved with the Slovak Club and the United Slovak Societies. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Come to our meetings. They are fun, informative and help to promote fraternal camaradery.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold an annual meeting at the Bedford Trails Golf Course in Coitsville, OH, on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 1:00PM. We will have an election of officers, followed by a discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are invited to attend.

We wish all our members a Holy and Happy Holiday Season.

**Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 21, 2014, at 1:30PM at the Bedford Trails Golf Course Restaurant, Coitsville, OH. On the agenda: election of branch officers.

Fraternally,

**Paul Ritz, President**

## BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold its winter meeting at 1PM on Sunday, November 23, 2014. The meeting will be held in the hall at St Patrick Roman Catholic Church on 32nd Street in McKeesport, PA. The meeting will include officers' reports,

*continued on page 15*

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 14*

discussion of branch business, and planning for 2015. Branch officers for 2015 will be elected at this meeting. We will review highlights of decisions made at the 50th convention. Final plans will be made for hosting the district meeting on December 14.

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, President**

### BRANCH 290- RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

A meeting of the St. John Society, Branch 290, will be held on December 4, 2014, at 6:30PM. Please call Joe for the location of the meeting.

Fraternally,

**Joseph Minarovich, President**

### BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch 292, will hold their Annual Meeting and Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA. The meeting will be held first, followed by the Christmas Party. All members are asked to attend.

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

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

### BRANCH 293 - LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Monday, December 8, 2014, at the home of the financial secretary Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA 18232, at 6PM. Anyone needing service or more insurance should call 570-645-4872, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

**Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313 will hold its meeting on Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 11:30AM at the home of Curtis Johnson, 16913 Creekside Ave., Tinley Park, IL, 60477. Elections of officers will take place. We also will have a discussion on how to increase membership enrollment. We still have members with unknown addresses. Please call our Branch Secretary Curtis Johnson at (708) 429-6496 or President Joseph Bugel at (708) 349-7873.

Thank you kindly,

**Joseph M. Bugel, President**

### BRANCH 320 – STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2014, at 1:00PM, at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since lunch will be prepared, please call Fran at (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending. On the agenda will be the election of officers, along with other business. Members are urged to attend.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

### BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Joseph Branch 367 of Fairchance, PA will be holding its next meeting on Monday, December 1, 2014 at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 515 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA, starting at 5 o'clock. Agenda items will include convention reports from delegates, officers' reports, discussion of branch activities, and election of officers for the new year.

All members are invited to attend. If any questions please call President, Audrey Balazik 724-438-3887 or vice president, Patty Speshock 724-564-5764. We would like to wish all of our members and their families a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

**Kathryn Baranek, Secretary**

### BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 372, will hold

its annual meeting on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of President Michael P. Hudak, Sr., 829 Cameron Avenue, Beaverdale, PA. The agenda for the meeting will include a review of financial reports and election of officers for the year 2015.

Respectfully,

**Michael P. Hudak, Sr., President**

### BRANCH 401 - EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The 2014 annual meeting of Branch 401k, St. Anthony of Padua, will be held at 1223 Wysocki Ave, North Apollo, PA, on Sunday, December 28, 2014, at 11:00AM. The agenda will consist of branch reorganization and nomination of officers. Recent 2014 graduates of high school or college are urged to contact Patrick Froncek, PO Box 178, N. Apollo, Pa. 15673 (ph # 724-664-8216) for financial rewards. Look forward to seeing you at the scheduled meeting.

**Fraternally, Patrick Froncek,  
Secretary/Treasurer**

### BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of Branch 410 will meet at the Bob Evans in Uniontown at 1:00pm on December 4, 2014. Elections of officers for 2015 will be on the agenda. Members are encouraged to attend.

**Geri Buchheit, Recording & Financial  
Secretary**

### BRANCH 419 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Stephen the Martyr will hold an annual meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014. Discussions will be held on plans for next year, as we will also hold election of officers. The meeting will be at 1:00PM at Norm's Restaurant, Sherman St., Wilkes-Barre, PA. Refreshments will be served.

**Frank Wassil, President**

P.S. - Bring a potential member!

### BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 1:00PM at the Slovak Society of Barberton, 887 West Tuscarawas, Barberton, OH 44203. Election of officers will take place. All members welcome.

**Jeanette M. Willis, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 450 will be holding a meeting on Saturday December 6, 2014 at noon at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma Ohio 44129.

A Christmas party for children will be held at 1 pm following the meeting. Those planning to attend are asked to contact George Carny at 440-885-5702 so that we can have an accurate count to provide gifts for the children attending.

**Lori Valencik, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 493 will hold a meeting on November 29, 2014, at Mabenka Restaurant, 7844 S. Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL. The event will begin at 1:30PM, with fraternal fellowship and refreshments, followed by the annual meeting at 2:00PM and a Christmas luncheon afterwards. Reservations must be made by November 6, 2014 by calling Robert Ľapák Magruder at (773) 558-5956 or (502) 244-6643.

Fraternally,

**Robert Ľapák Magruder**

### BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

November 23 - Branch Lodge Meeting will be held at the Slovak "J" Club at 2:00PM for the election of officers.

December 7th - Annual Vilija Celebration - details will be published at a later date.

Hope to see everyone at these upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sandie Klucar, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 581 – GARY/WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael Archangel, Branch 581 of Gary/Whiting will hold its regular meeting Sunday, December 2, at 1 pm at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Road, Hobart, IN.. The agenda will include Election of Officers and discussion on the children's insurance. RSVP Ann Buczek, 947-2793 or George Kelchak, 926-2410.

**Ann Buczek, President**

### BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2014, at 3:00 PM at the Penn Hebron Garden Club, 237 Jefferson Road, Penn Hills, PA (Phone: 412-241-9779).

The agenda will include the election of new officers for 2015 and a summary of events and issues during 2014, including a recap of the convention.

Sincerely,

**Sylvia J. Vehec**

*continued on page 17*

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at the Bishop Connare Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. The evening will begin with Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Our festive traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner will follow in the dining room. After the awarding of door prizes, the Pittsburgh Slovaks will entertain. Please plan to attend and preserve this beautiful custom. Tickets this year are: \$22 for ages 12 to adult; and \$10 for ages 3 to 11. Reserve your tickets prior to November 30 by calling Darlene at 724-537-7743 after 6 p.m. No reservations will be accepted after November 30 or by the Bishop Connare Center.

**Linda L. Gonta, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 276 will host the annual Fall/Winter meeting of the Pittsburgh District on Sunday, December 14, 2014, from 5:30 to 7:30, at Holy Trinity Parish, 529 Grant Street Extension, West Mifflin, PA 15122. The meeting will begin with dinner; the business meeting will follow. Reservations are a must. Please RSVP to manasta@verizon.net or leave a message at 412-672-0379. Please respond by December 1. The meeting will include officers' reports, discussion of district business, and planning for events in 2015. District Officers for 2015 will be elected at this meeting. We will review highlights of decisions made at the 50th convention. We will also enjoy a Christmas presentation by the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU district meeting, 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: December 1: Dances and Songs of Eastern Slovakia, January 5: Wood Carvings, February 2: Researching and Publishing Slovak Family History, March 2: Slovak Easter Customs. Why not join WPSCA and get their newsletter which details their many events.

\*\* Prince of Peace Parish, South Side, Pittsburgh presents their 21st Annual Slovak Vilija on Saturday, December 5, 5PM. Adults: \$24; Children \$12. By reservation only: 412-481-8380.

\*\* Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in the fall & spring. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is open Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See alsonsslife.org/museum.

\*\* Various Slovak programs and courses (including programs for study abroad) are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu or www.pitt.edu/~votruba for the latest information.

\*\* Information about the First Catholic Slovak Union, its products and events is available at www.fcsu.com.

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 14 – REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Rev. Kostik District will hold its next meeting, Tuesday, November 18. 6:00PM at St Matthias Church, located on Shady Run Road Youngstown Ohio. The agenda will be the election of officers. All member branches are urged to attend.

**Carla Peshek, President**

### DISTRICT 15 - PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT

The Prince Pribina District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday December 21, 2014. The celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a Slovak Holy Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 710 Sultana Ave, Ontario, CA, where Fr. Pavol Sochulak, SVD, serves as pastor. We will follow with the Slovak tradition of St. Nicholas presenting Christmas gifts to children. Also a gourmet lunch & dessert will be served.

The meeting will be held at 1:30 PM in the cafeteria. On the agenda will be: Reports on the national convention, election of officers for the coming year, and a financial report. All Branches in our area are encouraged to participate and have their concurrent Annual Meeting.

The officers of the Prince Pribina District wish all the members of FCSU a Blessed and Joyous Christmas.

**Paul Skuben, President**

### DISTRICT 19 - MONSIGNOR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

Annual General Meeting of the Monsignor Michael Shuba District Sunday January 11, 2015 at 1:30pm

Location: Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church Hall , 5255 Thornwood Dr, Mississauga, Ontario. Lunch included.

Regards,

**Anne Mltro, Secretary**

## OBITUARIES

### MARY LOUISE (SURMIK) JUNAS BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK



Mary L. Junas, age 85, passed into eternal life peacefully on Saturday, July 5, 2014 at her home surrounded by her family.

Mary was born on April 25, 1929 in New York City, daughter of the late Joseph and Peregrina (Bacigal) Surmik, longtime members of the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota). In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by a daughter Therese Marie, who died in October of 1968 at age 11, two sisters Helen and Sister Therese Marie, SSCM, and two brothers John and Joseph.

Mary is survived by her loving husband Joseph of 59 years, daughter Eleanor Grosso and her husband Anthony, son Joseph Junas and his wife Kim, grandchildren, Kaitlyn and Joseph. She is also survived by three sisters, Frances Prieto and husband Sergio, Sister Lucia Marie, OSB and Sister Claire Marie, OSB and many dear nieces and nephews.

Mary lived most of her life in New York City working as a secretary at the Berkley School. She later devoted her life to being a wife and loving mother. She and her husband retired to Pembroke Pines, Florida for 17 years. Due to her illness, they re-located to Morristown, New Jersey where their daughter Eleanor lovingly cared for her 4 years until her death.

Mary will always be remembered for her wonderful, joyful spirit. She enjoyed spending time with family. Mary loved music, especially polkas, singing, Slovak traditions and playing the piano and accordion. She also enjoyed reading and was always interested in world news and local events.

Mary was caring, generous and had a great sense of humor. She saved jokes she read to pass along to family and friends. She shared many stories of her early years growing up in their New York City apartment. Mary loved to leave a smile wherever she went. Though she had many interests the core of her life consisted of family, her great faith and a special devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Rosary.

Mary will be missed by her family, friends and all who knew her for her pleasant, gentle disposition and smile. She leaves loving memories to be cherished by her family and dear friends. She will always be close to our hearts, for love is everlasting.

Visitation was held at Krtil Funeral Home in New York City on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 from 2-4 and 6-9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday, July 10, 2014, at 10 a.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church, New York City. Interment followed at Calvary Cemetery in Queens, NY.

-Submitted by Eleanor (Junas) Grosso

### ANNA R. CHERVENITSKI BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA



Anna R. Chervenitski, 82, formerly a resident of Dan Flood Apartments, Plymouth, and River View Ridge, Wilkes-Barre, PA, passed away Aug. 12, 2014, at River Run Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Kingston, PA.

Anna was born in Kingston on March 21, 1932. She was a daughter of the late Albert and Isabelle (Dula) Chervenitski.

Anna was a graduate of Edwardsville High School, class of 1952. She was a former member of St. Anthony Church, Larksville, PA. She was employed for many years in the food service industry, retiring from the Holiday Inn, Wilkes-Barre.

She was an avid music lover who enjoyed a wide variety of music. Anna also enjoyed traveling and going on vacations. She enjoyed collecting ceramics. She also loved embroidery, family gatherings, eating out, watching her favorite TV shows and playing bingo.

Surviving are numerous cousins who loved her dearly.

Anna's family thanks the staff of River View Ridge and River Run Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the compassion and care they showed to Anna during her stay.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10 a.m. Monday in St. John the Baptist Church, Nesbitt Street, Larksville. Interment followed in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Lehman. Arrangements were by the Andrew Strish Funeral Home, Larksville.

- Submitted by Paul Dula

### MARTIN M. KITSKO BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA



Martin M. Kitsko, 92, of Latrobe, PA, passed away Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital. He was born Nov. 6, 1921, in Whitney, PA, a son of the late John Kitsko and Anna (Macek) Kitsko. Martin was a member at St. Vincent Basilica. He was retired from Standard Steel with more than 40 years of service. Martin was a World War II veteran, having served in the Army 80th Division, 318 Infantry Regiment and was a Purple Heart recipient. He was a member of the American Legion Post 982, the VFW Post 3414, the Frontier Club, the Lloydsville Veterans and Sportsmen Club, the Cooperstown Veterans and Sportsmen Club, Loyal Order of Moose and Jednota, and he was an avid gardener. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Paul, John, Michael and Stephen Kitsko; and three sisters, Marie Williams, Elizabeth Krempasky and Anna Sass. He is survived by a sister, Cecelia Zajac, of Ne-

scopek; special niece and nephew, Joanne Kitsko, of Latrobe, and Thomas Sass and his wife, Marcia, of North Huntingdon, PA; two special great-nephews, Kevin Sass and his wife, Haley, of North Huntingdon, and Brian Sass, of Columbus, OH; special great-great-nephew, Gabriel Sass; and he is also survived by several other nieces and nephews. Family and friends were received from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the John J. Lopatich Funeral Home Inc., Latrobe. A funeral Mass was celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in St. Vincent Basilica. Interment followed at St. Vincent Cemetery where graveside military services will be accorded by Greensburg VFW Post No. 33. The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at Nature Park Commons for their excellent care and compassion.

### STEPHEN J. MAGOC BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

Stephen Joseph Magoc, 93, of Tarentum, PA, returned to God Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014. He died in peace at Platinum Ridge Nursing Home in Brackenridge following a brief illness. Mr. Magoc was born Aug. 13, 1921, in Trnove, Czechoslovakia, and remained proud of his Slovak-Catholic heritage all his life. He was the second child of the late Anthony Magoc and Margaret Kalinchak, with whom he immigrated to the United States in 1925 at the age of 4, completing the journey through Ellis Island despite having contracted pneumonia aboard ship. Mr. Magoc attended St. Clement Church and grade school, graduating from Tarentum High School in 1940. He remained a devout member of St. Clement's, (later Holy Martyrs) Roman Catholic Church in Tarentum. After working briefly at both PPG works in Creighton and Allegheny Ludlum Steel in Brackenridge, he served in the Army during World War II in the New Guinea campaign of 1943-1944. He returned briefly to active duty in 1951 during the Korean War. Upon the conclusion of World War II, Mr. Magoc returned to Allegheny Ludlum and became a proud steelworker, staying in "the mill" for more than 40 years, many of them as a repairman in the blooming mill and then finishing as a powerhouse operator in No. 8-2 Department. After marrying Frances Judith Uhric, of Brackenridge, Stephen moved his young family to the Mill Street area. There, in 1948, Mr. Magoc bought an unimproved piece of property that had a concrete block foundation and little else but rocks, cinders and brush. He soon built a home with help from extended family, and over the next 65 summers spent countless hours in his yard

hauling dirt, planting grass, trees, shrubs, flowers and tending his vegetable garden. By the 1960's, his yard was the jewel of Mill Street and one of the most beautiful in Tarentum. It was on that landscape that he taught his five sons the value of hard work, simple pleasures and so much more. He introduced his sons and several of his nieces, nephews and then grandchildren to the joys of exploring the wooded Bull Creek valley and loved to tell stories about his life adventures, especially growing up during the Great Depression. Besides his passion for gardening, Mr. Magoc enjoyed golfing, Pirate baseball, doing jigsaw and crossword puzzles and drinking a beer with his sons. He treasured old things that he found, collected or made himself over his many years of adventures, carefully dating many of them. Stephen was an avid reader of history and faraway places, many of which he would visit over the years. He and Frances toured Europe, cruised the Caribbean and took their sons on many vacations south, to New England, and the American West, visiting by the 1980s every state in the union except Alaska. Wherever he went, whatever he was doing, Mr. Magoc could be seen with his trademark Italian cigar. Stephen is survived by Frances Judith Uhric Magoc, his beloved wife of 68 years, of Tarentum; his five sons, Stephen Daniel, of Tarentum, and his companion, Letitia Kus, of Sarver, James C. and Sue Ann Magoc, of Brackenridge, PA, Gerard T. and Sandra Magoc, of Tarentum, Ronald A. and Karen Magoc, of Natrona Heights, PA, and Chris J. and Mary Ellen Magoc, of Erie, PA. Also surviving Stephen are eight wonderful grandchildren of whom he was very proud, a dear sister, Josephine Magoc (and her husband Walter) Berkoben, and brothers, Andrew Magoc, of Tarentum, and Peter (and wife, Patricia) Magoc, and many nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, Mr. Magoc was preceded in death by brothers, Thomas, John and Frank. Family and friends called from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, September 5, 2014, at the Duster Funeral Home, Tarentum. A Mass of Christian Burial was at noon Saturday, September 6, 2014, in Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum, with the Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, officiating. Interment followed in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Frazer Township, PA, with full military honors by the Tarentum VFW Post 5758.

- Submitted by Kathy Persun,  
Branch 831 Financial Secretary

## Expanded Jednota Newspaper Archive Now on FCSU Website



Looking for information in a past issue?

Now you can browse through 5+ years of Jednota that we have digitized. Just go to <http://www.fcsu.com/newspaper> and click on the words Newspaper Archive to access the appropriate PDF.

Or, for questions, email Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec @ [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com) or call her at the Home Office, 1-800-JEDNOTA, (533-6682).



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

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

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 15*

**BRANCH 682 –  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

Branch 682 will have a meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 1:30PM, at MRL Research Center located at 290 North Bridge Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. Also, we will have our annual Christmas Party and election of officers. All members are welcome.

**Andrew J. Hirt, President**

**BRANCH 721 –  
BANNISTER, MICHIGAN**

Branch 721 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of our financial secretary, Julius Remenar, at 8977 South Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Election of officers will be held.

All members are urged to attend.

**Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 731 –  
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will remember our deceased members at 11:00 am Mass on December 21, 2014 at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Following the Mass, we will have our annual meeting to elect branch officers for 2015. Please try to participate.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 738 -  
MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA**

St. Michaels Branch 738 will be holding its next semiannual meeting Tuesday December 2, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post on Whitaker Way in Munhall, Pa. All members are encouraged to attend. This meeting will include nominations and election of officers for the new year.

Come join us and become a more active member of your branch. We are always looking for some new and fresh ideas to help our branch grow.

**Pat Guidish, Secretary**

**BRANCH 743 –  
STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN**

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer's Report, a 2014 financial report, approval of the 2015 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. A report will also be made regarding the Convention held in Philadelphia. The election of branch officers will also take place.

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

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

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

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

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

**BRANCH 746 –  
LINDEN, NEW JERSEY**

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 12:30 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of officers for 2015, as well as discussion of charita-

ble donations, and plans for upcoming activities. A New Year's holiday lunch will follow the meeting. Please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331 if you plan on attending.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

**BRANCH 780 –  
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN**

The Saints Peter & Paul Society, Branch 780, will have their Annual Meeting on Wednesday December 10, 2014 at 7:00pm. Included will be our election of officers for 2015. Any questions or concerns, please call Cathy Karlsen at 989-280-4916.

We wish all our members a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year!

Fraternally,

**Catherine Karlsen, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 785 –  
MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO**

Branch 785 will hold its Annual General Meeting on Sunday January 11, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church Hall, 5255 Thornwood Dr, Mississauga, Ontario. All members are encouraged to attend.

Best Regards,

**Sharon Tomas, Secretary**

**BRANCH 844 –  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Branch 844 will hold its annual Christmas Mass and meeting on Sunday, December 21, 2014, at 11AM at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, S. Stultana Ave, Ontario, CA, 91761. A Slovak lunch will be served after Mass, and gifts will be presented to the children in attendance. Following the festivities, Branch 844 will hold a meeting for its members to review officers' reports and discuss branch activities. An election of new officers will be held at this meeting.

Come join us in celebrating the Slovak spirit of Christmas.

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

**Milan Konkol, Secretary**

**BRANCH 853 –  
CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA**

Branch 853 will hold its annual Spaghetti dinner Christmas party on Sunday December 7, 2014 at Rego's Restaurant in Charleroi, PA at 1:00 pm. Due to seating, reservations are required.

To make your reservation please call 412-341-1577 and leave your name, phone number and number of adults and children attending. Non-branch members will be charged \$20 per person which will be payable at that time.

After the luncheon, the branch meeting will be held.

Branch 853 wishes all a blessed Christmas season.

**Monica Rodacy Boone, Secretary/Treasurer**

**BRANCH 857 –  
LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday December 10, 2014. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA.

The officers of Branch 857 wishes all members of the FCSU a safe and Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

**Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary**

## Scenes from District 2's October Meeting

District 2 held its annual meeting on the afternoon of October 26, 2014, at the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict Convent in Oak Forest, IL. The district held its election of officers at the meeting, and college freshman Todd Peters was awarded a college grant. Attendees gathered before the meeting for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments, and afterwards enjoyed a delicious catered dinner.



**Branch 493 officers Robert Tapak Magruder and Val Vesely present Branch 493 college freshman Todd Peters with a college grant at the District 2 Annual Meeting on October 26, 2014. Todd is an FCSU scholarship winner. Photo courtesy of Rudolph Bernath, Region 7 Director**



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Hosted FCSU Sales Seminar

Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 200, hosted a Sales Seminar from the FCSU's Membership & Marketing Committee in the Banquet Hall of the Slovak CU Club in Ford City, PA, on Sunday afternoon, October 26, 2014. Two branches were represented and we had 21 people in attendance. The presentation was delivered by National Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr., Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and Home Office Staffer Andrew P. Rajec.

A Jeopardy-like game that quizzed people on insurance and annuity products, as well as general information about our Society, was part of the presentation, and enjoyed by all. It even got a little competitive.

Following the seminar, the Ladies' Auxiliary served a luncheon. The District 11 meeting immediately followed the luncheon. We were sorry not to have had any representation from the other branches or the region to join in on the wonderful afternoon of fellowship. It couldn't have been a more beautiful day. I just want to say "THANK YOU" to everyone involved and participated. On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors, may you all have a blessed Thanksgiving.

- Submitted by Vicki L. Schaub, Fin. Sec.



## 30th Christmas Concert & Dinner December 14 in Yonkers, NY



Continuing in a time-honored and beloved tradition, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, NY, will host its 30th annual Christmas concert and dinner on Sunday, December 14, 2014.

The concert, "Upon a Midnight Clear" which will feature traditional and seasonal works, is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers where the parish was founded by Slovak immigrants 120 years ago.

The concert will be under the direction of the Music Minister of the parish and our Jednota member of Branch 41, Stephen J. Knoblock. The voices of the choir, one of the finest in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert, a buffet dinner will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the traditional sharing of the Oplatky - the Christmas wafers eaten with honey. The dinner's menu will feature an array of Slovak culinary specialties including klobasy and kapusta, pirohy, halusky as well as roast pork and chicken, followed by an assortment of pastries for dessert along with tea and coffee. Beer, wine and soda are included in the ticket price. The cost of the ticket which includes the concert and dinner is \$35.00 per person for adults and \$17.50 for children, ages 12 and younger. Cost of the concert alone is \$10.00. Advance reservations only. For reservations, call the rectory at tel. (914)963-0720. Tickets are also available following the weekend liturgies in church.

Father Susai Antony D, administrator of the parish, extends a cordial invitation to Jednota members both near and far to join the parish as it celebrates its 120th anniversary at this year's concert and dinner. An enjoyable evening is assured.

- Submitted by Dan Tanzone, Branch 41

## Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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# Servant Leadership Award

## Sister Barbara Sable, SSCM

On October 26, 2014, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA awarded the Servant Leadership Award to 43 outstanding high school Juniors and Seniors from the dioceses of Harrisburg, PA, and Scranton, PA. The ceremony took place at the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. Over the past 12 years, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius have honored over 800 teens in the Dioceses of Bridgeport (CT), Charleston (SC), Chicago (IL), Gary (IN), Harrisburg (PA), Milwaukee (WI), Pittsburgh (PA), St. Louis (MO), Scranton (PA), and Syracuse (NY) with the Servant Leadership Award.

The Servant Leadership Award recognizes distinguished high school juniors and seniors who are joyful witnesses, compassionate proclaimers, and enthusiastic builders of the Kingdom of God. The focus of the award is on teens who remain active in their faith and parish beyond Confirmation, and who actively serve in their parish, school and community.

Receiving the award were: Tony Aranda Jr., Glenn Barwicki, David Batula, Michael Biel-ski, Mary Pat Blaskiewicz, Graham Cassel, Catherine Castellan, Alexander Cominsky, Em-ily Dalo, Catherine Davis, Sean Domencic, Aaron Dues, Victoria Elter, Nathaniel Enders, Mark Freidhoff, Joseph Gerzewski, Grayce Heckman, Paige Hildebrandt, Karen Hilenski, Mark Hilkert, Luke Holleran, Megan Kalie, Patrick Kechan, Karolyn Kerwin, Alexandra Kohr, Joshua Kondolics, Katlyn Koppen, William Langan, Jacob Lark, Mackenzie Marzullo, John McLaughlin, Jared Michaels, Jessica Numer, Ronald Rhoads, Taylor Sandri, Skylar Snyder, Hannah Sommerville, Matthew Southerton, Sophia Starvaggi, Edward Thome, Abigail Trus-chel, Adriana Weslowski, and Adam Zipko.

Each teen was given the opportunity to select one person as a mentor who has encour-aged them to generously use their time and talents as a follower of Jesus. The mentors selected were parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, youth ministers, scout leaders, Sisters and Priests, who have been role models for the teens. Mentors recognized by the teens have made a difference in their lives by modeling servant leadership as a way of life in their family, parish, and community.

At the ceremony, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius also honored four adults who received the Father Jankola Lifetime Servant Leadership Award in the ministries of evangeli-zation, education, elder care and ecumenism. Father Jankola was a priest from the Diocese of Scranton who was instrumental in recognizing the need for religious sisters to educate children and founded the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in 1909.

The 2014 Father Jankola Lifetime Servant Leadership Awards went to:

Evangelization: Dr. Martha Carlough from Chapel Hill, North Carolina was recognized for her many years of medical missionary work in Nepal, and for her leadership in training young physicians in maternal and infant health through her work at the University of North Carolina, where she currently teaches.

Education: Sister Mary Paul Kurator, SS.C.M. from Merrillville, IN, was recognized for her 40 years of service as a Latin teacher at Andrean High School in Merrillville, IN. Sister has been awarded numerous academic awards, and has guided many students to receive merit awards in Latin. More importantly, she inspires students to love learning. She continues to moderate a service club at the High School, mentoring students in the importance of service to others.



Receiving Lifetime Awards: Rita Sekulski (second from left) and Carol Carlough (second from right), accepting the award for her daughter Martha Carlough. Also shown are Father Gerard Heintzelman, (left) rector of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius, and Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M. (right) General Superior of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

Elder Care: Rita Sekulski from Danville, PA was recognized for her years of service as a nurse, particularly her years at Maria Joseph Manor in Danville where her cheerful demeanor and loving care for the residents was very evident. Rita was also active in many civic organizations and volunteered for hospice care which she found to be very rewarding. She felt that she received more that she gave.

Ecumenism: Janet Stefano from Michigan City, IN, was recognized for her dedication to expanding understanding of other faiths to the High School students she teaches. As a teacher of World Religions at Marquette High School in Michigan City, IN, and at Andrean High School in Merrillville, IN, she has helped students gain insights into other faiths to bring about a greater understanding of others. This knowledge allows people of different faith traditions to work peacefully together.

All of this year's recipients of the Father Jankola Lifetime Servant Leadership Awards are graduates of Saint Cyril Academy in Danville, PA. The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius sponsored and staffed the High School for girls from 1922-1999. All of the Award recipients acknowledged the contributions of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in helping to form them to become women of leadership and service.

The ceremony ended with a reception at Maria Hall.



Student recipients of the 2014 Servant Leadership Award.

## Christmas Craft/Bake Sale in Uniontown, PA



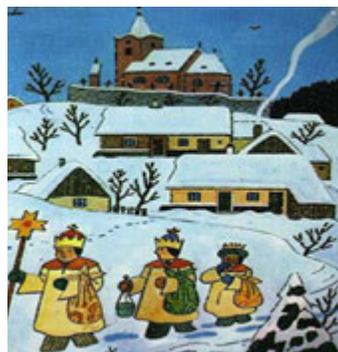
The Ethnic Craft Club of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA, will be having its annual Christmas Craft/Bake sale on Saturday, December 6, 2014, from 12 noon to 5:00PM, and Sunday, December 7, 2014, from 10:00AM to 1:00PM, in the upstairs hall located at 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

The sale will feature decorations, wood-crafted items, folk crafts, re-ligious articles, parish cookbooks (Carpathian Cookery now in its 16th printing with sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes), imported items, home-made candy, various baked goods (long rolls, cookies, breads, etc.), and many other items that would make fine Christmas gifts or holiday decorations. There will be a Nativity display. There is no admission fee. For information, call 724-438-6027 between 9AM – 3PM.

## Prince of Peace Parish

Presents

### 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SLOVAK VILIJIA & JASLICKARI PROGRAM



5 p.m. Saturday  
December 13,  
2014

Traditional Meatless  
Christmas Eve Dinner

Entertainment by

### The Pittsburgh Slovaks

Performing songs and dances depicting the winter traditions practiced in the Slovakia of our ancestors.

**Donation: \$24 Adults**  
**\$12 Children (ages 3-12)**  
Group Discount Available

**By Reservation Only: 412-481-8380**

**Prince of Peace Parish Center**  
81 So. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Handicap Accessible / Only 150 tickets will be sold



# Book Corner

The Chapel Hill Press announces new book by Christine F. Carpenter

## FAMILY OF LOVE

\$15.95 + \$5.00 shipping & handling

ISBN: 978-1-59715-104-7  
Soft Cover; 208 pages

Available from the publisher as well as from premium online booksellers, including Amazon.com and Barnes&Noble.com

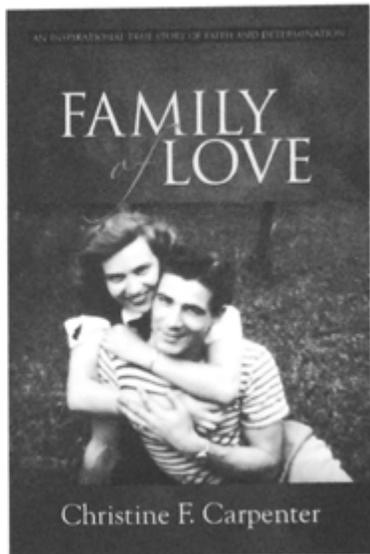
E-book version now available for Kindle and Nook

For more information: cfcarpenters@gmail.com



CHAPEL HILL PRESS, INC.

1829 E. Franklin St., Suite 700A  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514  
(919) 942-8389



Emily, a spirited young patient in a state sanatorium in the 1940s, dares to believe she will overcome an incurable disease and live to create a family with Len, the love of her life. Though she's sent home to die and her dashing Italian beau enlists as a paratrooper in the Pacific Theater, the couple clings to faith and love. But their greatest challenges lie ahead. Their true story offers this generation a message of hope. Trust and believe that God will never leave you.

Chris Carpenter was born and raised in beautiful Johnstown, Pennsylvania. She met her husband, Joe, at a wedding. She asked him to dance, and they have been dancing through life ever since.

They have four wonderful children and a granddaughter.

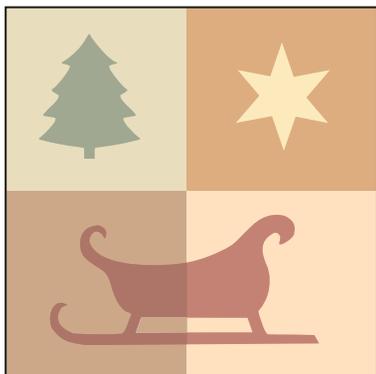
Chris has always enjoyed journaling and all of the arts. Most of all, she loves people and hearing their true stories.

She hears God's voice and knows the time is now for this incredible story to be shared with the world.



The author with her father

# Annual Slovak Christmas Meal (Vilija) at Benedictine



Early in December each year, held in the cafeteria of Benedictine High School, Cleveland, OH, has been a Slovak Traditional Christmas Meal. This traditional meal prepared by local members of the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club and served by monks from St. Andrew Abbey, truly has been considered the start of the Holy Christmas season for many years. This is a meatless meal as was celebrated in Europe and continued here in America.

The date this year is Sunday, December 7, 2014. Beginning the event, noon Mass will be celebrated in the Abbey Church, a short walk on the St. Andrew Abbey grounds from the High School. The meal follows immediately after.

**Tickets to attend are only sold in advance**, to ensure food supply. Dinners are \$20.00 each. Orders are placed by mail, with check, sent in care of:

Saint Andrew Abbey – VILIIJA  
10510 Buckeye Road  
Cleveland, OH 44104

For more information, phone 216 721-5300, ext. 0 (zero), Monday – Friday, 8am until 3:30pm.

Along with the Mass and meal, there is always traditional music and a performance; this year features the Lúčina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland. Exhibits and tables with sale items are also there. The abbey monks, the Slovak Radio Club members, and staff at the Slovak Institute Library all work together in keeping this tradition going.

The Slovak Institute has been located in the Abbey building since 1952, and before that since 1936 known only as a Slovak Library.

- Submitted by Joe Hornack, Branch 1 Member

# Treasures of Slovakia Tour

## July 10 - 19, 2015

*Touch the heart of Slovakia, find long-lost family*



Our Girls Dressed Up

Our 85th Treasures Tour begins with Bratislava's Old Town, and a welcome party with Slovak champagne! Marvel at Banská Bystrica's medieval tower. Enjoy Deva's 49th Folk Festival and unique folk crafts and performers at historic Kezmarok's International Crafts Festival. Marvel at the High Tatra peaks along the way.

Visit walled Levoča to admire Master Pauls' altars from the 1500s. Explore glorious Spis Castle and 13th century Zehra Church, UNESCO Treasures. Feast on Slovak specialties & dance at a Rusyn wedding.

Stara Lubovna's museum of homes depicts birth, wedding & death customs. Take a unique raft ride on

the Dunajec River in scenic Pieniny National Park plus a Goral Picnic with lively local tunes.

A village museum showcases the daily life of your ancestors. Tour Presov and then Kosice to marvel at St. Elizabeth's Cathedral and the famed Singing Fountain. Elegant

Bardejov, the Pearl of Saris, & another UNESCO Treasure, charms with grand St. Egidius Church, a unique Icon Museum and a visit to an ancient onion domed wooden church.

Follow the mighty Vah River on a castle-studded ride. Visit a famed Nativity that focuses on Slovak village life. Immerse in charming Cicmany with its decorated homes.

Take part in a village wedding in Krakovany. Toast the bride! Tour medieval Cerveny Kamen Castle & a historic mill, now a museum of naive folk art.

Explore the Royal Carpathian Wine Road, tour vineyards and sample vintages as we learn about 700 years of wine culture on these verdant slopes. Festive farewell dinner.

Land only price \$2,199 per person

- Submitted by Helene Cincebeaux, Branch 278

- For more information, contact Helene:  
151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, NY 14617  
Phone: (585) 342-9383  
Email: helenezx@aol.com  
Or visit www.treasurestours.com

# Slovak Christmas Items Available from Slovak Institute

Dear Friends!  
The Slovak Institute has the following books available:

- Just some books in ENGLISH about Slovaks
- Let's Learn Slovak - SOLD OUT!!  
By Philip A. Hrbak - 4th edition 1990 \$ 5.00
  - Slovak Songs and Dances  
Michael Sinchak, Original edition 1942 \$ 7.00
  - Slovaks in Florida  
As researched and written by Andrew F. Hudak, Jr. \$10.00
  - Remembrances and Testimony  
Dr. Jozef Tiso and the Slovak Republic 1939 - 1945  
By Dr. Charles (Karel) Marin, Secretary for Tiso \$18.00
  - Cleveland's Buckeye Neighborhood  
Collection of early ethnic photos with captions, by John T. Sabol \$22.00
  - Cleveland Slovaks  
by John T. Sabol & Lisa Alzo, described vintage photos \$22.00
  - Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley  
Vintage photos from Ohio cities Youngstown to Warren, plus border towns in Pennsylvania, by Susan J. Summers and Loretta A. Ekoniak \$22.00
  - History of the Slovaks in Cleveland & Lakewood  
Jan Pankuch's forty years in America, translation of his 1929 book \$24.00
  - The Night of the Barbarians  
Experiences under Communism, written by Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J. \$28.00

### MILI PRIATELIA!

- Odporúčame knihy v Slovenčine.
- Sv. Andrej-Svorad  
in 1952 by Fr. Mikuláš Sprinc \$ 7.00
  - Slovenské Rehole v Amerike  
in 1955 by Dr. František Hrušovský \$10.00
  - V Kráľoch Dediny  
in 1968 by Jozef A. Mikuš \$10.00
  - Slovenská Republika (SR) 1939-1949 \$20.00  
Written by Slovak Institute Member Writers, 1949
  - Driftwood Poems by Mikuláš Sprinc \$12.00  
Translated to English from Slovak
  - \* \* \* \* \*
  - Various Slovakia Landscapes \$15.00  
Large used picture books of either Bratislava, Kosice, Orava, Levoča, Tatry or Slovensko (Circle one)



SLOVAK INSTITUTE  
Reference Library  
10510 Buckeye Road  
Cleveland, OH 44104  
www.slovakinstitute.com  
(216) 721-5300 ext. 294



### ORDER FORM:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling + 4.00

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We thank you for your support of the Slovak Institute

*Andrew F. Hudak*  
Andrew F. Hudak  
Director

*Joseph J. Hornack*  
Joseph J. Hornack  
Assistant Director

slovakinstitute@cbhs.edu

### Seasonal Items

- Large Map of Slovakia (black & white) \$ 10.00
- SLOVAK Christmas Cards (10/ pkg.) \$ 10.00
- SLOVAK Christmas Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
- ENGLISH Christmas Cards(10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
- ENGLISH Christmas Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
- Christmas Oplátky - (1 env. of 3 pcs.) \$ 1.00
- SLOVAK Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
- SLOVAK Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
- ENGLISH Easter Cards (10/pkg.) \$ 10.00
- ENGLISH Easter Cards (10/pkg) \$ 12.00 U.S. TO CANADA
- Flag of Slovak Republic - Small (4"x5.5") \$ 4.00
- Flag of Slovak Republic - Large (3'x5') \$ 20.00

# Správy zo Slovenska

## SB: Slovensko sa umiestnilo na 37. mieste v aktuálnom rebríčku Doing Business

Washington/Bratislava 29. októbra (TASR) - Najjednoduchšie sa podniká v Singapure, vyplýva z aktuálneho rebríčku Svetovej banky (SB) Doing Business 2015. Slovensko sa spomedzi 189 krajín umiestnilo na 37. mieste. Informovala o tom SB.

Za Singapurom nasledujú Nový Zéland, Hongkong a Dánsko, ktoré je na štvrtom mieste najlepšie umiestnenou krajinou. Piata je Južná Kórea, šieste Nórsko, siedme USA, ôsma Británia, deviate Fínsko a desiatu Austrália.

Slovensko sa umiestnilo na 37. mieste, predbehlo tak napríklad Česko (44) alebo Maďarsko (54). Zo susedných krajín sa Rakúsko umiestnilo na 21. mieste a Poľsko na 32. mieste.

SB ocenila, že Slovensko uľahčilo založenie firmy. Znižil sa totiž „čas potrebný na registráciu na súde a odstránila sa potreba (a tým aj poplatky) overenia podpisu u notára“, uvádza sa v správe SB. Banka tiež pozitívne kvitovala nový zákon o ochrane osobných údajov.

SB pri zostavovaní tohtoročného rebríčka používala novú metodológiu v rámci ktorej posudzoval 10 kritérií, ako sú založenie firmy, získanie prístupu k elektrickej sieti, získanie stavebného povolenia, zápisu nehnuteľnosti do katastra alebo vymáhateľnosť kontraktov. V minuloročnom rebríčku upravenom podľa novej metodológie sa Slovensko umiestnilo na 35. mieste.

## Slovensko zaslalo materiálnu pomoc do krajín postihnutých ebolou

Bratislava 29. októbra (TASR) - Slovensko dnes zaslalo materiálnu humanitárnu pomoc do oblastí Afriky, v ktorých najviac vyčírila ebola. Pomoc v hodnote 90.000 eur poskytne cez Svetovú zdravotnícku organizáciu (WHO) prostredníctvom Pohotovostného koordináčného strediska (ERCC).

Humanitárna pomoc je poskytovaná zo zásob Ministerstva vnútra SR. Pomoc na boj proti ebrole inicioval šéf diplomacie Miroslav Lajčák.

„Ide o stany, posteľ, prikrývky, osvetlenie, uteráky, generátory, umývadlá a toalety určené na vybavenie poľných nemocníc,“ informoval tlačový odbor ministerstva zahraničných vecí (MZV). Zásielku s materiálom prepraví kamiónom do Holandska a odtiaľ bude dopravená do Guinejskej republiky.

Štát sa do humanitárnej pomoci nezapojíl prvýkrát. Cez WHO už z prostriedkov rozvojovej pomoci MZV prispel 15.000 eurami.

## J. ČIŽNÁR vydal pokyn na preskúmanie kúpy prístroja v piešťanskej nemocnici

Bratislava 4. novembra (TASR) - Generálny prokurátor SR Jaromír Čižnár vydal pokyn, aby orgány činné v trestnom konaní preskúmali okolnosti kúpy CT prístroja v piešťanskej nemocnici, v kauze ktorá stála ministerské kreslo Zuzanu Zvolenskú.

„Na základe odovzdaného príspevku v TV Markíza 31. októbra vydal generálny prokurátor Jaromír Čižnár pokyn námestníkovi generálneho prokurátora pre trestný úsek Petrovi Šufliarskemu, aby orgány činné v trestnom konaní preskúmali okolnosti kúpy CT prístroja štatutárnym orgánom Nemocnice Alexandra Wintera v Piešťanoch. Za týmto účelom bude vydaný písomný pokyn krajskému prokurátorovi v Trnave a Generálna prokuratúra Slovenskej republiky bude vykonávať vo veci dohľadovú právomoc,“ uviedla dnes pre TASR hovorkyňa GP SR Andrea Predajňová.

Zuzana Zvolenská (nom. Smer-SD) prijala v pondelok 3. novembra výzvu premiéra Roberta Fica (Smer-SD) a odišla z postu ministerky zdravotníctva. Dôvodom je práve podozrivý nákup CT prístroja piešťanskou nemocnicou.



## Stála konferencia Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2014

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Dojímavou záležitosťou bolo slávnostné odovzdanie **Ceny Ondreja Štefánku Nine Holej**, krajskej aktivistky v prostredí Slovákov v USA. Cenu O. Štefánku udeľuje Kultúrna a vedecká spoločnosť Ivana Krasku v Nadlaku významným osobnostiam slovenského krajského života na pamiatku literáta, spolkového činiteľa a výrazného lídra slovenskej Dolnej zeme Ondreja Štefánka.

Pracovnú časť Stálej konferencie otvoril svojim prejavom predseda Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Igor Furdík. Poďakoval všetkým účastníkom za to, že prišli z rôznych kútov sveta a podporili tak záujem o spoluprácu so Slovenskou republikou a spolupatričnosť našej slovenskej obce v zahraničí.

V ďalšom sa vo svojom príspevku zamerl na to, ako sa naplňali závery ostatnej konferencie z roku 2012 a aký posun nastal v priebehu dvoch rokov. Igor Furdík informoval delegátov konferencie o novej inštitucionálnej príslušnosti ÚSZZ pod Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR. Touto zmenou získal ÚSZZ okrem operatívnych výhod a flexibility výkonu štátnej politiky aj gesciu podpredsedu vlády SR a ministra zahraničných vecí vo vzťahu k štátnej politike k Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí. Igor Furdík spomenul vo svojom príspevku hlavné projekty, ktoré boli financované ÚSZZ v krajinách, kde žijú naši krajanovia za účelom podpory ich snahy o uchovávanie nehmotného a hmotného kultúrneho dedičstva. Podčiarkol, že je kladený zásadný význam na podporu školstva, vedy a výskumu, a to v spolupráci s rezortom školstva. V neposlednom rade predseda ÚSZZ informoval delegátov konferencie o pozitívnych zmenách smerovaných na zjednodušenie a zlacnenie procesu získania osvedčenia Slováka žijúceho v zahraničí. Toto osvedčenie dáva právo Slovákov žijúcemu v zahraničí na pobyt na území Slovenskej republiky v rámci stanovených pravidiel. Stála konferencia si následne zvolila svoje orgány a jednotliví delegáti konferencie vystúpili so svojimi príspevkami.

ÚSZZ



Pohľad na zúčastnených delegátov Stálej konferencie zahraničných Slovákov.



Cenu Ondreja Štefánka odovzdáva tajomníčka SLvA, Nine Holej predseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí Vladimír Skalský.

Piešťanská nemocnica Alexandra Wintera chcela v roku 2012 kúpiť CT prístroj za vyše milión eur, no k obchodu napokon nedošlo. Denník Sme a televízia Markíza informovali, že po tom, čo kontrolu nad nemocnicou prebrala vládna strana, vedenie tender z roku 2012 zrušilo a vyhlásilo novú súťaž na lepší a drahší prístroj. Ten má po novom dodať košická spoločnosť Medical Group SK za takmer 1,6 milióna eur, ktorú k Smeru-SD viaže meno predsedu parlamentu Pavla Paška, ktorý v nej pôsobil. Paška v reakcii vyhlásil, že so spomínanou firmou nemá nič spoločné.

## DOPRAVA: Diaľnica pod Tatrami je medzi desiatkou najkrajších ciest Slovenska

Poprad 4. novembra (TASR) - Diaľničný úsek D1 pod Tatrami je jedna z najkrajších ciest Slovenska. Rozhodla o tom verejnosť aj odborná porota, ktorá počas leta hľadala najkrajšie cesty Slovenska. „Z takmer 700 tipov vzišla top desiatka, medzi ktorú sa dostala aj diaľnica D1 pod Tatrami s nádherným výhľadom na tatranské štíty. Okrem nej medzi najkrajšie cesty patrí napr. aj cesta cez Manínsku tiesňavu či Soroška,“ informoval manažér komunikácie SHELL Slovakia Petr Šindler.

Počas šiestich týždňov prišlo do ankety Shell Parádna jazda od vodičov spolu 700 tipov na zaujímavé a pekné úseky ciest. Z nich potom odborná porota vybrala najzaujímavejšie cesty Slovenska. Na ankete úzko spolupracovali dopravní spravodajcovia Zelenéj vlny Rádia a televízie Slovenska, oddelenia bezpečnosti cestnej premávky BECEP Ministerstva dopravy, výstavby a regionálneho rozvoja SR, Slovenskej agentúry pre cestovný ruch, Národnej diaľničnej spoločnosti a viacerí špecialisti v oblasti motorizmu a cestovného ruchu.

„Medzi najkrajšie cesty zaradili hlasujúci a odborníci aj Donovaly, ktoré sú asi najviac vyťaženým horským priechodom na Slovensku. Celý úsek má takmer 30 kilometrov a cesta sa strmým stúpaním dostane do nadmorskej výšky 960 metrov nad morom,“ doplnil Šindler. Pezinská Baba, horský priechod neďaleko Bratislavy, ktorý sa tiež dostal do top desiatky, je známy pretekmi do vrchu. Štrnásťkilometrový úsek si priaznivci zákrut vychutnajú najmä medzi Pezinkom a Babou. Okrem neho hlasujúcich najviac zaujala cesta od Hnúšte po Jelšavu, ale aj cesta okolo Spišského hradu, či úsek v obci Hodruša - Hámre a obchvat Oravského podzámkou.

## Šéf U.S. Steel Košice bude na Tatra Summit hovoríť o problémoch s emisiami

Bratislava 8. novembra (TASR) - Vyrovnávanie sa priemyselných firiem s prísnyimi emisnými pravidlami bude témou vystúpenia šéfa košického U.S. Steelu Georga Babcocka na budúcotýždňovej medzinárodnej konferencii Tatra Summit.

Ako ďalej informovali organizátori podujatia, spolu s ďalšími účastníkmi bude Babcock hľadať odpoveď na otázku, ako môže Európa bojovať proti klimatickým zmenám a zároveň konkurovať zvyšku sveta.

Tatra Summit sa uskutoční 11. až 13. novembra v bratislavskom hoteli Kempinski River Park. Privíta viac ako 300 hostí z oblasti európskej politiky a biznisu, ako napríklad premiéra SR Roberta Fica, bývalých premiérov Talianska a Poľska, či ministrov financií Slovenska, Česka a Rumunska.

Organizátorom Tatra Summitu je Centrum pre európske záležitosti, člen StredoEurópskej strategickej rady, v spolupráci s Ministerstvom financií (MF) SR a bruselský think tank Bruegel. Súčasťou podujatia bude po prvý raz aj Investičné fórum. Tatra Summit má ambíciu stať sa ekonomickou verziou konferencie GLOBSEC, ktorú tiež organizuje StredoEurópska strategická rada.



## Marián Hossa dostal od Chicaga zlatý puk

Zámorský hokejový klub Chicago Blackhawks ocenil Mariána Hossu za zisk jubilejného 1000. bodu v NHL. Pred nedeľňajším domácim zápasom s Winnipegom (0:1) pripravil 3. novembra 2014 slávnostný ceremoniál, počas ktorého odovzdal slovenskému útočníkovi pamätné dary pripomínajúce mu výnimočný milník. Hossa dosiahol 1000-bodovú hranicu už vo štvrtkovom dueli v Ottawe, ale jeho klub ho vyznamenal až v nedeľu večer. Bol to totiž prvý domáci duel „čiernych jastrabov“ po dvojzápasovom tripe. Slovenský hokejista dostal od viceprezidenta a generálneho manažéra Stana Bowmana zlatý puk, ktorý mu bude navždy pripomínať dosiahnutie okružlej méty. Okrem toho klub počas prestávky v I. tretine premietol na svetelnej kocke profilové video o hráčovi s číslom 81. Od divákov si vyslúžil potlesk, tí dokonca skandovali jeho meno.

„Bol to špeciálny moment, od prvotriednej organizácie. Na tieto chvíle budem navždy spomínať,“ priznal pre Chicago Daily Herald Hossa, ktorého na červenom koberci sprevádzali manželka a dve dcéry.



Marián Hossa s dcérkou.

TASR

## Lietajúce auto zo Slovenska

Lietajúce auto zo Slovenska, známe pod značkou AeroMobil, nebude „ľudovým autom“, aspoň nie v prvých rokoch po jeho uvedení na trh. V exkluzívnom rozhovore to uviedol spoluzakladateľ spoločnosti AeroMobil a jej generálny riaditeľ Juraj Vaculík.

Vaculík bol spolu s vynálezcom a dizajnérom AeroMobilu Štefanom Kleinom hlavným hosťom podujatia s názvom Vedecká podpora zlomových technológií: príklad lietajúceho auta, ktoré sa nedávno konalo na pôde Európskej komisie v Bruseli z podnetu Spoločného výskumného centra (JRC).

Vaculík upozornil, že do tejto chvíle bol koncept lietajúceho auta súkromný projekt, financovaný zo súkromných zdrojov. Klein v tejto súvislosti pripomenul, že hlavnú finančnú záťaž nesie na pleciah Vaculík.

Ten ocenil, že v Bruseli prejavili záujem pre podporu tohto slovenského projektu v dvoch kľúčových oblastiach - financovanie a legislatívny rámec. Priznal, že hoci je slovenské lietajúce auto pripravené pre trh, ešte stále je v štádiu vylepšovania, výskumu a vývoja. EÚ prostredníctvom programu Horizont 2020 poskytuje finančné zdroje na podporu inovačných projektov a koncept AeroMobilu do tejto schémy zapadá.

Na druhej strane je nemenej podstatný legislatívny aspekt, čiže zabezpečenie potrebnej certifikácie pre uvedenie tohto stroja na trh.

„Aby sme mohli reálne osloviť zákazníkov a predávať náš stroj, musíme prejsť cez dva veľké certifikačné úkony. Získať certifikát pre auto a certifikovať ho aj ako lietadlo,“ spresnil Vaculík. Je rád, že na bruselskom stretnutí boli ľudia z Európskej komisie, ktorí za oblasti certifikácie a financovania zodpovedajú, pričom ich prvé reakcie boli pozitívne a prajné.

Na otázku TASR, či sú správne náznamy niektorých médií, že slovenské lietajúce auto bude stáť okolo 150.000 dolárov alebo viac ako 100.000 eur, Vaculík uviedol, že ide iba o špekulácie, ktoré nemajú reálny základ.

„Žiadna cena nebola nikdy zverejnená. Je na to príliš skoro. Bude to závisieť od toho, aká bude použitá finálna technológia, aké budú komponenty,“ konštatoval Vaculík. Priznal však, že určite to nebude „ľudové vozidlo“.

Klein a Vaculík v Bruseli naznačili, že by chceli najneskôr do roku 2020 uviesť AeroMobil na trh, aj keď si uvedomujú, že je ešte pred nimi dlhá cesta.

TASR

## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ v New Yorku bude v nedeľu **30. novembra 2014 o 12:30 hodine** (po slovenskej svätej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue a 66<sup>th</sup> Street. Na programe budú podané správy úradníkov, finančnej správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie potom budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie. Úctivo Vás žiadame, o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzi. Ďakujem s pozdravom,

Maria Jurasí, pokladníčka

### Mikulášske odopoludnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716, Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v NYC a Slovenský katolícky sokol v NYC, pozývajú slovenskú verejnosť v nedeľu dňa **7. decembra 2014 o 1:00 hodine** odopoludnia na Mikulášske odopoludnie s Mikulášskou nádielkou, ktoré sa bude konať v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street v New York City. Vstupné je voľné. Občerstvenie bude zabezpečené. Bližšie informácie podajú: Farský úrad Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, otec Štefan Chanas tel. číslo: (212) 734 4613; Henrieta Daitová: (201) 641 8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612 1934.

### Štedrovečerná večera Vigília v NYC

Farská rada pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ, Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ a Slovenský katolícky sokol NYC Vás pozývajú na Štedrovečernú večeru - **Vigíliu**, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa **14. decembra 2014 o 1:00 hodine** odopoludnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street NYC. Vstupné je 20.00 dolárov. Večera je započítaná vo vstupnom. Lístky na Štedrovečernú večeru si môžete objednať na: Farskom úrade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, telefón: (212) 734 4613; Jozef Bilik: (718) 463 2084; Henrieta H. Daitová: (201) 641 8922; Mária Božeková: (347) 612 1934.

### Učebnice pre slovenské školy

Generálna konzulka Jana Trnovcová navštívila v dňoch 24.-26. októbra 2014 slovenské školy (Slovenská škola v Hillsborough, NJ, Slovenská škola na Manhattane a Slovenská škola v Queense, NY). Cieľom bolo stretnutie s vedením školy a deťmi, ktorým slávnostne odovzdala deťom učebnice, ktoré týmto školám venovalo MŠ SR. Tento dar tlmočil podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí Slovenskej republiky Miroslav Lajčák počas príhovoru na nedávnom krajskom festivale v Holmdeli, NJ.

### Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko usporiada 22. slovenský ples

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko v New Yorku usporiada v sobotu **24. januára 2015** už 22. slovenský ples. Bude sa konať v The Royal Manor v Garfield, NJ. Začiatok bude o **7:00. hodine večer**. Vstupné je \$130.00 za osobu. V cene je započítaná večera a otvorený bar. Rezervácie: Zuzana Krčmár, tel.: 973-357-1209; email: zuzana11@optonline.net.

### Propagácia podujatia na web stránke Folklorfest.sk

Naša web stránka je určená pre ľudí, ktorí majú záujem prežiť zmysluplný svoj voľný čas. Na portál si vkladajú svoje podujatia aj krajanovia z bližšej i vzdialenejšej Európy, ale aj zo zahraničia, hlavne z USA, Kanady a Austrálie. Je potrebné uviesť kde, čo a kedy sa pripravuje. Pripravuje píšeme preto, lebo najúčinnejšia propagácia podujatia je zverejniť jeho konanie čo najskôr. Podujatia môžu byť uvedené na [www.folklorfest.sk](http://www.folklorfest.sk), ale samozrejme časovo dostatočne pred ich konaním. Ak máte vedomosť o pripravovaných podujatiach môžete nám ich zaslať. Najpraktickejšie je vyzvať po Vašich linkách matičiarov, aby nám ich priamo zaslali. My ich redakčne spracujeme a vložíme na stránku. Tešíme sa na spoluprácu a sme s pozdravom

Doc. Ing. Ján Styk, CS. riaditeľ [www.folklorfest.sk](http://www.folklorfest.sk) +421 905 898 707

## 85 - je požehnaný vek – Čas poďakovať

V živote som si toho veľa nenavyberal. Okrem pár maľučkostí, čo nestoja za reč. Všetko to hlavné som dostal a všetko dôležité mi bolo dané – „nepýtaj sa, ži!“ Detstvo v rodine, ktorá bola bohatá na deti a na lásku. Jedinečná škola k súrodencom, za ktorých si zodpovedný a musíš ich mať rád.

Druhá svetová vojna a chudoba tvoria pozadie celého môjho životného príbehu – keď sa chráni to hlavné: život a ľudská dôstojnosť. U saleziánov som bol päť rokov. Žijem z toho dodnes. Pozor na chudobných a mladých! Tam je budúcnosť.

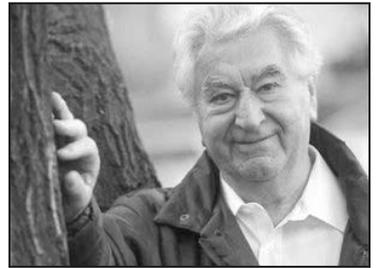
Do väzenia som sa nepýtal. Padne to na človeka ako klieťka na vtáčika. Koniec slobody. Tvrdá univerzita. Tak málo toho človek potrebuje. Potom aj po celý život. To, čo potrebuješ, aby si prežil, uniesieš v jednej deke. Život robotníka mal vtedy kurz. Bola to z núdze čnosť. Na obraze maliara Ladislava Záborského vidím sám seba ako človeka čo vlečie svoje ťažké bremeno a za ním silueta Krista, nesúceho kríž. Namáhavá práca, poctivá tvorba, môžu byť formou modlitby. K pápežovi som chcel ujsť, napokon ma k nemu vyhnali komunisti, chceli znova ublížiť a nechtiac pomohli. Za normalizácie som sa do okupovanej vlasti vrátil len preto, že tu žili, že ste tu žili, ľudia trpiaci, túžiaci po slobode. Mne bolo zadosťučinením len žiť s vami, počúvať vás a artikulovať vaše sny, predstavy a ideály.

Komunizmus sme zvalili aj akoby zázrakom, aj vlastným pričinením. Zanechal mnohé hospodárske škody. Z tých by sme sa vylizali. Horšie sú škody morálne, kultúrne, s ktorými sa trápime. Je to náš spoločný údol, ktorý nás spája. Tu sú korene nášho priateľstva.

Vďaka Vám, čo ste ma niesli v náručí svojej lásky som sa stal Vaším priateľom. Ste mojim jediným pokladom. Vami obložený, ako chlebiček som vďačný za všetko, čo mi bolo dopriate. Dnešný deň je vďakou za život, slávnosťou nášho priateľstva, spomienka na tých, čo nás predišli a dňom našej zvláštnej rehole.

Ďakujem Vám za účasť na mojej ceste.

Anton Srholec



Anton Srholec

(Dr. h.c. Anton Srholec, (\* 12. jún 1929, Skalica) je slovenský rímskokatolícky kňaz a salezián, spisovateľ a charitatívny pracovník, zakladateľ a riaditeľ resocializačného centra RESOTY. - Red. Jednota)

## Nové knihy:

### Michael Novak: Boha nikto nevidí

Milí priatelia, chceme Vás informovať, že vo vydavateľstve Post Scriptum vyšla v týchto dňoch kniha od Michaela Novaka, Američana so slovenskými koreňmi, *Boha nikto nevidí*.

Nová kniha významného amerického filozofa a teológa ponúka pozoruhodný príspevok do večnej diskusie o „viere a neviere“, v ktorom možno nájsť širokú škálu podnetov inšpirovaných duchovnou skúsenosťou ľudstva a jej konfrontáciou s myšlienkovým svetom značnej časti našich súčasníkov. Autor vychádza zo skutočnosti, že ateisti aj veriaci zažívajú tú istú „temnú noc“, v ktorej akoby necítili Božiu prítomnosť a konštatuje, že konflikt medzi vierou a pochybovaním nevychádza z objektívnych rozdielností, ale z odlišných prístupov k nepoznanému. No nevyhýba sa ani priamej polemike so silne znejúcimi názormi zástancov ateizmu, akými sú napríklad Dawkins, Dennett, Harris, či Hitchens. Na základe svojej dlhoročnej vedeckej činnosti, ako aj svojich osobných zápasov o vieru, Novak prostredníctvom racionálnych argumentov ukazuje, že duchovná perspektíva naozaj poskytuje najuspokojujúcejšie odpovede na večné otázky o zmysle bytia. Veriť je niekedy problém, ale napriek všetkému viera ponúka jedinú plne koherentnú odpoveď na ľudskú skúsenosť, či už v osobnej rovine alebo z aspektu vývoja ľudskej spoločnosti.

Kniha má 328 strán, mäkká väzba. Cena: 22.89 eur. Kontakt: Post Scriptum, s.r.o., Ražecká 36, 821 07 Bratislava Tel.: 0903442679 [www.postscriptum.sk](http://www.postscriptum.sk), [info@postscriptum.sk](mailto:info@postscriptum.sk)

Michael Novak (1933) je americký filozof, teológ, ekonóm, univerzitný profesor, diplomat a spisovateľ. Má slovenské korene. Študoval na Gregoriánskej univerzite v Ríme a na Harvarde. Vyučoval na viacerých amerických univerzitách: Harvard, Stanford, Syracuse University, Notre Dame. Pôsobil ako poradca v administratíve prezidentov Forda a Cartera. Je autorom desiatok kníh z oblasti filozofie, teológie a vzťahov medzi kultúrou, politikou a ekonomikou, pričom najznámejšou sa stala kniha *Duch demokratického kapitalizmu*, ktorá vyšla aj v slovenskom preklade, ako aj viaceré ďalšie. Okrem iných ocenení je laureátom Templetonovej ceny (1994) a mnohých čestných doktorátov. Po roku 1989 sa angažoval aj na Slovensku. V roku 1996 mu prezident Slovenskej republiky udelil Rad Bieleho dvojkríža II. triedy.

### Luba Ružičková-Haviarová: Kronika emigrantky

Do rúk čitateľa sa dostáva nielen príbeh emigrantov, túžiacich po živote v slobodnom svete, ale aj obdivuhodný obraz 45-ročného manželstva, plného lásky, vzájomnej úcty a súdržnosti...

Luba Haviarová, inteligentná, odvážna a cieľavedomá mladá žena, chce po ukončení štúdia francúzskeho a slovenského jazyka na FFUK v Bratislave v rámci pomoci rozvojom krajín odísť do Afriky, aby vyučovala tamojšie deti francúzštinu. Svoje plány však zmení, keď roku 1963 stretne svojho budúceho manžela Fana Ružičku. Fano, nespokojný s komunistickým režimom v Československu, sníva o lepšom živote na Západe a pre túto myšlienku nadchne aj Luba. Keď sa mu ako lekárovi naskytne možnosť odísť do Ameriky na študijný pobyt do New Yorku, neváha. A tak sa roku 1968 Luba spolu s manželom a 3-ročným synčekom ocitne v neznámej krajine, síce bez hrozieb, trestov a pocitu neslobody, ale s veľmi slabou znalosťou angličtiny a tunajších životných podmienok. Väčšinu času musí tráviť sama s malým Vladkom, keďže manžel ako lekár internista pracuje v nemocnici takmer celé dni. Ich legálny pobyt v USA sa však pomaly končí a oni sa rozhodujú, čo ďalej...

Čoskoro do rodiny pribudne dcéra Renátka a Ružičkovci sa natrvalo usadia v Talyore v strednom Texase, kde žije veľa emigrantov, najmä Moravanov. Luba sa dokáže vymaniť spod tradičnej úlohy manželky a matky a otvorí si vlastnú cestovnú kanceláriu. S klientmi cestuje po celom svete, ale najmä do Československa, kde sa opäť môže stretávať so svojou rodinou. Hoci ju na hraniciach často šikanujú, lebo ju pokladajú za „zradcu“, ona sa len tak ľahko nevzdáva, keďže túžba po domove a rodine je silnejšia než všetky prekážky. Životný príbeh mladej rodiny Ružičkovcov za „veľkou mláku“ môže byť inšpiráciou pre ženy a matky, túžiace po vlastnom sebaurčení, pre začínajúcich lekárov či podnikateľov, dennodenne prekonávajúcich ťažkosti, aby dosiahli vyťažný cieľ, ako aj pre tých, ktorí veria vlastným schopnostiam, veď odveká ľudská túžba po šťastí sa skrýva v každom z nás... *Knihu si možno objednať na stránke: [www.martinus.sk](http://www.martinus.sk)*

## Zlatá minca s kniežatom Rastislavom v obehu

Zberatelia mincí si môžu od 3. novembra kúpiť v poradí už štvrtý portrét panovníka Veľkomoravskej ríše. Do obehu sa totiž dostala zlatá zberateľská minca s nominálnou hodnotou 100 eur s motívom veľkomoravského kniežata Rastislava. Za pamätný kúsok z dielne Mincovne Kremnica zaplatia približne 350 eur.

Po Svätoplukovi v roku 1994, Mojmirovi II. v roku 2006 a Pribinovi v roku 2011 pripravila Národná banka Slovenska (NBS) v rámci tematického okruhu podobizeň kniežata Rastislava. Ten vládol na Veľkej Morave v rokoch 846 až 870 a patril k najvýznamnejším veľkomoravským kniežatám. „Jeho zásadnou vznikol v strednej Európe nezávislý štát s plnou štátoprávnou legitimitou,“ uviedol guvernér NBS Jozef Makúch pri príležitosti prvého dňa predaja mince v Bratislave.



FOTO TASR – Štefan Puškáš

Na snímke pamätný list (vpravo) a zlatá minca.

**On November 3, 2014, the National Bank of Slovakia and the Kremnica Mint announced the minting of a new gold coin with the value of 100 euros in commemoration of the Great Moravian Prince Rastislav.**

## Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

### Kysuce

Tento, prevažne hornatý región v severozápadnom kúte Slovenska, na severe hraničiaci s Poľskom, patrí k najmenším a najchudobnejším. Je to región vrchárskych „grapov“, ako ich tam nazývajú, chudobných políčok s roztratenými domami na samotách (lazoch), z ktorých vznikli neskôr osady, obce, mestá.

Je ohraničený Žilinskou kotlinou, Moravskosliezskými Beskydami, Slovenskými Beskydami, Oravskou Magurou a Jeseníkmi. Po stáročia sa tu obyvatelia živili poľnohospodárstvom, chovom oviec, drotárstvom, salašníctvom, pltníctvom a podomovým obchodom. Pre mnohých sa stalo drotárstvo zdrojom výživy. Typickými nástrojmi drotárov boli: kladivo, kliešte, šidlo, kúsok plechu a drôt. Drotárstvo inšpirovalo k tvorbe aj niektorých umelcov: rezbárov sochárov, maliarov básnikov... Známa je divadelná hra Drotár od Jána Palárika.

Centrom regiónu je Čadca, hospodárske a kultúrne stredisko, na rieke Kysuca. Jeho trvalým javom na prelome 19. a 20. st. bola chudoba, nezamestnanosť a vysťahovalectvo za prácou, prevažne do USA a Kanady.

Mnohým slovenským prisťahovalcom v USA prišlo šťastie, dарило sa v práci a rozhodli sa tam zostať. Vo voľnom čase sa stretávali kde inde ako v krčme, zaspomínali na rodný kraj... o čom sa zmieňuje aj pieseň Prostred Ameriky krčma maľovaná. Uvádzam z nej niekoľko veršov:

*/:Prostred Ameriky krčma maľovaná:  
do nej sa schádzajú tí naši krajan.  
/:Schádzajú, schádzajú tak sa zhovárajú:  
podme chlapi domov, doma nás čakajú.  
/:Moja žena doma a ja v Ameriky:  
musím ťažko robiť v železnej fabrike.*

Do USA sa vysťahoval aj otec astronauta E. Czernana. Za povšimnutie stojí aj tamojší kostol sv. Bartolomeja z r. 1734.

Z miest za zmienku stojí Kysucké Nové Mesto v údolí rieky Kysuca, na rozhraní Javorníkov a Kysuckých vrchov, s úhladným námestím, viacerými zachovalými podjazdmi, nazývanými „laubne“ a kostolom neoromanského slohu.

Biedny život Kysučanov opísal spisovateľ Peter Jilemnický, ktorý pôsobil v regióne ako učiteľ, v románe Pole neorané. K regiónu sa viaže aj pieseň:

*Kysuca, Kysuca, studená vodička,  
keď sa ťa napijem, bolí ma hlavička.  
Bolí ma hlavička, srdca polovička,  
pre teba má milá, sivá holubička...*

Čo je však v súčasnosti najväčším lákadlom tohto regiónu? Čo priťahuje tam našich, ale aj zahraničných záujemcov a obdivovateľov atrakcií? Je to nesporne unikátny orloj v Starej Bystrici – najväčšia drevená socha na Slovensku predstavujúca sediacu Pannu Máriu, patrónku Slovenska.

Vo výklenkoch orloja z r. 2009 sa objavujú bronzové plastiky historických osobností Slovenska: knieža Pribina (pozývateľ solúnskych vierozvestcov), knieža Svätopluk (kráľ Veľkomoravskej ríše), Anton Bernolák a Ľudovít Štúr (kodifikátori slov. jazyka), M. R. Štefánik (spoluvorca štátu Čechov a Slovákov), Andrej Hlinka, (neúnavný bojovník za práva a samostatnosť Slovenska), pričom dve postavy sú poprednými predstaviteľmi z katolíckeho a dve z evanjelického prostredia.

Návštevníkov regiónu určite zaujme aj pútnická obec Zborov nad Bystricou, predovšetkým jeho kalvária so 16 kaplnkami. Týmto regiónom sa lúčime so stredným Slovenskom

Andrej Štelmák Sliač, Slovakia



Orloj v Starej Bystrici.



Drevenica na Výchyllovke.



Kysucký kroj.



Kaplanka v Zborove nad Bystricou.



Drotárska krošňa s náradím.

## Slávnostné otvorenie Centra slovenskej kultúry v Novej Belej

Slávnosť bola zahájená spevom slovenskej hymny a hymnickej piesne Kto za pravdu horí. Zhromaždených čestných hostí podujatia privítal Marián Smondek a boli medzi nimi o. i. veľvyslanec SR vo Varšave Vasil Grivna, malopoľský vojvoda Jerzy Miller, predseda Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Igor Furdík, generálny konzul SR v Krakove Ivan Škorupa, zástupca Ministerstva administratívy a digitalizácie PR Oddelenia pre náboženstva a národnostné a etnické menšiny Michal Erenz, a ďalší hostia.

Následne malopoľský vojvoda Jerzy Miller odovzdal zaslužilým krajanom štátne vyznamenania, ktoré udelil prezident Poľskej republiky Bronislaw Komorowski. Prof. dr hab. Jozef Čongva, predseda Spolku Slovákov v Poľsku bol vyznamenaný Krížom Rádu Polonia Restituta za významné zásluhy v oblasti činnosti v prospech národnostných a etnických menšín a za významné úspechy vo vedeckej práci. Jozef Majerčák získal vyznamenanie Strieborný kríž za zásluhy za činnosť v prospech lokálnej spoločnosti, za šírenie a propagáciu folklóru.

Hostia v prihovoroch zdôrazňovali význam novootvoreného Centra slovenskej kultúry pre obec a celý región Spiša. V prvom rade bude slúžiť lokálnej spoločnosti, udržiavaniu slovenskej identity a kultúry, ktorá je prirodzenou súčasťou tohto regiónu. Ocenili taktiež vytrvalosť a pozitívny prístup vedenia Spolku Slovákov v Poľsku k uskutočnenej investícii od roku 2006 až dodnes k jej úspešnému ukončeniu. Centrum bude základom pre riadenie kultúrno-osvetovej činnosti na Spiši. Teraz je najdôležitejšou a prízvukovanou úlohou naplnenie tejto budovy slovenským duchom a zapojenie do jej činnosti všetkých krajanov.

Centrum slávnostne posvätil miestny farár Tadeusz Korczak, ktorý taktiež tľmočil pozdrav a modlitebnú pamäť od krakovského diecézneho biskupa Stanislava kardinála Dziwisza.

Vďaka projektu Spreádzkovanie Oddelenia kultúry v Centre slovenskej kultúry v Novej Belej z prostriedkov z Európskej únie z Európskeho fondu regionálneho rozvoja a štátneho rozpočtu v rámci cezhraničnej spolupráce Poľskej republiky a Slovenskej republiky 2007-2013, ktorý bol realizovaný v Centre slovenskej kultúry v Novej Belej v spolupráci so slovenským partnerom Oravským kultúrnym strediskom v Dolnom Kubíne bolo vybavené oddelenie kultúry tohto Centra.

Agáta Jendzejčíková

## Slovensko chce predsedat' Valnému zhromaždeniu OSN

Slovensko chce v rokoch 2017 až 2018 predsedat' Valnému zhromaždeniu (VZ) OSN. Zatiaľ je jediným kandidátom. Ako priblížil šéf tlačového odboru slovenského rezortu diplomacie Peter Susko, voľby sa uskutočnia v júni 2017 v New Yorku.

Kandidat na post predsedu VZ je zvyčajne dohodnutý konsenzom v rámci príslušnej regionálnej skupiny, ktorej v zmysle rotácie prislúcha tento post. Východoeurópska sa zatiaľ v kandidatúre SR zhoduje.

Valné zhromaždenie sa skladá zo zástupcov všetkých členských štátov, pričom každý má jeden hlas. Rozhodnutia o dôležitých otázkach, ako napríklad mieru a bezpečnosti, prijímanie nových členov či rozpočet sa schvaľujú dvojtretinovou väčšinou. Pri bežných otázkach stačí jednoduchá väčšina.

Okrem toho sa Slovensko uchádza aj o členstvo v Rade OSN pre ľudské práva (UNHRC) v rokoch 2018 až 2020. Svoju kandidatúru formálne oznámilo v roku 2012. Kandiduje na dve miesta, ktoré sú určené pre východoeurópsku regionálnu skupinu, spolu s Ukrajinou.

SR si prvý raz vyskúšala svoje členstvo v rokoch 2008 až 2011, počas ktorých sa výrazne profilovala v oblasti práv dieťaťa. UNHRC, ktorá patrí k najvýznamnejším ľudskoprávnym orgánom v systéme Spojených národov, sídli v Ženeve. Má 47 členských štátov volených na základe pomerneho geografického kľúča (Afrika – 13, Ázia – 13, východná Európa – 6, Latinská Amerika a Karibik – 8, západná Európa a ostatné krajiny – 7). Ostatné členské krajiny OSN vystupujú v nej ako pozorovatelia bez hlasovacieho práva. Členstvo, ktoré je obmedzené na tri roky, sa považuje za prestížnu záležitosť.

TASR

## Otvorili Pamätnú izbu Učenej spoločnosti malohontskej

V sobotu, 13. septembra 2014 v Nižnom Skálniku, sa konalo slávnostné otvorenie **Pamätnej izby Učenej spoločnosti malohontskej**. V obci v rokoch 1808 až 1832 pôsobila Učena spoločnosť malohontská. O jej založenie sa zaslúžili evanjelickí kňazi M. Holko st., jeho syn M. Holko ml. a zeman J. Feješ.

V Nižnom Skálniku založili Verejnú knižnicu, ktorá bola v tej dobe najväčšia na Slovensku a slúžila na ďalšie vzdelávanie kňazov, profesorov, študentov, ale aj širokej verejnosti. Každoročne sa v septembri stretávali a svoje práce vydávali v almanachoch Solenniách. Solennie obsahovali štúdie a úvahy z filozofie, histórie, národopisu, pedagogiky, estetiky, literárnej histórie, básne, zbierky piesní, rodinné právo.

Pamätná izba Učenej spoločnosti malohontskej je umiestnená v budove Obecného úradu v Nižnom Skálniku. Finančné prostriedky na rekonštrukciu miestnosti získala obec v roku 2013 z projektu podporeného prostredníctvom výzvy MAS MALOHONT.

Zariadenie pamätnej izby zrealizovali v roku 2014 členovia OZ SOLENIA s finančnou podporou MAS Malohont v rámci grantového programu **Región občanom – občania regiónu**. Kópie rukopisov a listín z obdobia pôsobenia Učenej spoločnosti malohontskej poskytl Slovenská národná knižnica v Martine a Gemersko-malohontské múzeum v Rimavskej Sobote.

Pamätná izba Učenej spoločnosti malohontskej bude upozorňovať obyvateľov obce a širokú verejnosť na jej minulosť i na slávnych rodákov, má ich priviesť k záujmu o dejiny, podniknúť k hľadaniu vlastnej identity a posilniť v nich pocit regionálnej príslušnosti.

O. Štefan Furdík  
Náš zakladateľ

Delegátov Stálej konferencie zahraničných Slovákov oslovil podpredseda vlády SR a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák (na snímke v prostriedku). Po jeho pravici predseda ÚSZZ RNDr. Igor Furdík.

*Vice President of the Slovak Government and Minister of Foreign Affairs Miroslav Lajcak extended greetings to participants at the Conference of Slovaks Living Abroad on October 30, 2014, in Bratislava.*

## Stála konferencia Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2014

Dňa 30.10.2014 sa konalo v Bratislave zasadanie Stálej konferencie Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2014. Stála konferencia sa konala po prvý raz v r. 1999 a koná sa každé dva roky. V tomto roku je jej nosnou témou prístup štátov, v ktorých žijú a pôsobia Slováci, k národnostným menšinám a krajanským komunitám.

Záštitu nad Stálou konferenciou prevzal prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska. Na konferencii sa zúčastňuje takmer 90 účastníkov – Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí z 22 krajín sveta a takmer 30 hostí zo Slovenska.

Úvodom bol účastníkom Stálej konferencie prečítaný pozdravný list prezidenta Slovenskej republiky Andreja Kisku. Účastníkom konferencie sa ďalej prihovorili podpredsedníčka Národnej rady Slovenskej republiky Jana Laššáková, podpredseda vlády Slovenskej republiky a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí Slovenskej republiky Miroslav Lajčák, štátny tajomník Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky Juraj Draxler, predseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí Vladimír Skalský, bratislavský pomocný biskup, titulárny biskup zo Serre Jozef Hal'ko, Edita Škodová za Generálny biskupský úrad Evanjelickej cirkvi augsburského vyznania na Slovensku a predseda Matice slovenskej na Slovensku Marián Tkáč.

Pokračovanie na str. 21

## 7. ročník Kids Euro Festival

Vo Washingtone DC prebiehal v dňoch 24. októbra až 9. novembra 2014 siedmy ročník prehliadky divadelných, filmových a hudobných predstavení pre deti pod názvom Kids Euro Festival, ktorý je najväčším festivalom pre deti v USA. Cieľom festivalu bolo priblížiť americkému publiku tvorbu umelcov z členských krajín EÚ. Deti mali možnosť pozrieť si zdarma predstavenia rôznych žánrov. Po prvýkrát bola organizátorom festivalu novovzniknutá nadácia European-American Cultural Foundation so sídlom vo Washingtone DC, ktorá hradí umelcom finančné náklady spojené s ich účasťou na festivale.

SR toho roku reprezentovalo Divadlo PIKÍ z Bratislavy, ktoré odohralo štyri predstavenia v školách a v profesionálnych divadelných priestoroch. Zakladateľmi divadla a zároveň tvorcami predstavení sú K. Aulitsová a L. Piktör. PIKÍ funguje na divadelnom trhu už od roku 1990 a prináša adaptácie klasických príbehov, autorské hry so súčasnými, často až tabuizovanými témami, rodinné predstavenia a zábavné programy. Opiera sa o výrazové prostriedky s prvkami bábkového divadla, pantomimy, či grotesky a kladie dôraz na prekvapivé riešenia a na herca. Divadlo PIKÍ získalo za svoju tvorbu mnoho domácich i zahraničných ocenení.

Program celého festivalu, ako aj informácie o súboroch a predstaveniach je možné získať na [www.kidseurofestival.org](http://www.kidseurofestival.org)

MZV SR

## Spomienkové slávnosti pri príležitosti 25. výročia pádu komunizmu

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska v rámci série spomienkových osláv pri príležitosti 25. výročia pádu komunizmu pozval na Slovensko prezidenta Poľskej republiky Bronislawa Komorowského, prezidenta Spolkovej republiky Nemecko Joachima Gaucka, prezidenta Maďarska Jánoša Ádera, prezidenta Českej republiky Miloša Zemana a prezidenta Ukrajiny Petra Porošenka.

Iniciátorom série osláv, ktorými si krajiny V4 a Nemecko postupne pripomínajú výročie demokratizačných zmien v strednej a východnej Európe, bol nemecký prezident Joachim Gauck. Po Poľsku a Maďarsku v júni a Nemecku v októbri bude prezidentov partnerských krajín hostiť 17. novembra aj Česká republika.

Prezident Andrej Kiska si udalosti z novembra 1989 uctí sériou podujatí 16. a 17. novembra. Okamihy, ktoré pred 25 rokmi viedli k nenásilnej zmene režimu v našej krajine si spolu so svojimi hosťami pripomenie 16. novembra na slávnostnom podujatí pri príležitosti 25. výročia Nežnej revolúcie v historickej budove Slovenského národného divadla.

Pred slávnostným podujatím sa uskutoční pracovné stretnutie prezidenta SR Andreja Kisku a prezidenta Ukrajiny Petra Porošenka a pracovné stretnutie prezidentov Poľska, Maďarska, Českej republiky a Ukrajiny na Bratislavskom hrade.

Prezidenti sa po skončení slávnostného programu v divadle presunú na námestie Eugena Suchoňa k Pamätníku Sviečkovej demonštrácie pred Kostolom Nanebovzatia Panny Márie oproti budove Slovenskej filharmónie, kde si symbolickým zapálením sviečok pripomenú Sviečkovú demonštráciu a Nežnú revolúciu.



FOTO TASR – František Iván

*The Cathedral of St. Elizabeth in Kosice was illuminated as a candle on the occasion of All Saints Day and All Souls Day.*

Dóm sv. Alžbety ako dominantu historického centra Košíc rozsvietili večer 31. októbra 2014. Stalo sa tak pri príležitosti Sviatku všetkých svätých a Pamiatky zosnulých. Osvetlenie pripomínajúce veľkú sviečku bude svietiť celú noc počas týchto sviatkov a rovnako počas sviatočných dní aj v ďalších rokoch.