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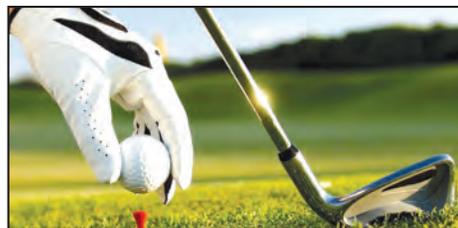
(L - R): Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt, Rosanne Johaneck holding an engraved Pieta commemorating her 40th Anniversary with the FCSU, and National President Andrew Rajec.

Rosanne Johaneck Celebrates 40 Years at the FCSU

Since she graduated from high school, Rosanne (Krocker) Johaneck has been assisting FCSU members with a variety of financial services. Among her current primary responsibilities, Rosanne handles all aspects of Annuities/IRAs/Roths for our members, including all annuity beneficiaries/annuity cash withdrawals and deposits. She also handles recommender and agent commissions.

The FCSU Officers and Members of the Board of Directors extend their most sincere congratulations to Rosanne on reaching her recent 40th Anniversary with the Society, and thank her for her years of excellent service to our members.

Congratulations, Rosanne!



Attention Jednota golfers:

Registration for the July National Golf Tournament is now open. See pages 6 - 7 of this issue for details

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President's Message 2016

Happy Mother's Day

Different ages and different stages of our life's journey causes us to view our own Mothers, and in turn, observance of Mother's Day in different ways.

For most of us, while we were young, our Mothers of whatever age, whether twenty-five or fifty-five, looked a lot older to us because we were children. We looked to her for kindness, love and understanding, in a different way than from our Father.

We almost took for granted all the things she did for us. We did not fully understand and appreciate.

Unfortunately, especially in earlier times, before medical advances, childbirth was more dangerous for women. Any number of younger women died during childbirth, as well as from other health conditions that deprived children from their Mothers.

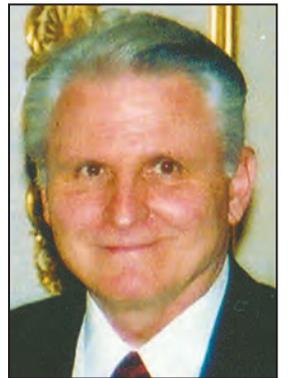
When we grow older and reach middle-age, we have an adult perspective of our Mothers, and we can have a greater knowledge of their lives and understanding of their sacrifices. Hopefully, this translates to show greater appreciation of their love.

The great rise in the divorce rates and the resulting complexity in many marriages has produced greater stresses on Mothers in combined families. The tremendous numbers of working Mothers has also raised the demands and stresses on women and Mothers in particular.

As we get older many of us look back at our deceased Mothers with deeper appreciation and love, with fond lasting memories and nostalgia.

We tend to remember the best of times, and in a way remember our Mothers as we did as children, the center of our universe with unlimited love.

I extend a Happy Mother's Day to all our Mothers, both alive with us today, and in Eternity.



Andrew M. Rajec

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Happy Mother's Day!

8 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.60%
6 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.20%
6 Year Fixed Annuity or IRA	3.10%

Also available:

Park 2	2.10%
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APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network
UNITED STATES



May 2016

Universal Intention

Respect for Women. *That in every country of the world, women may be honored and respected and that their essential contribution to society may be highly esteemed. In the words of Pope Francis, Mary is "the true and sublime example of woman."*



It's inconceivable to think of the apostles awaiting the Holy Spirit at Pentecost without Mary praying with them. For it was she who conceived by the Holy Spirit and gave birth to Jesus, the one who called and sent the apostles to continue his work.

Women have, in Pope Francis' words, an "irreplaceable role." Speaking to the Pontifical Council for Culture, he said: "I encourage the contribution of so many women who work within the family, in the areas of teaching the faith, pastoral work, schooling, but also in social, cultural, and economic structures. You women know how to embody the tender face of God, his mercy, which is translated into a willingness to give time rather than to occupy space, to welcome rather than to exclude."

Throughout the world, unfortunately, women are not only excluded but under attack. The pope went on: "The many forms of slavery, of prostitution, of mutilation of the female body, require us to set to work to defeat these forms of degradation which reduce it to purely an object to be sold on the various markets. I would like to call attention, in this context, to the plight of so many poor women, forced to live in dangerous conditions, exploited, relegated to the margins of society, and rendered victims of a throwaway culture."

Perhaps the most common degradation of women is pornography, which the U.S. bishops have said "is so pervasive in sectors of our society that it is difficult to avoid, challenging to remove, and has negative effects that go beyond any one person's actions."

And so we pray with Pope Francis that women may not only be respected, but that their contribution to the good of the family and society may be recognized and esteemed.

Reflection

What qualities and actions of Mary made her "the true and sublime example of woman"?

Scripture

1 Timothy 5: 1-2 Treat older women as mothers and younger women as sisters with complete purity."

EVANGELIZATION INTENTION

Holy Rosary. *That families, communities, and groups may pray the Holy Rosary for evangelization and peace.*

The rosary is a powerful prayer which is very important to Pope Francis. He said he was inspired by Pope St. John Paul II to pray it faithfully.

He said: "If I remember well, it was 1985. One evening I went to recite the Holy Rosary that was being led by the Holy Father. He was in front of everybody, on his knees. The group was numerous; I saw the Holy Father from the back and, little by little, I got lost in prayer. I was not alone: I was praying in the middle of the people of God to which I and all those there belonged, led by our Pastor.

"In the middle of the prayer I became distracted, looking at the figure of the Pope: his piety, his devotion was a witness. I felt that this man, chosen to lead the Church, was following a path up to his Mother, a path set out on from his childhood. And I became aware of the density of the words of the

Mother of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego: 'Don't be afraid, am I not perhaps your mother?' I understood the presence of Mary in the life of the Pope. From that time on

I recite the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary every day."

Throughout history popes have asked the faithful to pray the rosary when Christianity and civilization were threatened. Pope Francis asks us to do the same. He said: "Mary accompanies us, struggles with us, sustains Christians in their fight against the forces of evil. Prayer with Mary, especially the Rosary, has this 'suffering' dimension, that is of struggle, a sustaining prayer in the battle against the evil one and his accomplices. The Rosary also sustains us in the battle."

In this month dedicated to Mary, we honor her by following in the great tradition of using the non-violent weapon of the rosary, praying for peace and the spread of the Gospel of Mercy.

Reflection

What role has the rosary played in my own spiritual life?

Scripture

Luke 2: 15-20 Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.

Message from the National Chaplain

Pope Francis declared December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016 to be an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. A series of articles featuring a saint who lived a particular Spiritual Work of Mercy is offered to help mark the Year. Today's subject is Counsel the Doubtful.

In his homily at the Cathedral-Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia on September 26, 2015, Pope Francis told the story of a life-changing incident in a young woman's life. Katharine Drexel (1858-1955), the daughter of a wealthy Philadelphia banker, was able to travel by train to different parts of the country and was deeply impacted by the plight of Native Americans in the western territories of the United States. The situation moved her so much that while on a tour of Europe, she was able to obtain an audience with Pope Leo XIII. She asked him to send missionaries to Wyoming for a friend who was the bishop there. Pope Leo turned the tables on Katharine and said to her, "What about you?"

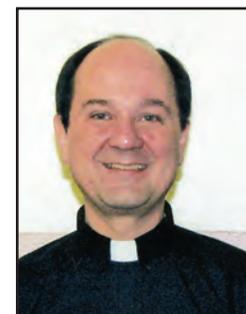
Katharine took the question to heart. When she returned home, she began giving financial aid to these missions. Not too long afterwards, she answered the call from God to give her own life. She professed vows in a religious community and shortly thereafter founded a religious community for women with the expressed purpose of educating and evangelizing Black and Native Americans. The community is now known as the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament.

Long before the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, Mother Drexel was a pioneer in promoting the dignity and equality of each person, regardless of the color of one's skin. Her efforts in establishing Catholic schools for black Americans in 13 states, 40 mission centers and 23 rural schools by 1942 were unmatched. Her founding of an additional 50 missions in 16 states for Native Americans is also unparalleled.

These accomplishments are even more astounding when we recall the culture of the day. Segregation was a way of life where Mother Drexel and her sisters worked. Many turned a blind eye to racist attitudes and acts of prejudice. How difficult it must have been to build a Catholic school for the education of black children in areas of the country where the Ku Klux Klan was known to exist. We can only imagine how many times St. Katharine and her sisters were harassed in attempts to thwart their work.

Anyone who doubts a person could renounce a fortune and possessions and be totally at peace with one's life, anyone who doubts it is possible for all people to be shown dignity and respect, have much to learn from the life and example of St. Katharine Drexel. Her feast day is March 3.

Fraternally,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas Nasta
National Chaplain

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, JUNE 15	MONDAY, JUNE 6
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20	MONDAY, JULY 11
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17	MONDAY, AUG. 8

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2015 Annual Report of the National Chaplain

Dear Board of Directors and Members of the F.C.S.U.:

Last year was very special for all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, as we celebrated the 125th anniversary of our founding by Father Stefan Furdek. I was pleased and honored to attend and participate in as many jubilee events as possible. These included the celebrations that took place in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada; Cleveland, Ohio; Scranton, Pennsylvania; and Linden, New Jersey. I was the celebrant and homilist at the Masses marking the jubilee held in Mississauga and Linden and preached the homily at the Mass in Cleveland.

Another special anniversary of significance to our Society also took place last year. September 2015 marked the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the chapel on honor of Our Mother of Sorrows in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. In addition to having the responsibility for preparing and coordinating the Sacred Liturgy celebrated by Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, I acted as a liaison between the staff at the National Shrine and the leadership of both the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Slovak Catholic Federation.

The day after this special anniversary celebration, I offered Mass in Middletown, Pennsylvania on the grounds of the Jednota Estates. The refurbished doughboy statue and shrine honoring members of our society who served in the armed forces was dedicated after this Mass.

I attended all Board of Directors meetings either in person or by means of teleconference. Each session was opened and closed with prayer. Both the March meeting at the Home Office and the September meeting at Hyattsville, Maryland began with Mass. I was invited to attend the March Executive Committee meeting by President Rajec.

I participated in and was a lane sponsor for the annual Bowling Tournament which took place in May in Erie, PA. In July I travelled to West Mifflin, PA, for the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association's Annual Slovak Day held at Kennywood Park and was concelebrant at the Mass. That weekend I went to DuBois, PA, for the annual Golf Tournament, where I played and concelebrated Mass for those who attended.

Two of our sister Catholic Slovak fraternal organizations had their conventions last year and I was honored to be a guest at both and offer greetings on behalf of our Society. The convention of the Slovak Catholic Sokol was held in August in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, while the First Catholic Ladies Slovak Association had their convention in October at Louisville, Kentucky. I was a concelebrant at both opening convention Masses.

In addition to being the national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union, I am also the First Vice President of the Slovak Catholic Federation. My primary responsibility is to coordinate the annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. This appeal raises funds to support the operating costs of the residence for priests from Slovakia pursuing post-graduate studies in Rome as well as benefit religious communities of men and women in Slovakia that have a counterpart in the United States represented on the Conference of Slovak Religious. I was able to attend an Executive Committee meeting in July, however, due to scheduling conflicts, I was unable to attend the Executive Board meeting in September.

Throughout the year I have written articles that were published in the Jednota and have answered correspondence that was sent to me.

May our Lord continue to bless us in our all our endeavors.

Fraternally,
Reverend Thomas A. Nasta



From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Monday, May 30, 2016, in observance of Memorial Day.

Reminder...

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

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

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

A Mother Remembers Her Daughter with Down Syndrome

"Love doesn't die." That's a quote from a letter we received at Christopher headquarters recently from a woman named Jean, and the story she shared ties in perfectly with Mother's Day so I'd like to share it with you.

Jean is a longtime supporter of The Christophers, who found inspiration in our Christopher News Notes that she then quoted in letters she would write to the sick members of her parish in order to lift their spirits. Today, she is living in a retirement facility herself, but she still keeps a stack of News Notes on hand. Her letter to us was prompted by a recent correspondence we sent her mentioning children with Down Syndrome. That's a topic she knows first-hand, so she decided to tell us about her experience.

In 1950, at age 22, Jean gave birth to Susan, the first of her five children. But she heard the doctor and nurses speaking quietly and sadly, and she wasn't allowed to see her daughter. The doctor soon told her that Susan was "a Mongoloid," the term that was used "before Dr. Down found the cause, an extra chromosome."

Jean recalled, "My husband and I were told to place her in a state institution and tell everyone she died at birth. Days went by and social workers visited me trying to make my husband and I follow the doctor's orders. The final straw was when they said, 'Bringing her home would be an injustice to your neighbors, as she will lower the property value on your street.' My husband and I shed tears and we shared our feelings that this baby was given to us by God, we could not throw her out! We asked my husband's brother, Father Raymond Rolf—a diocesan priest, what we should do. He went in search of an answer and came back with good news."

It turned out that there was a group of nuns in the Santa Barbara, California area that raised these children once they reached age five. The reason? Jean was told, "These children require the same care as any baby and should have the loving care of their parents for at least the first five years."

That information was enough for the doctor to finally release Susan into her parents' care. Jean said, "When I had her in my arms and was talking to her, she looked at me moving my lips like she wanted to respond and her eyes spoke with love. We knew she would stay with us and not leave us when she was five."

Jean, her husband, and their children built a beautiful life together. While schooling for children with Down Syndrome didn't exist back then like it does today, Jean taught Susan quite a lot and she was considered high-functioning. The one thing that came naturally to Susan was showing love and compassion to others.

Jean said, "Susan taught us all many things. At her funeral three years ago, her four siblings stood up at church and said how they learned unconditional love from her...I thank God for the very special experience of having Susan and her brothers and sister who loved her dearly, as she did them. I continue to miss my husband and Susan, but am thankful for the wonderful years we had together. And I believe, 'Love doesn't die.' I feel their love and expect to be reunited with them in Heaven. May the love of God dwell in all our hearts, that we, like [people with Down Syndrome], may share that love."

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, *OPENING YOURSELF TO GOD'S GRACE*, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org

Fr. Richard D. Baker to lead Pilgrimage in the footsteps of SS. Cyril and Methodius



Rev. Richard D. Baker, pastor of New York's historic parish of St. John Nepomucene, affectionately known as New York's Slovak basilica, will host a Holy Year of Mercy tour to Slovakia titled a "Slovak Faith and Heritage Tour in the Footsteps of SS. Cyril and Methodius." In addition to Slovakia, the tour will visit Austria and Hungary. The tour departs from New York's JFK International Airport on Friday, September 30 and returns on Tuesday, October 11. The tour will include English speaking guides in Austria, Slovakia and Hungary.

The pilgrimage will include a full day tour of the Imperial Capital of Vienna, once the center of the Austro-Hungarian Empire of which the Slovaks were a part. Vienna is one of Europe's most historic and picturesque cities. The tour will then proceed to Slovakia's sparkling capital city of Bratislava on the picturesque Danube River, visiting the historic castle, its palaces and the Cathedral of St. Martin where Mass will be celebrated. The tour will enjoy the area's historic wine tour of the Small Carpathians, visiting cultural sites and visiting a pottery and ceramics factory. Visits to Trnava, known as "The Rome of Slovakia" due to its numerous churches; the great city of Nitra, the center of the mission of SS. Cyril and Methodius which is Slovakia's oldest diocese as well as a visit to the country's national shrine dedicated to its Patroness, Our Mother of Sorrows at Sastin are also on the program.

From western Slovakia, the tour will continue east on to Levoca, Spisska Kapitula, Kezmarok and Stara Lubovna. A highlight of the tour will be attending Mass celebrated by Father Baker in his family's ancestral church in the village of Starina, a quaint hamlet near the Polish border. The group will also visit the region of the High Tatras and will include rafting on the Dunajec river, which forms the natural boundary between Slovakia and Poland. Visits will also be made to Presov and Kosice.

From Kosice, the tour will travel to the Hungarian city of Budapest on the Danube River. The beauty and richness of the Hungarian capital with its great artistic and cultural centers will be enjoyed. A full day tour will include a visit to Buda hill - the Royal Palace which houses a museum and art gallery, the Matthias Church, the royal coronation and wedding church as well as a visit to Gellert Hill for a panoramic view of the city.

The tour returns to New York on Tuesday, October 11. The cost of the tour is \$2,899 all inclusive, based on double occupancy. The single supplement is \$350. Tour includes round-trip air transportation from New York, four star hotels, daily breakfasts and dinners with visits to museums and guided tours included. Plan to join Father Baker and be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit Slovakia, Austria and Hungary. For additional information on this historic tour, feel free to call the rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City at tel. 212 734-4613.

- Submitted by Dan Tanzone, Branch 41

The Spring Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Federation National Board



(L – R) Rev. Andrew Hvozdic, (C) National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation introduced two new board members, Scott Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Secretary and Michael Horvath, Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol who were recently elected to their positions.



Shown at the front table are (L-R): Rev. Thomas Nasta, First Executive Vice President, Rev. Andrew Hvozdic, National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and Dolores M. Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer as board members listen to proposals being presented for consideration.



Pictured are board members: (Front Row, L-R): Msgr. Thomas Derzack, National Spiritual Director of SCF; Marie Golias, President of the Cleveland Chapter; and Msgr. Robert J. Siffrin, President of the Conference of Slovak Clergy; (Second Row, L-R): Brother Gabriel Balazovic, OSB of Saint Andrew Abbey; and Rev. Gerard Gonda, OSB of Saint Andrew Abbey and President of Benedictine High School in Cleveland; (Third Row, L-R): Sister Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SSCM, and Sister Thomas More, SSCM. Also present was guest John Ferri, husband of board member, Margaret Ferri. Partially hidden in the third row is Sister Michael Ann, SSCM, Provincial of the Sisters of Saint Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA.



New board members and national officers of the Slovak Catholic Federation: (L-R): Scott Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol; Rev. Gerard Gonda, OSB, President of Benedictine High School in Cleveland; Rev. Andrew Hvozdic, National President SCF; Michael Horvath, Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol; Rev. Thomas Nasta, First Executive Vice President SCF; and Dolores M. Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer SCF.

College Scholarships Available Through United Slovak Societies of Lorain, OH



The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, OH, will grant college non-renewable scholarship awards to eligible high school seniors with a GPA of 3.5 or better and who are five-year members of the following Lorain Lodges:

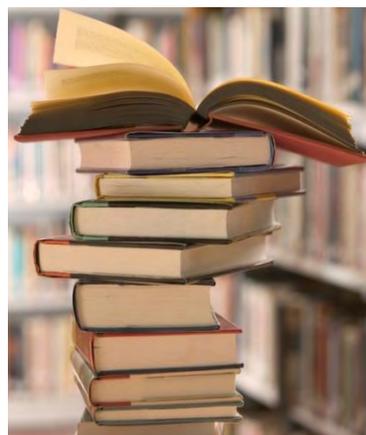
St. John the Baptist Lodge of the FCSU Branch 228
St. Ann's Lodge of the FCSLA Branch 114

Slovak Catholic Sokol Wr. 111 & 177
St. Mary Magdalene of the LPSCU Branch 77
National Slovak Society Assembly #160
Deadline for application is May 30, 2016.

To obtain rules and application, please visit, www.americanslovakclub.com or contact Michele Mager at 440/984-3353

Submitted by Michele Mager, Branch 228

A Newly Updated Resource for Slovak-related Topics



Interested in reading more about Slovakia? Now, thanks to Fr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J., of John Carroll University, a central list of publications with Slovak-related topics has been newly updated for 2016.

This handy list includes ISBN numbers for those books published in Slovakia – which makes for easier identification when searching for them at the library or online. Websites for locating remaindered and used books, and where to purchase them, are included at the end of the file, as well.

Go to www.fcsu.com and click on Slovakia & The World tab to access this list.

Or, for more information, please contact Fr. Gerald Sabo at gsabo@jcu.edu.

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

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SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2016

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on

SATURDAY, June 18, 2016 at 9:00 A.M. (telephonically).

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, June 17, 2016.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to June 10, 2016.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

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

YOUTH ROUND-UP



Branch 853's
Charles Boone
with Bishop
Zubik.

Branch 853's Charles Boone Earns Honorable Distinctions as Catholic Boy Scout

On Sunday April 17, Bishop of Pittsburgh David Zubik presented FCSU member Charles Boone with the Boy Scouts Catholic Religious Pope Pius XII Emblem at a Convocation ceremony at St Paul's Cathedral in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, PA. During his years in scouting, Charles earned all four Catholic Boy Scout Emblems. They are the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei which are earned while a Cub Scout. Ad Altare Dei and the Pope Pius XII Emblems are earned by Boy Scouts. By earning all four, Charles also received from Bishop Zubik, the Pillars of Faith: Duty to God pin.

The National Distribution Center states less than 3000 scouts nationwide earn the Pope Pius XII emblem yearly. The most widely received emblem is the Cub Scout Light of Christ Emblem with approximately 27,000 a year given out nationwide. Charles was one of only nine boys in the entire Boy Scout of America Laurel Highlands Council who received both honorable distinctions. The Laurel Highlands Council comprises most of southwestern Pennsylvania including the greater Pittsburgh area, as well as parts of Maryland and West Virginia.

Charles lives in Dormont, Pennsylvania with his parents Ronald Boone and former National Auditor and Pension Board Trustee Monica Rodacy Boone. All are members of Branch 853.

Branch 567's Melissa Micek Represents Lynchburg College at National Conference

Melissa A. Micek, granddaughter of the late Jednota Auditor and Regional Director Andrew J. Micek, represented Lynchburg College at the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA), National Model United Nations (NMUN). Model UN has provided quality college/university level programs that bring together the next generation of international leaders. Participants prepare to be better global citizens through quality educational experiences that emphasize collaboration and cooperative resolution of conflict.

The 16 student team put in at least 15-16 hours of vigorous work each day. Their stellar job at writing, speech-making, bargaining, negotiating and practicing the skillful art of diplomacy for problem-solving global issues and concerns, with thousands of students from the US and all over the world, led them to win these well-deserved 5 outstanding Position paper Awards and DISTINGUISHED DELEGATION Award leading to a total of 6 Awards!

During the week in New York City, Melissa and her team were honored to speak for over two hours with H.E. Ambassador Ruzicka (the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the UN) at the Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the United Nations.

Melissa was one of the Jednota Scholarship recipients in 2012 and will graduate this May from Lynchburg with a double major in Political Science and Philosophy. She plans to complete her Master of Public Administration MPA degree at the School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Delaware.

Melissa is a member of Branch 567, Allentown, PA.



Melissa, a 2012 Jednota Scholarship recipient, represented her college at the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA), National Model United Nations (NMUN), which provides programs to bring together the next generation of international leaders.



On April 10, 2016, Adam Hornack of Branch 1, Cleveland, OH, received a 1st place award for his essay in the LifeWorks Ohio Respect Life.

Branch 1's Adam Hornack Wins 1st Place in Respect Life Essay Contest

Adam Hornack, a seventh-grader at St. Charles Borromeo in Parma, OH, recently was awarded first place in the 2016 "Respect Life" Art, Essay & Poetry Contest sponsored by LifeWorks Ohio. LifeWorks, a non-profit devoted to education that affirms the sanctity of human life, holds the annual competition in which thousands of students from Northeast Ohio participate regularly. Students in grades 4-12 are asked to express their commitment to Life through art, essay, and poetry, using a Biblical theme, with winners acknowledged at an annual award ceremony. The competition attracts thousands of students from Northeast Ohio each year.

This year, Adam took first place with his Respect Life essay that centered around the biblical theme of "let us not love with word or speech, but in deed and truth." He offered two examples of how he lives this verse: a cousin with down syndrome and his grandparents. Of his cousin, Adam wrote: "I have a cousin with down syndrome named Kevin. He is the most lovable person know. He can't talk but can pronounce my name. I've learned some sign language to better communicate with him. I've also even learned some sign language from him. The bible verse 'let us not love with word or speech, but in deed and truth' is part of this because I not only say I love him but I show I love him by playing games with him ..." and Adam concluded "People shouldn't criticize or make fun of the mentally challenged, they should help the mentally challenged. They're not just people, but they are beautiful creations from God. He is 23 and counting. He is my hero and is God's creation." Of his grandparents, Adam offered that "The bible verse 'let us not love with word or with speech, but in deed and truth' involves my grandparents because I not only love what they do for me but I show I love them by doing chores around their house." In his award-winning essay, he also states how his close relationship with his grandparents has been a living testament to this verse: "You can learn a lot from them too. They always tell me what it was like when they were younger. They even encourage me to do some math at their house sometimes. They want the best for my education. My friends always say I go over there too much and I don't hang out with friends. To be honest, my grandparents are my friends. They make my mom and me a better family."

Adam, along with his grandparents Dolores and (the late) Joseph Hornack, are members of Branch 1, Cleveland, OH.



The famous Pro Musica-Magnolia children's choir sends a note of thanks in Slovak to the FCSU for all the help and support.

Slovak Children's Choir Thanks the FCSU

Pro Musica-Magnolia is one of the best and most famous choirs for young people in Slovakia. The group was formed by combining Pro Musica (Michalovce, Slovakia) and Magnolia (Sobrance, Slovakia). These talented 38 children, beginning at age 11, performed with the help and sponsorship from the First Catholic Slovak Union at two venues in the United States. The first concert was held in in Synod Hall in Pittsburgh, PA on Tuesday June 30, 2015; and the second venue was Linden, New Jersey in Msgr. Komar Hall, 2806 Parkway Avenue on Friday, July 3, 2015. The children were well received and attendance at both concerts was excellent, prompting Pro Musica-Magnolia to send a sincere note of thanks to the FCSU upon their return to Slovakia, which translates to: We thank you for your financial support so that we could make dreams come true.

First Catholic Slovak Union

2016 Annual Golf Tournament
July 22 - 24, 2016

Deadline for entry forms is June 23^d

Deadline for hotel reservations is July 1st

Friday: Fraternal Hospitality Night – 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

We will kick-off the weekend on Friday evening with Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 PM at the Tam O'Shanter Golf Course. Our evening will begin with food, refreshments, socializing.

Hotel - We have rooms booked at:

Holiday Inn Canton (35 rooms)
4520 Everhard Rd.
Canton, OH 44718
330-494-2770
Room Rates: \$119.00 + tax per night

Please reference First Catholic Slovak Union when making your reservations to ensure you receive these rates.

Saturday: Individual Competition Dales Course

We will begin with a modified shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:00 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Mass: Mass will be held at 5:30 PM in the Birch Room at the Holiday Inn Canton

Dinner: Buffet served at 6:30 PM in the Maple Room at the Holiday Inn Canton

Sunday: Individual Competition-Round 2 Hills Course

We will begin with a modified shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:30 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Awards BBQ: Lunch will begin at 1:00 PM at the Tam O'Shanter Pavilion (Hills Course)

We are looking forward to a great fraternal weekend and hope that you can share it with us. If you have any questions contact Rudy Ondrejco at (412) 421-7967 or rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com

First Catholic Slovak Union**National Golf Tournament****Men's And Women's Official Rules and Regulations**

1. The tournament is open to all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU).
2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play. Improve your lie anywhere, except for

hazards. Out of bounds shot, drop where ball went out and 1 stroke penalty

3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:

A. All golfers will compete as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he has completed 54

holes of play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament. The handicap will be recalculated each year based on 54 holes of FCSU

National Tournament play. From the latest 5 rounds, the highest and the lowest will be discarded and 90% the average of the

remainder will be the handicap assigned for the tournament. 90% of an official USGA handicap may be substituted if a golfer

does not have an FCSU Tournament handicap. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.

B. Any golfer who has not completed 54 holes of tournament play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament will be entered in a

separate division using the FCSU version of the Callaway scoring system.

C. Male golfers, competing in the 18-hole event, age 65 or over and with a handicap larger than 10 may use the forward tees.

D. Any male golfer competing in the 9-hole event may hit from the forward tees.

4. Classifications:

A. A medal play champion will be determined in each of the following Divisions:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Men's A flight (0-10) | 5. Women's Flight |
| 2. Men's B flight (11-17) | 6. Callaway Flight |
| 3. Men's C flight (17-30) | 7. 9-hole Senior Flight |
| 4. Men's D flight (31 +) | |

B. Winners will be determined by low net score in each flight after 36 holes of medal play or 18 holes of play in the senior flight.

5. The division between the men's A-D flights may be adjusted to equalize the flights. A second women's flight may be added if entries warrant such addition.

6. In case of tie for first place in any Flight, tie will be broken by match of cards using gross score starting on #1 handicap hole followed by #2 handicap hole, #3 handicap hole and so forth until the tie is broken.

7. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third place prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)

8. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the FCSU for all golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries.

9. The tournament manager will schedule pairings. Both Saturday and Sunday schedules will be e-mailed to participants prior to the tournament.

Entries absolutely close on June 23, 2016

2016 Golf Tournament Info Sheet**Friday, July 22**

- ◆ Hospitality Night, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course, 6:00 - 9:30 PM
- ◆ Cost is \$5 to reserve your spot. Get \$3 back at the Hospitality Night

Saturday, July 23

- ◆ Registration begins at 7 AM. Modified Shotgun start at 8:00 AM.
- ◆ Dales Golf Course
- ◆ Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm in Birch Room of Holiday Inn Canton
- ◆ Buffet dinner at 6:30 PM in the Maple Room of Holiday Inn Canton
 - Chicken Marsala, Pork loin with shallots and bleu cheese, carved tenderloin of beef, seasonal vegetables, house salad, rolls and butter, chef's choice dessert
 - Cash Bar

Sunday, July 24

- ◆ Modified Shotgun start at 8:00 AM. Please arrive no later than 7:30 AM.
- ◆ Hills Golf Course
- ◆ Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at 1 PM at the Tam O'Shanter Pavilion

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:

Holiday Inn Canton (35 Rooms)
4520 Everhard Rd.
Canton, OH 44718
330-494-2770
Room Rates: \$119.00 + tax per night

** Cut off date July 1, 2016, for Group Rate**

** Mention First Catholic Slovak Union to receive the Group Rate **
Hotel check in time is 3 PM. Checkout time is 12 PM.

**Is your FCSU profile up to date?**

Help us serve you by making sure we have all your latest information on file – address, phone, email, beneficiary

Call the Home Office and Update Your Profile Today at:
1-800-533-6682 (JEDNOTA)

Or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/update-profile>

**First Catholic Slovak Union
2016 National Golf Tournament
July 23 – 24, 2016**

**Hills and Dales Golf Courses
Canton, OH**

Deadline for Entry Forms is June 23, 2016

	Hospitality Night (X)	Sat. Dinner (X)	Sunday BBQ (X)	9 Holes Only* (X)	Name	Address	Phone or E-Mail	Branch Number
1								
2								
3								
4								

*For women or seniors age 75+. 9-hole players must play together; no 18-hole player and 9-hole player foursomes allowed.

GOLFERS (fees are listed per person):	
18-Hole Players	\$80.00
9-Hole Players	\$50.00
Tournament Fee	\$ 8.00
Prize Fee	\$12.00
Hospitality Night	\$ 5.00
Saturday Dinner	\$15.00
Sunday BBQ	\$15.00

NON-GOLFERS:	
Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Will attend Hospitality Night @ \$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest Dinners @ \$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	FCSU Member Dinners @ \$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Will attend Sunday BBQ @ \$15.00

Mail Entry Fee Payable to: FCSU Activities Mail to: FCSU Golf 234 Ilion St. Pgh. PA 15207
--

Whole Golf Package: Includes: 2 Rounds of 18 holes, Tournament Fee, Prize Fee, Hospitality Night, Saturday Dinner, and Sunday BBQ	\$135.00
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Room accommodations provided by

Holiday Inn Canton
 4520 Everhard Rd.
 Canton, OH 44718
 330-494-2770
 Room Rates: \$119 + tax per night - indicate you are with the FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
 Check in time: 3 PM

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Deadline for Reservations is July 1, 2016

Golf rules and entry forms also can be downloaded by going to <http://www.fcsu.com/fraternal-events>

Our Annual Golf Tournament will be held Friday, July 22, through Sunday, July 24, 2016. The *Jednota* sponsors the tournament Friday through Sunday and a dinner Saturday evening.

This year we are looking for skill contest sponsors: (Longest Drive, Longest Putt, etc.)

Skill Contest Sponsor: \$100 – a sign will be placed on the hole where the skill contest will occur with your Branch, District, or Region name.

If you are interested in being a skill contest sponsor, please send the wording for your sign and your check payable to "FCSU Activities" to:

Rudy Ondrejco
 234 Ilion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

The deadline for sponsoring a hole is June 30, 2016.



All Branch 367 Officers Now Have PA Fraternal Licenses

We are pleased to report that the officers of Branch 367, Fairchance, PA now have applied for and received their PA Fraternal licenses. We would like to thank the FCSU Home Office for all the support and guidance, particularly National President Andrew M. Rajec, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, and Director of Independent Agents Andrew P. Rajec.
- Audrey Balazik, Branch 367 President



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

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



2016 Easter Coloring Contest Winners



The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II For Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin

The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II has announced the winners of the 2016 Easter Coloring Contest. Prizes were awarded for First, Second, and Third places, and Honorable Mentions for ages 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. We wish to thank all of our young branch members of District II for their participation and their Creative drawings. The winning entries were chosen by the members of the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II.

Ages 4-6



1st PLACE
Ryan Reidmuller



2nd PLACE
Nicholas Jurcenko



3rd PLACE
Carter Gillen

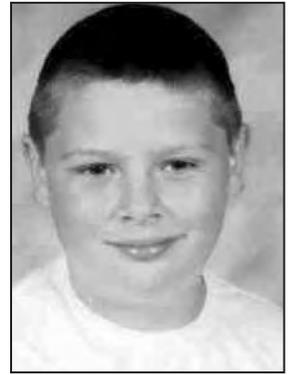
Ages 7-9



1st PLACE
Addison Gillen



2nd PLACE
Peter Jurcenko



3rd PLACE
Jackson Hochgraber

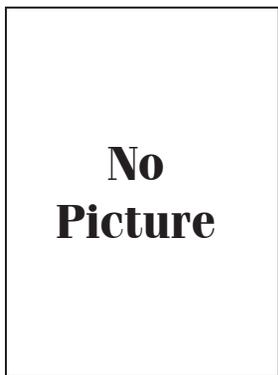
Ages 10-12



1st PLACE
Anna Jackson



2nd PLACE
Marijayne Hochgraber



3rd PLACE
Regina Turner

Honorable Mentions

Ages 4 – 6

Maya Bobo, Macie Bobo, Alex Jurcenko, John Turner, Margot Mokosaik

Ages 7 – 9

Miles Mokosaik

Ages 10-12

Ayden Fayta, Emma Graves, Madison Mokosaik, and Evan Jurcenko

Congratulations to all!

Barbara Fayta, Chairperson, Easter Coloring Contest

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Get your cameras ready! We are having a photography contest for all members. There will be two groups: the 12 – 18 age group and an over 18 age group.

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

People
Nature or Environment
Travel or Destinations
FCSU Fraternal Activity

Mail your entry to:

Rudy Ondrejco
Photo Contest
234 Iliion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

postmarked by October 1, 2016.



Judging will be done by an outside professional and all photos will be returned.

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

\$50 – First Place
\$30 – Second Place
\$20 – Third Place

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

Rules:

1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).
2. One Entry per Category
3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)
4. Name, address, email address, Branch number, age, photo category, and where the picture was taken should be submitted on a separate sheet of paper.
DO NOT MARK BACK OF PICTURE

In Celebration -

The 120th Anniversary of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Youngstown, Ohio

On Saturday, April 16, 2016, the historic church of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Youngstown, Ohio was filled with past and present parishioners, along with many family and friends as the Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown, the Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J. presided at the Mass celebrating the 120th anniversary of this Slovak congregation. Founded in May, 1896 by members of St. Martin's Lodge, the parish of Saints Cyril and Methodius was established to serve the needs of the growing Slovak Catholic community in Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley. Through the diligent efforts of these hard-working men and women, the Romanesque style church was completed by February, 1901. As was typical of so many "ethnic" churches, the building became the hub of activity for these families and individuals. The church not only served the religious needs of the Slovak community, but also fostered its educational, cultural and social advancement. A school, which opened in 1907, was staffed by the Ursuline Sisters who helped innumerable immigrant and first generation Slovaks successfully integrate into American society. The facility continued this tradition of Catholic education for many subsequent generations until 1985. The church, although updated with an entrance ramp, elevator and handicap accessible rest rooms as well as new lighting and mosaic tile, maintains the traditional appearance of the era in which it was built. The ornate stained glass windows, fabricated in Slovakia with leaded glass, are a legacy of the vision, sacrifice, commitment and faith of the early members. The treasure the building represents with its towering dome, life-size statuary, numerous frescos and murals, windows and beautifully painted interior design is only a small testament of the gift bequeathed to the future generations, up to the present day. The most significant contribution is undoubtedly the ongoing opportunity to share the Catholic faith and cultural heritage of the Slovak forebears who journeyed to Youngstown and established a strong, vibrant community. Now as part of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish since 2012, which includes Holy Name of Jesus and Saint Matthias, Saints Cyril and Methodius proudly maintains its Slovak Catholic identity.

The Mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend George V. Murry, S. J., Bishop of Youngstown, with Reverend George Franko, Reverend Melvin Rusnak, Reverend Monsignor Peter Polando and Reverend Marian Babjak concelebrating. The pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows, Reverend Martin Celuch, hosted his brother priests and a contingent from the Knights of Columbus as the large number of congregants joined in the liturgy which featured the musical accompaniment of a string quartet, a piano and the impressive church pipe organ with hymns in Slovak, Latin and English. Father George Franko, a son of the parish who at 91 has been a priest for more than 66 years, was the homilist. In addition to presenting a lesson from the Gospel of Good Shepherd Sunday, Father Franko shared interesting – and amusing – stories about the challenges faced by early pastors. The demands of maintaining the structure and sealing water leaks in the roof that led to the redirection of funds meant to install "marble" altars in the church seemed to be especially appreciated by former pastors, Father Rusnak and Monsignor Polando. Father Franko also used his sharp memory to highlight details related to the various saints and biblical accounts depicted in stained glass windows. It was through the efforts of Father Franko that the Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation began almost 25 years ago. He recently stepped down as chaplain, a role now filled by Father Rusnak. Both Father Martin Celuch, the pastor, and Father Marian



(L - R) Reverend Monsignor Peter Polando, Former Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows and current Rector of the Cathedral of Saint Columba, Reverend Martin Celuch, current Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows and Most Reverend George V. Murry, S. J., Bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown are pictured during the opening prayers of the Mass celebrating the 120th Anniversary of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church, the oldest church of the 3 congregations that combined to create Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in 2012.



Reverend George Franko, a son of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church and a strong advocate for the preservation of Slovak Catholic traditions and heritage, offers the homily based on the Gospel of the Good Shepherd but enlivened the gathering with insights regarding numerous past pastors and an array of stories related to the saints and Biblical accounts depicted in the stained glass windows while (L - R) Reverend Marian Babjak and Reverend Melvin Rusnak listen. The statue of the Risen Christ dates to the earliest years of the church along with most of the other statues.



Reverend Martin Celuch, Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, proclaims the Gospel during the Mass celebrating the 120th Anniversary of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the "Mother Church" of the Slovak Catholic community in Youngstown, which is now one of three congregations comprising the parish. Listening (L - R) are Reverend Marian Babjak, a native of Slovakia serving at Saint Charles Borromeo, Reverend George Franko, founder of the Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation, a priest for more than sixty-six years who was the Homilist, Reverend Melvin Rusnak, a former Pastor of Saints Cyril and Methodius and the new chaplain of the Youngstown Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation and Robert Rovnak, a server.

Babjak, who serves the parishioners of Saint Charles Borromeo in Boardman, OH are natives of Slovakia. They are both actively engaged with the Slovak Catholic community in the diocese. Deacon Robert Friedman was the Master of Ceremonies. Representatives of the various church organizations made the presentation of the gifts including Mary Lou Hluchan of the Altar and Rosary Society, Tom Rovnak of the Cy-Me Men's Club, Paulette Chiarello with the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild and Kay Kalischak representing the Our Lady of Sorrows Seniors Club.

A dinner followed at the Father Snock Center which is located at the Saint Matthias campus of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. Almost 300 people attended. The gathering represented members of all three churches in the parish, as well as individuals from numerous other congregations, many of which had their early start in Saints Cyril and Methodius, such as the Hungarians of Saint Stephen of Hungary, Italians of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Croatians of Saints Peter and Paul. An abundant array of cookies and baked goods, made by volunteer bakers of the parish, provided a sweet ending to the evening. A commemorative mug with an image of the church was given to many of those in attendance. Additionally, the National President of Slovak Catholic Federation, Father Andrew Hvozdovic, sent prayer cards depicting the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC with a Prayer to Our Lady on the reverse as a keepsake for everyone. Photographer Joseph Rudinec, through his company, Rudinec & Associates, printed bookmarks with a photograph of the main altar of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church with a Prayer to Saints Cyril and Methodius on the back, which were distributed at the Mass and dinner.

Saint Cyril and Methodius remains an integral component of the Diocese of Youngstown, an important part of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish and an inspiring element of the local Slovak Catholic community. The congregation continues to serve the broader community as a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society parish conference. The Our Lady of Sorrows Seniors Club consists of 102 dues paying members from 24 different parishes and churches. With a monthly luncheon and various day trips and activities the group brings a sense of camaraderie and engagement to the lives of many. The Cy-Me Men's Club, which dates back to the 1930's, continues to meet monthly, with the specific mission of providing practical and financial support to the parish through various work projects and fundraising efforts. The church is also blessed with the dedication of the Altar and Rosary Society, The Infant Jesus of Prague Guild, and the various branches and chapters of the Slovak Catholic fraternal organizations. As the church moves into the future, its members continue to strive to preserve the beauty of the church and the traditions of their shared Slovak Catholic heritage. The almost life-size indoor Nativity remains a central feature of the church's décor at Christmas. A monthly social following Sunday Mass reinforces the bonds of friendship that are a hallmark of the congregation, many of whom are long-time, if not life-time, members. Various Slovak customs, such as the blessing of Easter baskets, a monthly Mass in Slovak at Saint Matthias Church, and such "special events" as holubky dinners and the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest help promote and preserve the faith and heritage which can be traced back to the formative years of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the "Mother Church" of the Slovak Catholic community in Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley.

Submitted by: T. L. Wagner



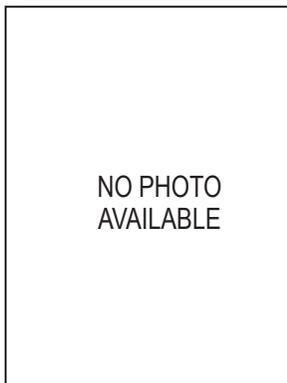
Reverend Martin Celuch, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish offers concluding remarks as the Mass nears an end. Reverend George Franko, the homilist, is seated to the right.



Bishop George V. Murry, S. J., Presider at the Anniversary Mass, elevates the Consecrated Body and Blood of Christ with (L - R) Reverend Melvin Rusnak, Reverend Martin Celuch and Reverend Monsignor Peter Polando shown concelebrating.

The Best of the Best!

Top Guns Through March 2016



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Hamilla, Gerald L.
First Place



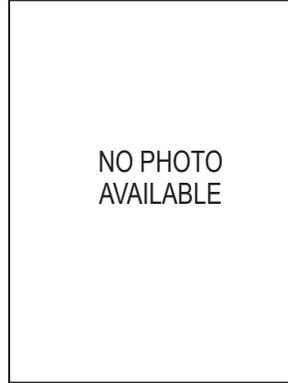
Harcar, Andrew R.
Second Place



Rajec, Andrew P.
Third Place



Kurzawa, Fr. Ronald
First Place



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Zaborny, Theresa A
Second Place



Arendt, Kenneth Anthony
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance
Hamilla, Gerald J.	175	175,000
Harcar, Andrew R.	040	90,000
Rajec, Andrew P.	089	75,000
Bobby, Jacquelyn	731	60,000
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	50,000
Deliman, Rosemary	417	40,000
Schaub, Vicki Lynn	200	35,000
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	35,000
Rimarcik, Joseph C.	743	35,000
Lako, Michael Eugene	002	30,000

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Kurzawa, Fr. Ronald	615	125,000.00
Zaborny, Theresa A.	919	75,075.36
Arendt, Kenneth Anthony	228	60,470.03
Hanko, Linda M.	553	58,039.99
Fenimore, Lawrence Eric	023	52,400.88
Budjac, Robert J.	089	50,000.00
DeRoche, Judith Ann	615	50,000.00
Zapotocky, Francis G.	450	36,886.36
Harcar, Andrew R.	040	32,200.00
Bernath, Margaret A.	153	25,000.00

28th Treasures of Slovakia Tour in July 2016

Treasures Tours is conducting the Treasures of Slovakia trip for the 28th year in a row! It includes all the best of Slovakia from east to west and north to south. The trip will run July 8 - 17, 2016 with an early bird special on July 7.

The popular trip includes highlights of Bratislava; the medieval Banka Bystrica; the folklore festival at Detva; Kezmarok's International Crafts Festival; the high Tatras; the walled town of Levoca; the glorious Spiš Castle; Stara Lubovna's museum of village homes;; a raft ride on the Dunajec River in Pleniny National Park; a tour of Presov and Kosice to marvel at St. Elizabeth's Cathedral and the spectacular Singing Fountain; . Bardejov, the Pearl of Saris, a UNESCO treasure and Slovakia's other walled town with St Egidius Church; charming Cicmany with home; a village wedding in Krakovany; a tour of medieval Cerveny Kamen Castle; traveling the Royal Carpathian Wine Road and visiting a wine museum; and back to Bratislava for a festive farewell dinner.



A Treasures of Slovakia Tour highlight - Denise Slattery (L) of Oklahoma enjoyed being dressed in folk dress and welcomed by the villagers at our festive wedding party in eastern Slovakia..

We can find your long-lost family and have driver-guides who will take you to your ancestral villages - we have a 98% success rate!

Land price is \$2,299 and we can help people find flights. A Prague add on offers a hotel in the old town, two half days sightseeing to the Castle and Old Town with a super local guide, and then time to shop for garnets, crystal and crafts.

Another trip offered spends several nights in Slovakia... the 5 Countries, 5 Cultures trip July 23 - Aug. 1 which includes a stay in Bratislava, a visit to the Modra ceramics outlet, and a stay in Zdiar in the Belianske Tatry. The trip also includes a cruise on the Danube in the gorgeous Wachau Valley with castles on every hilltop and vineyards everywhere. Romantic Budapest with sightseeing both on land and on the Danube and magical Krakow with options to visit the Royal Salt Mine and Auschwitz Camp high on tour goer's lists. And everyone loves charming Straznice in the Czech Republic enjoying sampling the wine and kolacky and the rich folk culture in the Skansen museum and Straznice and Milotice Castles as well as dinner in a family vineyard, watch the wine drawn up in a crystal wine pipe. This trip is also \$2,299 for the land tour.

The tours are organized by Helene Cincebeaux and Jozef Kaufmann who have led more than 80 trips over the past 27 years. Contact Helene for day-by-day itineraries and other info - helenezx@aol.com or call 585 342-9383 or write her at 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617. Helene is the Director of the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International and Editor of Slovakia for the past 26 years, and a member of Branch 278 of the First Catholic Slovak Union. She has authored 4 books on Slovakia and numerous articles and maintains Slovak Pride, a 33,000 surname and village data base.

SLOVAK PICNIC

SPONSORED BY:

THE CLEVELAND SLOVAK RADIO CLUB



SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016

12 - 8 pm

Admission: \$4.00 (At the gate)

SLOVAK SOKOL CAMP

2069 ROYALWOOD RD; BROADVIEW HTS. 44147
BETWEEN STATE AND BROADVIEW RD

SLOVAK FOOD, BEER-PIVO, PASTRIES and DANCING



Music by **THE FRANK MORAVCIK BAND**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

440/886-4828	330/239-2256
440/885-1994	440/582-0114
440/888-7028	440/864-4744

Visit Slovakia "The Old Country"



Join the 19th Annual Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Tour July 8-July 22, 2016

Remember how your parents or grandparents referred to their birthplace as the "the old country?" Well now is the time for you to sit down and talk with the oldest members of your family to learn about their birthplaces in the old country. There is so much beauty and charm in their ancestral land, and it's all there just waiting for your visit. So get your passport and let's go.

Join Jim and Kay Bench as they host the 19th Annual Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities tour from July 8-July

22, 2016. We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities agreement so get your dancing shoes ready for the time of your life.

In 2016, you will see the capitol of Slovakia, Bratislava, located on the Danube River. Since joining the European Union, you will see how the villages, towns and cities have been restored to their former beauty. Unique to our trip is a reception with the mayor of our sister city, Spišská Nová Ves, complete with entertainment and a formal signing of the city registry for all tour participants. You will 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 Čičmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichý Potok (a village of 324 people), stay in a beautiful spa in Sliach and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools, saunas and other amenities. Visit many of the Unesco sites, castles, and churches – especially the oldest church in Slovakia located in Nitra. Attend and participate in a mock wedding in traditional Slovak kroj. Wine tasting is a favorite to many participants. There are so many things to see and do, too numerous to mention in this short article. Remember, our trip is fourteen days so you really get to see Slovakia, visit family, and have time for shopping.

A Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities tour includes an English speaking tour guide, large air conditioned bus with restroom, first class hotel accommodations, great food and entertainment.

Kay and Jim are seasoned travelers, who must be doing something right as people are returning for their 5th and 6th time! The tour makes changes yearly. They have a luncheon several weeks before the tour leaves, along with travel agent Paul Hudak, to answer questions. They tell you what type of clothing to take, how to pack, weather conditions, money exchange, where and how to carry your money, medications etc.

For additional information contact Jim or Kay Bench:

- Jim Bench cell phone 724-858-5843 e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com
- Kay Bench cell phone 724-771-7900 e-mail skbench@gmail.com

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel. Call Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-Mail Paul@advintravel.com

Jednota Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14				15		16			
17				18							19			
20				21					22	23				
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29			30			31	32					33		
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	38	39			40	41						42		
43					44				45	46				
47				48				49		50		51	52	53
54			55					56	57			58		
		59					60					61		
62	63				64	65					66			
67					68						69			
70						71					72			

Across

- 1 Optimistic
- 5 Nevada city
- 9 Table scraps
- 13 Pot builder
- 14 Dodge
- 16 Pinnacle
- 17 School peers
- 19 Entertainment award
- 20 Young fox
- 21 Quarries
- 22 Give a hoot
- 24 Compass dir.
- 25 Chowed down
- 26 Champion
- 29 Exams
- 31 Puff up
- 33 Altar avowal
- 34 Little devil
- 36 ___ vaporeur (steamed)
- 37 Exploit
- 38 Ariz. neighbor
- 40 Black ink item
- 42 Botanist Gray
- 43 One Beatle
- 44 Kind of instinct
- 45 Annex
- 47 Superlative ending
- 48 Gave up
- 50 Dog tether
- 54 Anxiety disorders
- 56 Lyrical Gershwin
- 58 Jacuzzi
- 59 Family group
- 60 Pudding fruit
- 61 Sweltering
- 62 Achy
- 64 Minstrel
- 67 Wistful word
- 68 Fry quickly
- 69 Gaelic

Down

- 70 Guinea pigs, maybe
- 71 Summers on the Seine
- 72 Garden intruder
- 41 Lather
- 43 Energy
- 46 Guanaco's cousin
- 48 Cloak-and-dagger org.
- 49 Thin out
- 51 On dry land
- 52 Better half
- 53 Loathing
- 55 Sanctify
- 57 Bumpkins
- 60 Sulk
- 62 Tree juice
- 63 Corrida cry
- 65 Arctic explorer John
- 66 Morning drops
- 1 Auditory annoyance
- 2 Surfing, in a way
- 3 Union members
- 4 Survey choice
- 5 Send, as payment
- 6 Delights
- 7 Bar freebies
- 8 Poetic tribute
- 9 La Scala offering
- 10 Curatives
- 11 Scottish cap
- 12 Wild blue yonder
- 15 Intensify
- 18 Involuntary twitch
- 23 Totally
- 26 Brazilian soccer legend
- 27 Brainchild
- 28 Silent assent
- 30 Cultivate, like lan
- 32 Garbage
- 35 Some ceremonial displays
- 37 Chip's partner
- 38 Before crop or register
- 39 Despot

See Solution on Page 19

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2016

Issue Date

Deadline to Receive Information

June 15

June 6

July 20

July 11

August 17

August 8

Sept 7

August 29

Sept 21

Sept 12

October 5

Sept 26

October 19

October 10

November 2

October 24

November 16

November 7

December 7

November 28



Mother's Day

The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Mothers and Members for a Happy Mother's Day!

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



Why We Love Mom: Typicky Večer Matiek (A Typical Evening for Moms)

Mom and Dad were watching TV when Mom said, "I'm tired, and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed." But first she went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next day's lunches; rinsed out the popcorn bowls from the family's evening snack; took meat out of the freezer for supper the following evening; checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table for tomorrow's breakfast; and programmed the coffee maker for brewing the next morning.

She picked up the game pieces left on the kitchen table; put the phone back on its charger; watered the plants; and emptied the wastebasket under the sink. She then passed through to the laundry room; moved a load of wet laundry into the dryer; put the next load of dirty clothes waiting in the laundry basket into the washer; took a shirt off the drying rack and ironed it, and secured a loose button.

She yawned and stretched and headed for the stairs. She stopped by the desk in the hallway; wrote a note to the teacher; counted out cash for a field trip; and pulled a text book out from under the desk chair. She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope, and wrote a quick list for the grocery store. She put both near her purse to take with her the next day as she headed out to work.

Dad called out, "I thought you were going to bed."

"I'm on my way," she said as she took one more look around the area, remembering to fill the dog's water bowl, make sure the porch light was off, the doors were locked, and the alarm system was on.

Finally upstairs, she looked in on each of the kids and one by one, turned off a bedside lamp, removed a stray cell phone from the bedcovers, picked up a pair of dirty socks from the floor and threw them in the hamper, and had a brief conversation with the eldest still up doing homework.

She headed for the bathroom where she hung up a towel to dry, refilled the liquid soap dispenser, and put toilet paper on the roll before washing her face, brushing her teeth and getting in her pjs. In her own room, she set the alarm; laid out her clothing for the next day; and straightened up the shoe rack. She added three things to the "to do" list she kept by the nightstand and knelt to say her prayers.

Downstairs, Dad turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular, "I'm going to bed." And he did, joining his wife upstairs, after washing up, saying his own prayers, and going to sleep without another thought.

Nothing extraordinary here, right? Just another evening in the life of most mamičky! Any wonder why we love 'em so? Give yours a big hug, if you're still lucky enough to have her ... I know I sure miss my own dear mamička and think of her every day.

Until next time, keep your ears up and your tail waggin'.



Tvoj priateľ

Chewy

Mother

by Anonymous



A mother is one who understands the things you say and do;

Who always overlooks your faults and sees the best in you.

A mother is one whose special love inspires you day by day;

Who fills your heart with gladness in her warm and thoughtful way.

A mother is all these things and more - the greatest treasure known;

And the dearest mother in all of the world is the one I call my own.

Memorial Day is May 30th

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



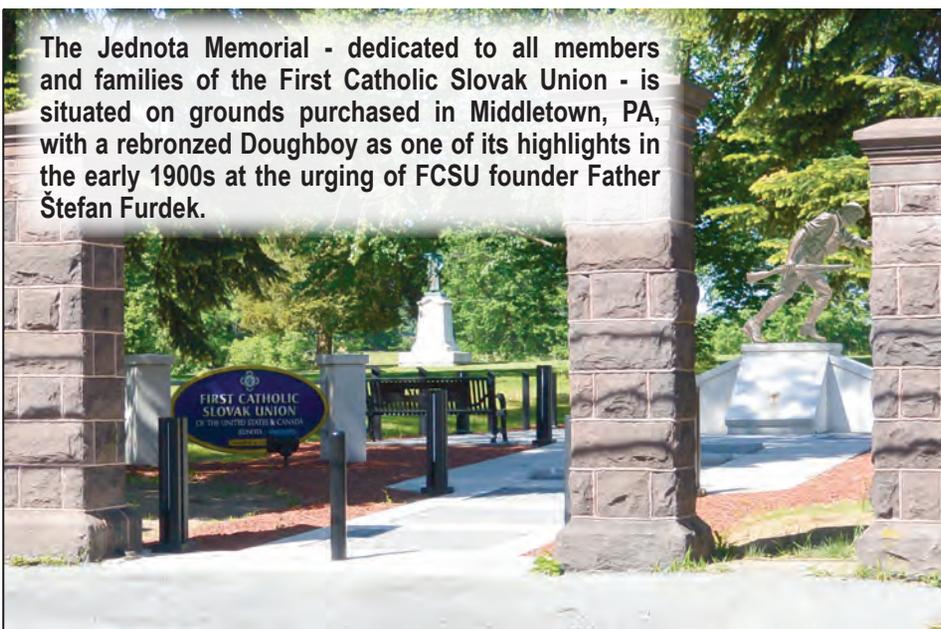
ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

Memorial Day, a federal holiday in the United States, honors the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday is observed every year on the last Monday of May, which this year is May 30, 2016. It originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service. It typically marks the start of the summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end.

Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

Annual Decoration Days for particular cemeteries are held on a Sunday in late spring or early summer in some rural areas of the American South, notably in the mountain areas. In cases involving a family graveyard where remote ancestors as well as those who were deceased more recently are buried, this may take on the character of an extended family reunion to which some people travel hundreds of miles. People gather on the designated day and put flowers on graves and renew contacts with relatives and others. There often is a religious service and a picnic-like "dinner on the ground," the traditional term for a potluck meal in which people used to spread the dishes out on sheets or tablecloths on the grass. It is believed that this practice began before the American Civil War and thus may reflect the real origin of the "memorial day" idea.

Memorial Day is not to be confused with Veterans Day; Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving, while Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans.



The Jednota Memorial - dedicated to all members and families of the First Catholic Slovak Union - is situated on grounds purchased in Middletown, PA, with a rebronzed Doughboy as one of its highlights in the early 1900s at the urging of FCSU founder Father Štefan Furdek.

A SPECIAL REMINDER TO ALL JEDNOTA MEMBERS:

As highlighted in recent issues of Jednota, the First Catholic Slovak Union has developed a Memorial site for our members and their families on a permanently dedicated 1/2 acre of land of Jednota property fronting on Rosedale Avenue in Middletown, PA. It sits on land that was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Stefan Furdek for just such a purpose. A rebronzed "Doughboy" statue is a key highlight of this Memorial, honoring those who served in any wars and also giving the opportunity for our Members to honor and remember their ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great

While Memorial Day is a wonderful time to consider participating in this project, it is important to reiterate that the Jednota Memorial is not restricted to those who died while serving our country or their families. All those who purchase a "brick" or "bricks" in the granite panels found throughout the Memorial will receive a photo of the panel on which their brick or bricks are mounted. If you haven't yet ordered your "brick" you can go to www.fcsu.com to download your order form or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 2 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels Archangel, Branch 2, will be holding their semi-annual meeting on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at 7pm at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd in the North Hills. Please RSVP to 412-766-3222 or 412-421-1204.

The annual meeting will be held October 19th 2016 at Kretzlers. This meeting will include election of officers and will be at 7 pm. Please respond for reservations to the numbers above.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Lako Recording Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 11:00AM, at the home of our President, Delores J. Genosky, 1001 42 1/2 Avenue, NE, Columbia Heights, MN.

Items on the agenda are our family picnic in August, a merger, and the date of our annual meeting.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 10 - OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all Branch 10 members, and their families, to attend the annual Communion Mass and Breakfast and semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016. The 8 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant, will be celebrated for all living and deceased members of Branch 10. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast for members and their families will be held at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant. Individual invitations will not be mailed to members this year. Reservations are required, and may be made by phoning (570) 587-2175 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. no later than Friday, June 10.

Daniel Spegar, President

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016, in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall. We will begin the morning with Mass at 8:30AM celebrated by Msgr. Joseph Pekar in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church St., Bridgeport, CT. After the Mass, members are cordially invited to return to the Church Hall for our special breakfast brunch and our Margaret Evancho Award Ceremony where we will give a monetary gift to the following of our 16 year old members:

- Michael Aquqlia	- Logan M. McDonald
- Carly A. Brainard	- Patrick T. Monks
- William E. Hiza, III	- Christopher W. Pudill
- Aimee P. Koller	- Courtney J. Skolka
- Matthew P. Koller	- Robert J. Strada, III
- Jordan Lorys Armstead	- Rebekah M. Wargo
- Andrew J. Madar	- Alexis Zahor

The award is given to honor Margaret Evancho during her birthday month to recognize the dedication and many years of service she gave to Branch 19, especially the youth of the branch. We hope our members will join us in this special tribute to Margaret Evancho.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11, 2016, at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Hall at 9:30AM.

We wish all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union a happy and safe summer season.

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 85 – BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Florian Society, Branch 85K, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post 411 on Church Street, Jessup, PA. All members are encouraged to attend.

Stella Skovira, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of Branch 112 Mahanoy City, PA, are invited to a family day and branch meeting at Knoebels Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA, on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at noon. Please call Karen Sterling 570-640-1796 by June 13th, if you plan to attend.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Branch 153 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, June 18. The meeting will begin promptly at 11:30 am and will be held at

Cucina Biagio Restaurant at 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL.

A luncheon for members and their guests will follow the meeting.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2016, at 9:00AM at the Golden Corral Restaurant Conference Room, 129 Matthew Drive, Uniontown, PA.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming events and branch activities will be discussed. All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and breakfast buffet. Call for reservations by June 7, 2016, to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181's annual family picnic will be held on June 26, 2016, at Mammoth Park Pavilion #14, Mammoth, PA. Registration starts at noon and the picnic starts at 1:00PM. Beverages and main entrée (chicken, kolbasi, halupky, and rigatoni) will be provided by the branch. All members are asked to bring a dish to share. A branch meeting will be held directly after the picnic.

For more information, contact Gerry Kovacina, 412-216-5527.

Gerry Kovacina, Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Members: We have had a lot going on in the Social Club. Stop in and check out the schedule. We'd love to see you. We now have an email address: scubran200@gmail.com and hope to get a Facebook page started.

I have been receiving calls about beneficiaries lately and this brings me to ask you to check your policies to make sure they are up to date. Please feel free to call me @ 724-763-9229 or email me @ vschaub123@gmail.com to make arrangements to go over your policies. If you have computer and printer access, you can go online- First Catholic Slovak Union, forms, scroll down for Member Service Request Form, print out, complete and drop off @ my house or mail it directly to the Home Office. This is required to be notarized. Many of us fail to review and make changes periodically.

Anyone that would like to have prayer for our deceased member, please call to have this arranged. For many years this has been done but with short-er funeral visitation days/times it has been difficult to arrange for our members to get together, attend, and have prayer. Grace Charney does a fantastic job.

Happy Spring!
Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, President

BRANCH 213 – VALENCIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 213 will hold its semi-annual meeting on June 12th, 2016 at 1:00 P.M. It will be held at 2603 Eloquent Lane, Valencia, PA, 16059. Everyone is invited to attend.

Joseph Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

Our meetings are held 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. Delicious food is served by Theresa Arendt at the last meeting of each calendar quarter. 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 19, 2016. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. I am very happy to see an increased participation from our younger members in 2015 and hope this participation will continue to increase. It is really a lot of fun to have more members speaking up and giving their viewpoint of the various subjects that are discussed at our meetings. These members represent the future of the FCSU and it is great to see their interest grow. Input from any and all members is appreciated. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at ameri-

canslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Please come to our meetings. You won't be disappointed.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 260 - CAMPBELL, OHIO

The branch will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2016, at 1:00PM at Bedford Trails Restaurant, Coitsville, OH. On the agenda: election of officers and general branch business.

Fraternally,

Paul Ritz, President

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Branch 276 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 1:00 P.M. at St. Patrick's church hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport, Pa. We cordially invite all our members to attend one of our meetings.

Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist Branch 290 will hold a meeting on May 24, 2016, at 7:30PM. Please call Joe at (908) 413-7177 as to the location of the same. Thank you.

Joe Minarovich, President

BRANCH 292- WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch 292 KJ, will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016. The meeting will be held at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA, 15963 at 12:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in conjunction with our annual celebration of the feast of our patron, St. John the Baptist. A Mass will be celebrated that morning at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church at 8:30 a.m. All members are asked to attend both events. A buffet dinner will be served.

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

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 293, will hold its semi-annual meeting at the home of the financial secretary, Robert Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch Street, Lansford, PA, 18232, at 6:00PM on Monday, June 13, 2016. Anyone needing service or more insurance should call 1-570-645-4872, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

We will be holding our meeting on July 22, 2016. It will be held at the home of Curtis Johnson, 16913 Creekside Ave., Tinley Park, IL, 60487. Items on the agenda include officers and a discussion on the upcoming year. Please check your beneficiaries on your policies. Please call Joseph M. Bugel at 708-349-7873 for more information.

Joseph M. Bugel, President

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 11:00AM, at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since a light brunch will be prepared, please call Fran at 724-929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending. Members of Branch 320 are urged to attend.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Lodge 367 of Fairchance, PA, will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 30th, 2016 at the Flamingo Hollywood Steak House, 660 N. Gallatin Ave Ext., Uniontown, PA at 5 PM. All members are invited. For reservations please call Audrey Balazik, President at 724-438-3887 or Kathryn Baranek, Secretary at 724-569-1006. Wishing all our members a safe and wonderful summer.

Kathryn Baranek, Secretary

BRANCH 372 - BEVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 372, the St. Joseph Society, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 15, 2016, at

2:00PM at the home of Branch President Michael P. Hudak, 829 Cameron Ave, Beaverdale, PA. All are welcome.

Michael P. Hudak, President

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2016, at 1:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at 1-724-834-6386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold a meeting at the rbg Bar & Grill located in the Park Inn by Radisson, 700 West Main Street (Route 40 W) at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 23, 2016. Call 724-425-2576 for reservations by June 16, 2016.

All members of Branch 410 are cordially invited to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 419 - MOUNTAIN TOP, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 419 will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 12:30PM at Norm's Restaurant, Sherman St., Wilkes Barre, PA. On the agenda: a discussion of election of officers.

Fraternally,

Frank Wassil, President

BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 484, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 17, 2016, beginning at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of the financial secretary, Joseph E. Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Coral, PA, 15731. All members are welcome, especially anyone desiring to be a branch officer.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 581 - GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN, at 1 p.m. General business to be discussed will be our donations to charity and 1st year premium waved on the juvenile plan (\$14 annual premium). All members are welcome. RSVP Ann Buczek, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist will have a meeting on May 22, 2016, at 2:00PM at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road in Aliquippa. All members are welcome to attend.

Edith Valo, Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
If you have several hours that you care spare each month, Tatra Hall needs YOU.

Sunday May 15, branch meeting 2pm
Sunday, May 22, Breakfast 8:30am-12noon all you can eat and the best breakfast in town.

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day, BBQ's after mass at the cemetery.

Burritos every third Thursday of the month, to-go only. Call ahead to order.

Refreshments every Tuesday and Thursday .50 off

Hours are Mon-Fri 1pm-8pm: Sat 12noon-8pm
Come down and enjoy yourself!

All events take place at Tatra Hall 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI (231) 733-7525.

Susan Hornik, Secretary

BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2016, at 4:00 PM at the 141 Bellevue Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235. The agenda will include an update of branch activi-

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 213 hosted the Pittsburgh District Spring business meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin. President David Matta and Regional Director Mike Lako lead the discussion about the requirements for becoming a licensed fraternal insurance agent.

Branch 60, with the assistance of Branch 628, will host the Father's Day brunch on Sunday, June 19 at Holy Trinity, West Mifflin PA. Members are asked to attend the 9:30 AM Liturgy at the church. Lunch will be served after Mass. Prices for the brunch are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children twelve and under. RSVP to Anna Wargovich at 412-351-1089 or by email tomanasta@verizon.net. No tickets will be sold at the door. Prices for the ad booklet are: full page \$75, half page \$40, quarter page \$25. Mail ad information and payment to Karianne Barnes, 4000 Creekview Circle-Apt 4221, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066 or email kvehec@hotmail.com. The deadline for both tickets and advertising is Monday, June 6. All checks should be made payable to FCSU-Pittsburgh District.

The district will host a picnic with food, games, etc on Saturday, July 30, from noon until dusk at Renzie Park Pavilion #5. The pavilion is near Lake Emily, off Tulip Drive. Notices were distributed at the district meeting. The cost is \$5 per person or \$20 for a family of five or more. Checks should be made payable to FCSU-Pittsburgh District. Have your reservations and your checks to Annie Ondrejco by July 25 at the very latest. Bring them to the Father's Day Brunch or mail them to 234 Illion Street, Pittsburgh PA 15207. A Renzie Park map will be available on Father's Day. While you're at Renzie, be sure to take in the Rose Garden and the McKeesport Regional Heritage Center, home of the Little Red School House.

The District Activities Director Annie Ondrejco is organizing a Facebook group to be called Jednota Pittsburgh District Activities. Join the group to keep up with district activities. Annie would like to know if there is any interest in additional activities such as an art class or attending a Pirates game or going out to the Meadows Casino or a visit to the NSS Museum. Contact Annie at aondrejco@gmail.com.

Branch 276 will host the annual winter business meeting on Sunday, November 27 at the Holy Trinity Church Hall in West Mifflin. The Steelers play the Colts on Thanksgiving Day so there is no game on Sunday.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business as well as contests and tournaments. In particular, the April 20 issue has a list of requirements for branches to receive their stipend.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library: June 6 – Juraj Janosik. Programs resume in October. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

** Sing Along with Jerry Jumba – 7 PM at the Carpatho-Rusyn Center, 915 Dickson Street, Munhall, \$5 per session (includes songbook with lyrics, Tuesday May 17 and May 24, Contact:412-251-3083

** Slovak Day at Kennywood Park – Thursday, July 21 – tickets available at the district Fathers Day Brunch.

** The 12th Consular Tour of Slovakia is planned for August 28 to September 10, 2016. This tour will include Vienna and Poland. Contact Joe Senko for details.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Joe Senko for information about reservations and fees (412-956-6000). Fall classes are directed toward intermediate and advanced students. Spring classes are for beginners. Saturday summer classes for children are planned for June 4 to July 23.

** The Pittsburgh Folk Festival will be held in Pittsburgh at the Schenley Tent Plaza this year – September 3-4 – See www.pghfolkfest.org for details.

** Septemberfest at the NSS Museum – Saturday, September 24 – free admission.

** Slovak Beer Tasting – October 8 – contact Joe Senko.

** Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730. The program is also streamed live at www.wpitam.com. Their annual dinner dance is planned for October 2.

** Slovak Heritage Festival at Pitt – Sunday, November 6 – free admission.

** You can follow the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the Western PA Slovak Cultural Association on Facebook. The National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids also has a Facebook page. Check out your family hometown in Slovakia. They may also have a Facebook page.

** Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu

** If you're interested in study abroad, Slovakia has a number of major universities; some have programs taught in English. Check out www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php.

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International is holding its next meeting in October 2017 in Pittsburgh. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

** FCSU information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com

If anyone knows of additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice, they should email information to the secretary.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary

DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 1:00 P.M. in the meeting room of the Dairy Queen Grill & Chill located at 575 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch members are invited to attend.

A Dairy Queen social will take place following the meeting.

Barbara A. Holly, District Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – REV. STEPHEN FURDEK – OHIO

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 will be holding our first meeting of the year on Sunday, May 15, 2016, at St. Charles Parish Hall, 5891 Ridge Road, Parma, OH 44129 at 2 pm.

All branch members of District 10 are invited to attend this meeting to learn more about what our Society can do for you and your families.

Please contact Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com if you are planning on attending. We would appreciate your call so that we may plan accordingly for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, District Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The 2016 Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) will be held on Sunday, May 22. Time and place are 2:00 PM at the C.U.Club, 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. All Branches should identify their representatives who will attend to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 as soon as possible. Walk-ins are welcome.

Reminders:

- Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one (1) District meeting per year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend.

- Any beneficial member is welcome to represent his/her Branch at District meetings; representatives need not be Branch officers or formally selected by/at the Branch meeting.

Grace M. Charney, District Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andrew Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, District Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

District 14 will hold a general meeting on May 17, 2016 at St. Mathias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH, starting at 6:00 pm.

Fraternally,

Joe Scavina, District Secretary

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA – NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula, District 16, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 1:00 PM, in the Church Hall of St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th, 1 Avenue, New York, New York 10065.

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

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

After the meeting, refreshments will be served, courtesy of Branch 45.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL, QUEBEC

The district's semi-annual meeting will be held June 26, 2016, at the Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall immediately following the eleven (11) o'clock Mass.

Members of branches 784 and 810 are invited to attend.

A light lunch will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President



Branch 746 Extends Welcome to their *Summer Picnic, July 10th*

Branch 746, St. John the Baptist Society, cordially invites you to a summer picnic, Sunday, July 10, 2016; 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM, at Veteran's Memorial Park, Tremley Point, 2450 South Wood Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036. Members are free. Non-member adults: \$15.00. Non-member children: \$5.00. To RSVP by July 1, 2016, and for more information please call Joanne Tkach Polt @732-762-3148.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
002K	Rose Mary Davic	156K	Edward M Bolcar Jr	266K	Teresa Joan Sackette	700K	Agnes M Pennington
002K	Floyd J Groene	169P	Eleanor T Gredesky	367K	Elizabeth Benedetti	716K	Adalbert Miseje
003K	Margaret Ann Dady	181K	Frances M Puskar	380K	Agnes A Yeaney	746K	Michael C Lasko
035K	Joseph Guzowski	199K	Beverly J Komzemchak	403K	Raymond P Grosko	756K	Bertha Kuchar
040K	Mark E Sloan	200K	James P Tomaswick	456K	Josephine Kasubick	774K	George L Horny
040K	Stella M Vahldieck	233K	Kevin J Price	484K	John B Gresh	857K	John J Zitkus
045K	Anna E Kovaly	238K	Lillian Kurcin	484K	George Rura	916K	Jesse L Davis
060K	Richard J Heckel	254K	Elsie M Tkach	553K	Lela Mae Kanis		
152K	Jean E Kelly	260K	Nancy Hassay	553K	Helen M Zupancic		
153K	Marie V Slifka	260K	David L Lesnak	591K	Magdalen P Defrank		

*Processed through the month of April

OBITUARIES

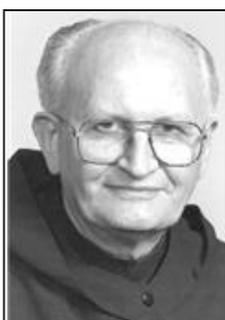
MARGARET ANN (KORDIAK) STASIK DADY BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of our beloved Mother. Margaret died unexpectedly on December 22, 2015, at Catholic Eldercare in N.E. Minneapolis, MN. Born June 18, 1920, in Columbia Heights, MN, to Helen and Paul Kordiak. She loved deeply and everyone loved her. She would tell everyone how wonderful they were and how they made her day. The thing we most admired about her was her unflinching faith in God. That acceptance comes by believing He will provide for us. Preceded in death by her first husband, George Stasik, daughter and best friend MaryJo Stasik, her second husband John Dady, step-son Robert Dady, sister Helen Peltier and brothers Paul, Joseph, John and Edward Kordiak. She is survived by daughter, Gloria Jean (Don) Browne, son, Greg (Bonnie) Stasik, grandchildren, Michael (Karen) Browne, Stephen (Vicki) Browne, Lisa (Shane) Rovang, Amy (Joe) Trowbridge, and the loves of her life, her great grandchildren Kathryn and Carolyn Browne, Jack and Rae Rovang, Isaac and Nora Trowbridge. She is also survived by many devoted nieces and nephews, step-son Tom (Brenda) Dady, daughter-in-law Debbie Dunn, step-grandchildren, Matthew, Rachel and T.J. Dady, sister-in-law Pat Kordiak and many friends. She grew up in Columbia Heights and spent most of her life in Northeast Minneapolis. She was a hairstylist at Jackie Ann's and supported her first husband in running the grocery part of Stasik Brothers Grocery and Meat Market. She was a long time member of St. Cyril's Mothers Club, St. Cyril's Women's Guild and volunteered at Catholic Eldercare. Many thanks to the people who cared for her at Eldercare on the 2nd floor, as if she were family. Every day was a blessing for her and all who knew her. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, December 30, 2015, at 10:30 AM, Ss. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, Minneapolis. A private interment followed at St. Mary's Cemetery.

- Submitted by Greg Stasik

BROTHER JOSEPH VENONSKY, O.S.B. BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO



Brother Joseph Venonsky, O.S.B., age 91 of St. Andrew Abbey, Benedictine Order of Cleveland, OH, entered into eternity on April 13, 2016. Beloved son of the late John and Mary (nee Remar) Venonsky; loving brother of Monica Aquilante, Florence Ann Brady, Betty Lupo and the following deceased: Theresa, Rosemary, Francis Michael and John.

Born in Port Kennedy, PA, Brother Joseph attended the parochial school of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Bridgeport, PA, near Philadelphia. He worked for a few years in a local nursery before coming to Saint Andrew Abbey in Cleveland in the summer of 1946. He was sent to St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, IL, for his initial novitiate year of monastic life. During that year, he also learned how to sew the Benedictine religious habit, a skill that he would put to use for the next six decades.

Brother Joseph professed his first monastic vows on March 29, 1948, and returned to St. Andrew Abbey where he was assigned duties not only as tailor, but also sacristan and assistant infirmarian. In 1954, he studied nursing at St. John's Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis, MO. Always ready and available to help in any circumstance, he also served as superior of the brothers, assistant cook, high school nurse, and received training to take care of the boilers that served the abbey and the school.

Brother Joseph was very proud of his Slovak heritage and ability to speak and sing in Slovak, and participated in many local and national Slovak activities and organizations especially the Conference of Slovak Religious and the Slovak Catholic Federation. For many years he carefully prepared the traditional sauerkraut and mushroom soup for the Slovak Christmas Eve celebration hosted by St. Andrew Abbey each December for benefactors and friends who always bought all of his remaining soup to take home.

His quiet and humble disposition hid a much deeper and powerful inner spiritual life nurtured by the sacraments and his com-

mitment to Lectio Divina, reflective, spiritual reading. Brother Joseph's piety also was imbued with a willingness for public witness and activism on behalf of important moral causes especially in defending the life of the unborn. He served as a living example of the balanced Benedictine life of dedicated work and prayer to many candidates and novices, providing proof that holiness is very possible to the average person especially in religious life.

Friends were received at St. Andrew Abbey Church, Cleveland, OH on Monday, April 18, 2016, from 3:30-7 P.M. with a Mass of Christian Burial At 7 P.M. Burial was on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, gathering at the Abbey at 9 a.m. and then to Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland. Arrangements were made by St. John Funeral Home of Bedford, OH.

- Submitted by Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB, St. Andrew Abbey

BARBARA "BARB" (KVORJAK) FURLANO BRANCH 35 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



Barbara "Barb" (Kvorjak) Furlano, 83, of North Versailles, PA, died peacefully surrounded by her loving family Wednesday, February 24, 2016. She was the beloved wife of Dominic Furlano; loving mom of Michael, Mark (Tina) and Gina Furlano; mother-in-law of Victoria Furlano; special Gammie of Jennifer (Brian) Gajdos, Vanessa (fiance Tom) Robosky and Mariah Furlano; great-Gammie of Bianca Gajdos; and sister of Mary "Rita" Malinowski and Leonard (Joan) "Sonny" Kvorjak. She was preceded in death by parents, August and Mary Kvorjak; and siblings, Cornelia Freed, Edward Kvorjak, Elanor Futryk and Leona Kvorjak; and is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Friends were received from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, February 27, 2016, and 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday, February 28, 2016, in the Alfieri Funeral Home, Wilmerding, PA. Parting prayers were offered at 9:15 a.m. Monday, February 29, 2016, in the funeral home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in St. Robert Bellarmine with Father Brennan officiating. Entombment followed in New St. Joseph Cemetery.

GEORGE B. "JUMBO" VADAS BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA



George B. "Jumbo" Vadas, 95, of Bradenville, joined his Father in heaven on Saturday, February 27, 2016, at Excelsa Health Latrobe Hospital. He was born Oct. 22, 1920, in Snyder Township, Derry Township, PA, a son of the late Andrew and Mary (Malarik) Vadas. George was a graduate of Derry Township High School and the Delgado Trade School in New Orleans. George proudly served his country in the Army Air Corps until 1946, during which time he was an engineering instructor on B-17 and B-24 bombers. George was then employed by the Hockensmith Corp. in Penn for 36 years. George also served Derry Township as township auditor from 1963 to 1973, and then as township supervisor from 1973 to 1985. He then worked for the Honorable John Blahovec in Westmoreland County Family Court until his retirement in 2000. George was a troop committeeman with Boy Scout Troop 309 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Latrobe, PA. George was also a committee member of the Loyalhanna branch of Ducks Unlimited. He was a member of BPOE Lodge 907, American Legion Post 344, Jednota Branch 181K, the American Slovak Society of Bradenville, American-Greek Catholic Beneficial Society, Cooperstown Vets & Sportsmen's Club, Derry Rod and Gun Club and several other clubs. He was a member of St. Rose Roman Catholic Church, in Latrobe, where he served on church council and was a member of the ushers club. George was an avid sportsman who enjoyed annual hunting and fishing trips. He also enjoyed playing a variety of sports, including baseball, softball and bowling. Golf was one of George's passions, which he continued to play until he reached 90 years old. George also loved to garden, and took great pride in his yearly harvest of vegetables. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife of 21 years, Elizabeth (Kelly) Vadas, in 1969. He was also preceded in death by brothers, John, Joseph, Andrew, Michael, Paul and Robert Vadas; and sisters, Mary Gulas, Ann Geary, Kay Heaney, Elizabeth Yandrik, Helen Vadas and Jane Kahl. He is survived by his loving wife of more than 40 years, Barbara (Yanetsky) Vadas, of Bradenville; a daughter, Kathryn Colclaser, of Asheville, N.C.; three sons, George (Tina) Vadas, of Barhamsville, Va., David Vadas, of Derry, and Mark (Pam)

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

OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

Vadas, of Kennedy Township; and his two favorite playmates, grandsons, Andrew and Nicholas Vadas, of Kennedy Township. Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews.

Friends were received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. Monday, February 29, 2016, in the Hartman-Graziano Funeral Home Inc., Latrobe. Members of the St. Rose Rosary Altar Christian Mothers recited the rosary at 1:30 p.m. Monday in the funeral home as well. Military services accorded by the Latrobe Derry Veterans Honor Guard were held at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2016, in the funeral home. A funeral Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m. Tuesday in St. Rose Church. Interment followed in St. Rose Cemetery.

- Submitted by Barbara Vadas

ELIZABETH "BECKY" STOFKO RADACHY BENEDETTI BRANCH 367 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Elizabeth "Becky" Stofko Radachy Benedetti, 94, of Rices Landing, PA, formerly of Charleroi, PA, passed away peacefully Thursday, February 11, 2016, with her daughters and son-in-law by her side.

She was born September 20, 1921, in Rices Landing, a daughter of the late Helen and Andrew Stofko.

Mrs. Benedetti was a member of St. Michael Roman Catholic Church, St. Oliver Plunkett Parish, Fredericktown, PA. Years ago she had been a purchasing manager for the Pittsburgh Mercantile Stores.

Mrs. Benedetti was active in American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Fredericktown, and American Legion Club of Rices Landing. She loved her card clubs and cooking for her family and friends especially her "world famous" spaghetti sauce and meatballs. Mrs. Benedetti was a wonderful, caring and sharing person who was always ready to help others in need, especially widows.

Surviving are two beloved daughters, Mari-aelena Perowski and Andrea Raymond and husband Deacon Thomas Raymond; two sisters, Eleanor Celesky and Helen Marie Tworzydlo; seven grandchildren, Tracey Chase, Michael (Kristy) Perowski, Mark (Jennifer) Perowski, Ramona Morgan, Monique Raymond (Brian), Tom (Brooke) Raymond and Mariaelena (Eric) Amato; 17 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Also surviving are the family of her late companion, Jack Underwood, including Curt, Theresa, Carly, A.J. and Kelsey. She also leaves behind her very special young friend, Brittany Broadwater and family, and the Belski family, who were always there to lend a helping hand. A fourth great-great grandson is due to be born in June.

Deceased are her first husband, John "Butch" Radachy; her second husband, Michael Benedetti; and family members, son-in-law, Phil Perowski, sister Irma Buchak, brothers Robert Stofko and Andrew John Stofko.

Family and friends were received at the Frank Burkus Funeral Home, Millsboro, PA. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on February 13, 2016, in St. Michael Roman Catholic Church with Fr. Paul Grunebach as celebrant assisted by Deacon Tom Raymond. Interment followed in Greene County Memorial Park.

- Submitted by
Andrea (Ande) Raymond

MAGDALEN "MADGE" P. DEFRANK BRANCH 591 - CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

Magdalen "Madge" P. DeFrank (nee Dratnol) age 90 of Chicago Heights, IL, passed away on February 24, 2016. Beloved wife of the late Constance "Sandy" DeFrank. Loving mother of Sher-

ry (John) Darnell of South Chicago Heights and Sheila (Richard) Husarik of Chicago Heights. Grandmother "Baba" of Michael and Matthew Darnell. Sister of the late Julia Elder and late Elsie Brandt. Sister-in-law of Florence DeFrank. Magdalen was a volunteer at the Humane Society Resale Shop for many years and a member of St. Ann's Choir. Visitation was held on Monday, February 29, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Heartland Memorial Center, Chicago Heights. A funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Liborius Church. Interment followed in Calvary Cemetery.

- Submitted by Sheila Husarik

ANDREW JOSEPH HIRT BRANCH 682 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Monsignor Peter Polando at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Saint Matthias Church, on April 18, 2016 for Andrew J. Hirt, 88, who passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on April 13, 2016.

Born Ondrej Hirt in Pohorela, Czechoslovakia on May 15, 1927, son of Mary (Syc) and Ondrej M. Hirt, Andy immigrated to the United States at the age of three. He was raised for a brief time in New York City before moving to the Youngstown area in 1936. He was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and then mastered electronics at the Capitol Radio Engineering Institute in Washington, DC. Andy was also stationed in France at the end of World War II, where he served as a Sergeant in the Army Military Police.

Various interests led Andy into multiple professions. He began work as a lamplighter as a child in NYC. Later, he worked in the coal mines, the steel mills, the early computer industry (Liberty Manufacturing), the pipe industry (Standard Pipe Protection), the aluminum industry (where he built and maintained many of our local paint lines), and other manufacturing jobs. Finally, Andy settled into his legacy career as owner and CEO of the Florand Company (a manufacturer of steel strapping and seals for the packaging industry), from which he never retired. He was also inventor of the notch/rod clevis-style pipe hanger made by Hanger Supply Co. (which he co-founded) and Michigan Hanger Co. He was very active in the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 682 (St. George Lodge), where he served for many years as President. He also provided the rotisserie and grill food equipment and preparation for the annual St. Matthias Slovak Day for several years. Andy was a frequent contributor to St. Matthias Church and the Diocese of Youngstown. Throughout the years, his favorite hobby was attending auctions.

He leaves behind to cherish his memories and continue his work ethic his beloved wife Florence Eleanor (Tessari), whom he married on August 23, 1952; his children Mary Beth Daugherty, Andrew M. (Carol Jean) Hirt, Thomas J. (Mary Kay) Hirt, Suzanne (Kevin) Carney, and Teresa (Michael) Aaron; foster-son Jesse Brandon Collins; his brother John T. (Helen) Hirt; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and numerous in-laws, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister and brother-in-law Ann and Michael Di-prizio; and his son-in-law David Daugherty.

Services were provided by the Kubina-Yuhasz-Wasko Funeral Home.

- Submitted by Joseph Scavina, Branch 682 Secretary who also notes: the officers of St. George Society, Branch 682, offer their deepest sympathy to his family.



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ties and discussion of upcoming events.

Sylvia Velec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 670 - DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2016, at noon, at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of Branch 670 are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 682 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Branch 682's next meeting will be held on June 26, 2016, beginning at 2:30PM. Location: MRL Lab, 250 N. Bridge St. Struthers, OH 44471. All members are welcome.

Joe Scavina, Secretary

BRANCH 721 - BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 will have their summer meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016, at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of Financial Secretary Julius Remenar. The address is 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. All members are urged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph L. Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 will meet on Sunday, June 12, 2016 at Noon. The meeting will be at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. We will be planning activities for the summer. We look forward to seeing you.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, cordially invites you to a picnic on Sunday, July 10, 2016, at Veteran's Memorial Park, Tremley Point, 2450 South Wood Avenue, Linden, NJ, from 12:00

noon to 5:00 PM. There will be a brief meeting to discuss upcoming events at 12:00 PM. There will be a \$15.00 charge for adult non-members, and a \$5.00 charge for children non-members. Members are free. To RSVP and for more information, please call Joanne Tkach Polt @732-762-3148 by July 1, 2016.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 756 - OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

Branch 756, will hold its next meeting on May 15, 2016 at 12:30 pm. It will be in the Hospitality Room of St. Joseph School on 811 E. Oliver St. in Owosso, Mich. Please enter from the front of the building. Still looking for additional officers. May go for Lunch immediately after. If you plan to attend please RSVP to 517-381-8358.

Still have a couple spots available for The Tour around Slovakia, Vienna, and Prague, June 2- 28, 2016. Call 517-381-8358,

Stephan J. Patoprsty, President

BRANCH 780 - SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The Saints Peter & Paul Society, Branch 780, of the First Catholic Slovak Union will have a meeting on Sunday May 15, 2016. For more information, members may call Catherine Karlsen at 989-280-4916.

Faternally yours,

Catherine Karlsen, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 853 - CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 3, 2016, at the Burger King Restaurant in Bentleyville PA at noon. Members are urged to attend.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

According to a recent article in TIME magazine the cost of a funeral is between \$6,000 and \$15,000 with an average of \$7,775?

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FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union

Contact Branch Officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,

www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



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



At Salamander Days, members of many miners' fraternities from all over Europe gather to share their mining traditions, relive history, and have a good time. A young folk dance group takes the center stage during that event.

September in Slovakia: Lively Harvest Festivals and Bountiful Countryside

September is the perfect time to travel to Slovakia...the summer tourist season is over: warm days turn into cool evenings; the fruit and nut trees lining the roads are bountiful; fields of sunflowers and corn are ready for harvest; and the grapes are picked and slowly fermenting to Burčiak, the new wine... a main-stay of the many fall festivals that spring up in cities and villages across the countryside. For Slovaks, it's a time to gather outdoors, to dance, and celebrate traditional customs as well as new ways. In the spirit of our county fairs, the Fall Festivals bring out extended families, all ages, to renew ancient craft and music traditions as well as enjoy today's pop culture.

On this fall's Slovakia Heritage Tour (September 9-18, 2016), travelers will enjoy Slovakia's beautiful culture and countryside through its lively festivals, charming small cities, picturesque country villages and mountain peaks, music, and food with plenty of time to meet the people and discover your own family roots.

The 2016 Slovakia Heritage Tour will have the chance to visit a few of the most popular festivals.

- Salamander Days, Banská Štiavnica, Sept. 9-11, nestled in a tree-filled valley, this baroque town is a perfect setting for this combined harvest and mining festival. It's an annual gathering of European mining fraternities who commemorate the old mining traditions and the international ties to the prosperous silver mine, the largest in Europe in the 16th century. It's a fun combination of a traditional country festival with men and women gathering in 19th century uniforms to relive a vibrant history.

- Radvanský Jarmok, Banská Bystrica, Sept. 9-11. We'll be in town for the 359th Market Celebration of the harvest which fills the beautiful central square of this central Slovakia city. Unlike the summer craft and music festivals which focus on tradition, the Harvest Festivals brim with life, blending deep folk art and music traditions with modern ways. On stage, a group of village folk dancers perform with the traditional violins, accordions and cymbal followed by a local teenage hip-hop group. In the many craft booths, a traditional woodworker demonstrates his crafts and wares next to a contemporary jewelry booth. It's a blend of the old and the new.

- Pezinok Wine Festival, Sept. 16-18. Dating back to the 13th century, the Pezinok Festival celebrates the long history of viniculture in the small Carpathian region, a short drive from Bratislava. Festival goers soon find themselves elbow-to-elbow with Slovak families at long tables, sampling lokše, guláš, a wide variety of grilled meats, sausages and onions, and other festival specialties. Lokša, a potato pancake made with goose fat, comes in a dizzying array of flavors... hazelnut, apricot or poppy-seeds. And all the hearty food is washed down with local beer and the new wine, Burčiak. Na zdravie!

For more information: Visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144 or connectionswork4u@hotmail.com

Matica Slovenská Produces Fr. Furdek Video

Headquartered in Martin, Slovakia, the Matica Slovenská is Slovakia's scientific and cultural institution focusing on topics around the Slovak nation.

Recently, it produced a video on Fr. Stefan Furdek, who was brought to Cleveland, OH, from Slovakia as a young seminarian by the Cleveland Catholic Diocese to minister to Czech and Slovak-speaking parishioners, and who later - as an ordained priest and Slovak activist - founded the First Catholic Slovak Union.

To view the video in Slovak on Fr. Stefan Furdek, go to <http://tinyurl.com/jm4nfgq>.



SLOVAK J CLUB ANNUAL KIELBASA OPEN RETURNS!!



WHERE:

Mayfair Country Club
2229 Raber Road
Uniontown, OH 44685

WHEN:

Saturday June 18, 2016
Shot Gun Start at 8:00 AM

\$60.00 PER PERSON OR \$240.00 PER FOURSOME

BREAKFAST BUFFET: 6:30 am - 8:00 am

KIELBASA at the Turn

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7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



at: Scoreboards Sports Bar & Grill
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All you can eat:

- BBQ Wings & Garlic Wings
- Pasta with Meat sauce
- Pepperoni Pizza & Cheese Pizza
- Veggie Trays
- Assorted Chips
- Beer and Wine
- Pop and Coffee

We will have raffle baskets and sideboards, too!

Advance sale tickets: Only \$20.00 per person

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*The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland
thanks you greatly for your support!*

* This is a non-performing event! *

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2016 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO HOME OFFICE

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and asked Father Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
George F. Matta II, Treasurer
Father Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain
(by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the February 2016 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar, Sr., to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President stated that he and the Executive Secretary attended a very informative meeting in Columbus, Ohio at the request of the Ohio Insurance Department on the topic of corporate governance. The President purchased a series of 4 diskettes from the American Fraternal Alliance on Corporate Governance on the topic of the role of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will listen to the first disk at the annual meeting in March and subsequent disks at future meetings.

The President gave an update on the sale of the Barberton Club. The title is being researched by a local title company to enable FCSU to obtain a clear title to complete a sale of the building.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

AQS Management, Inc.

The President reviewed the AQS Report with the Executive Committee. Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., will present an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report and a Year End Report to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting on March 18, 2016. Each member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

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

The President proceeded to update the Executive Committee on MPAM's fund closure and stated he will inform the Committee when our full investment has been returned.

Portfolio Review

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

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

Monthly Disbursements

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

Disbursements for the month of February 2016:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 213,213.51
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 44,947.58
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

All Officers Reports will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

TREASURER REPORT:

The Treasurer gave a written report on the investment update.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents. He stated we are still recruiting new agents and at present have over 220 agents.

The Vice President said he will give his full year end report on Friday, March 18, 2016 at the annual Board of Directors meeting. His report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

The Vice President stated a detailed instruction guide has been developed and sent to all Pennsylvania recommenders to assist them in going through the steps to apply for the fraternal license. If any recommender has a problem with the process, he or she is encouraged to contact the home office for help. In addition, home office personnel will attend various district meetings to explain the process.

Annuity Rates:

The President reviewed the new annuity rates which will take effect April 1, 2016. They are as follows:

Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.60% APY
Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.20% APY
Six Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.10% APY
"Park 2 "Annuity	2.10% APY
Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA	1.65% APY

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President recognized Dave Lang, member of Branch 24, who presented a possible investment offer for the society. The President thanked him and stated the Executive Committee would consider and discuss the offer.

The President stated he will ask the Board of Directors for suggestions to consider for a 2018 convention site.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

The President asked Father Thomas Nasta to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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St Mary Byzantine Catholic Church regrets that our event scheduled for May 7, 2016, A Forum on Respect, will be canceled at this time. We will be rescheduling the event in November 2016. We will inform you as more details are available, and we ask for your help in spreading the word and building interest for this inspiring event.

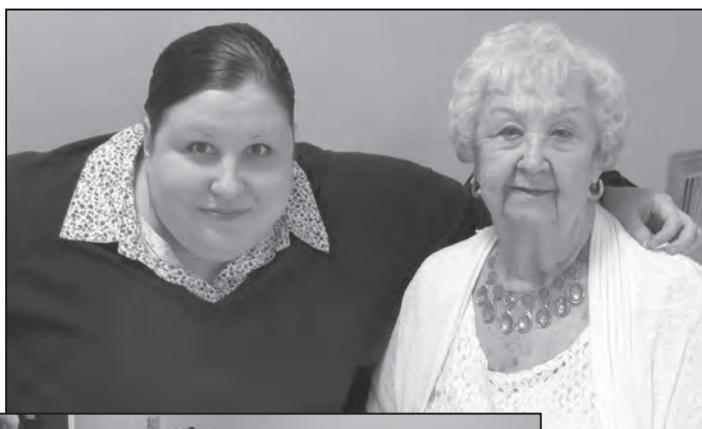
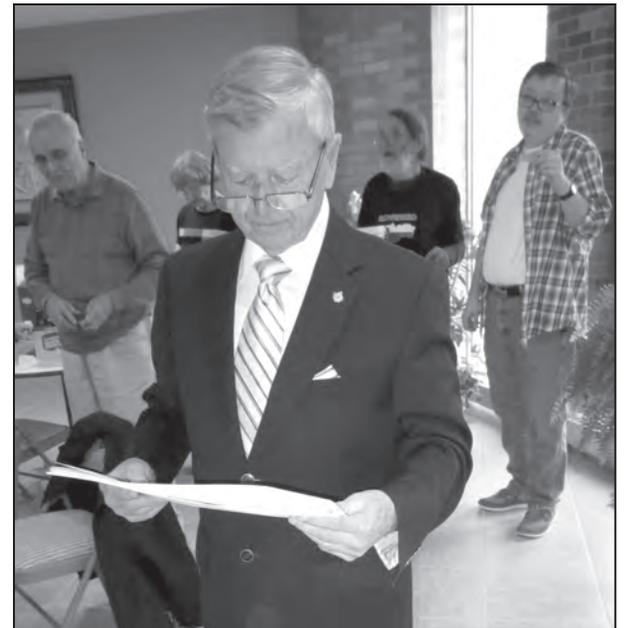
Kim Kocuba - Event Organizer, St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church

Scenes from the Spitkovsky District April Meeting

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District held its Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday April 10th at the Missionary Benedictine Convent in Oak Forest, Illinois. President John Jurcenko chaired the meeting, and District 2 Chaplain Father Joe Kelchak led prayers and gave a homily. The 33 attendees voted for the best entries for District 2's Easter Coloring Contest, coordinated by Barbara Fayta. Co-Director of Fraternal Activities Lynda Tanis distributed tickets for the District 2 Annual

Brunch/Play fraternal event on May 15. Regional Director Rudy Bernath gave the Regional Director's Report for Region 7, and National Vice President Andy Harcar spoke about sales of FCSU life insurance and annuities to grow membership in our society.

Submitted by Robert Tapak Magruder,
Recording Secretary



**Back by popular demand!
Extended to December 31, 2016**

1st Year Premium Waived on Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance *
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
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All applications must be received in the Home Office **postmarked by December 31, 2016.**

**Higher amounts available - please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office Standard underwriting applies.*

Správy zo Slovenska

Tretine ľuďom na Slovensku pomáha finančne rodina zo zahraničia

Tretine ľuďom žijúcim na Slovensku pomáha finančne rodina zo zahraničia. Najčastejšie im posielajú rodinní príslušníci finančné prostriedky z Českej republiky, Slovákom však podávajú pomocnú ruku aj rodinní príslušníci, ktorí pracujú v Spojených štátoch amerických, Škandinávií či Beneluxe. Vyplýva to z aktuálneho prieskumu spoločnosti Money Service SK, ktorá na Slovensku prevádzkuje služby na uskutočňovanie platieb. Podľa spoločnosti v zahraničí pracujú odhadom desaťtisíce Slovákov. Do sveta odišli za kariérou a vyššími zárobkami. Najčastejšie pritom finančná pomoc prichádza zvonka najmä na východ Slovenska, a to do Prešovského a Košického kraja. Nasleduje Žilinský kraj. Najmenej je na svoju rodinu pracujúcu v zahraničí odkázané obyvateľstvo v Bratislavskom a Trnavskom kraji.

Od 1. januára 2017 sa môže predĺžiť vek odchodu do dôchodku

Od 1. januára 2017 sa dôchodkový vek určuje s prihliadnutím na priemernú strednú dĺžku života. Znamená to, že vek odchodu do dôchodku sa bude predlžovať postupne o určený počet dní, ktorý sa stanoví každoročne, v závislosti od dynamiky vývinu priemernej strednej dĺžky života spoločnej pre mužov a ženy zistenej Štatistickým úradom Slovenskej republiky. Počet dní, o ktorý sa dôchodkový vek predĺži, určí opatrením Ministerstva práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny SR. Prvýkrát bude opatrenie uverejnené v Zbierke zákonov Slovenskej republiky najneskôr do 31. októbra 2016. Dôchodkový vek sa bude postupne predlžovať poistencom narodeným po 31. decembri 1954. Uvedené však neplatí všeobecne. Zákon stanovuje výnimky. Predlžovanie dôchodkového veku sa nebude týkať poistencov narodených do 31. decembra 1954, žien narodených do 31. decembra 1961, na ktoré sa vzťahujú ustanovenia o znížení dôchodkového veku v závislosti od počtu vychovaných detí a poistencov, ktorým sa zachováva nárok na znížený dôchodkový vek vzhľadom na počet odpracovaných rokov v zamestnaní zaradenom do I. pracovnej kategórie alebo do I. alebo II. kategórie funkcií.

Sagan sa vráti ku koreňom, opäť osedlá „horák“: „Bude to zábava“

Slovenský cyklista Peter Sagan sa aspoň načas vráti ku svojim koreňom. V príprave na majové podujatie Okolo Kalifornie sa zúčastní na dvoch pretekoch v horskej cyklistike. Svoj tím Tinkoff bude reprezentovať na podujatiach v Rakúsku a Čechách. Juniorský majster sveta v horskej cyklistike z roku 2008 „osedlá“ horský špeciál Specialized S-Works Epic. „Určite to bude zábava. Už sa veľmi teším, že sa vrátim k svojim koreňom. Som zvedavý, ako mi to na horskom bicykli pôjde,“ uviedol pre oficiálny web svojej stajne. S doterajším priebehom aktuálnej sezóny je po triumfoch na klasikách Gent-Wevelgem a Okolo Flámska spokojný. „Po víťazstvách na dvoch veľkých klasikách zo mňa opadol tlak, takže som spokojný. Verím, že vpredu sa budem držať aj na pretekoch v horskej cyklistike. Chceme sa poďakovať tímu a sponzorom, že mi umožnili štartovať na týchto podujatiach,“ dodal úradujúci majster sveta v cestnej cyklistike.

Košičania robia na jedlo dlhšie ako Bratislavčania“

Na bežný nákup v hodnote 20 eur musí odpracovať Slováka takmer polovicu dňa. Veľké rozdiely sú medzi regiónmi. Na západe sa pracuje kratšie a kupuje viac, na východe opačne. Situáciu v Košiciach by mali zlepšiť nové firmy, ktoré tam mieria. Zatiaľ čo obyvatelia Bratislavského kraja strávili v práci kvôli 20 euróvemu nákupu 2 hodiny 54 minút, ľudia z košického regiónu boli v práci o hodinu dlhšie - presnejšie 4 hodiny a 3 minúty.

Slovensko priťahuje maďarskú pracovnú silu

Čoraz viac vecí svedčí o tom, že na pracovnom trhu sa mení situácia: pred rokmi chodili pracovať do Maďarska masy ľudí zo Slovenska, v súčasnosti vyššie mzdy na Slovensku lákajú stále viac Maďarov. Slovenské automobilové a elektrotechnické podniky neboli ani doteraz v ľahkej situácii pri riešení nábory pracovných síl, pretože tri veľké automobilky už dávnejšie zamestnali väčšinu kvalifikovanej

pracovnej sily. Aj napriek relatívne vysokej nezamestnanosti v SR, tak boli podniky nútené hľadať zamestnancov v zahraničí. V súčasnosti pracuje na Slovensku zhruba 23.000 cudzincov, takmer o 50 % viac než v roku 2008. Z nich 6000 sú Rumuni, po 3000 Česi a Poliaci, tisíce Ukrajinci a takmer 3000 Maďari

Zachutí Slovákom americké pivo ako Homerovi?

Matthew Wirtz z Colorada (USA) je milovníkom zlatého moku, ale aj slovenských žien. Teda aspoň jednej, kvôli ktorej sa presťahoval do Bratislavy a už čoskoro začne v Rači variť vlastné pivo. Možno nám zachutí tak, ako postavičke z komiksu Simpsonovci, Homerovi. Kristína pochádza z Bratislavy a do amerického Colorada chodila vždy v lete pracovať ako inštruktorka raftingu. Tam spoznala aj svojho manžela. A ako inak, bolo to v pivovare. Do Bratislavy sa presťahovali v decembri 2014. Podľa Matthewa je ideálny čas na založenie remeselného pivovaru na Slovensku. Pivovar, ktorý je v budove niekdajších potravín v bratislavskej Rači, je už tretí, ktorý buduje. Prvé dva boli v USA. V Bratislave bude časť pivárne tradičná, kde vás za stolom obsluží čašníčka, ale Matthew chce do Bratislavy priniesť aj niečo typické americké. A to bude sedenie za veľkým barovým pultom, kde sa zmesť až 18 stoličiek. Pivovar si Matthew navrhol sám a postavila ho slovenská firma

Premiéra R. Fica prepustil z nemocnice

Hospitalizácia predsedu vlády SR Roberta Fica v Národnom ústave srdcových a cievnych chorôb v Bratislave sa skončila. Ako uviedol premiér, niekoľko dní mal možnosť zblízka sledovať prácu lekárov, zdravotných sestier a ostatných zdravotníckych pracovníkov na špičkovom NÚSCH. „Doslova od srdca im chcem všetkým poďakovať za to, čo urobili pre mňa a čo robia pre ostatných pacientov“, napísal Fico. „Predseda vlády naďalej vykonáva svoju funkciu a komunikuje so svojim najbližším pracovným okolím,“ informovala premiérova hovorkyňa Beatrice Szabóová. Ficovi operoval srdce minulý týždeň (22. apríla) prednosta a primár kardiokirurgie Michal Hulman s tímom.

Slováci uzavreli vlni dohromady 28.775 sobášov

“Potešiteľné je, že to bolo o osm percent viac ako v roku 2014. Vtedy ich bolo 26.737,“ uviedla analytička Jana Glasová. Takmer pätinu z nich uzavreli Prešovčania a zároveň sú tu nevesty aj ženíši najmladší z celej republiky. Na druhej priečke v počte svadieb sa napodiv umiestnil bratislavský a košický región. Priemerná bratislavská nevesta má však necelých 33 a ženich takmer 36 rokov.

Andrej Danko je dobrým vzorom pre ostatných, s nálezom v žalúdku prišiel včas

Predseda parlamentu Andrej Danko prišiel s nálezom v žalúdku včas. Je dobrým vzorom pre ostatných pacientov, povedal nedávno prednosta Kliniky chirurgickej onkológie v Národnom onkologickom ústave (NOÚ) Juraj Pechan. Danko je už doma, z ústavu ho prepustili 2. mája. Lekári ho operovali 25. apríla, pre podozrivý nález mu odstránili časť žalúdka.

Lajčák oznámi, že chce byť šéfom OSN

V najbližších dňoch sa podľa informácií očakáva, že minister zahraničných vecí Miroslav Lajčák oznámi, že sa bude uchádzať o funkciu generálneho tajomníka Organizácie Spojených národov (OSN). Kandidatúru odobrí vláda a oficiálny list s nomináciou zašle do newyorského sídla Spojených národov.

Výber zo slovenskej tlače

Pozdrav arcibiskupa J. Sokola americkým Slovákom

Milí členovia 34 zboru Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Slováci a Slovenky, Bratia a sestry!

V tomto mesiaci si pripomínate, aj so mnou, dve vzácne jubilejné udalosti. Prvou udalosťou je v živote nášho národa vznik samostatnej Slovenskej republiky 14. marca 1939. Je to už v tomto mesiaci 77 rokov. Veľmi vzácna udalosť a jubileum pre každého rodu verného Slováka. Nebyť tohto okamihu, nikdy by sme nemali svoj vlastný suverénny Slovenský štát. Že sme ho dostali po toľkých storočiach, - to je zázrak, - to je dar od Pána Boha, za ktorý musíme ďakovať. Preto je na mieste z hĺbky srdca dnes zvolat: „TOTO JE DEŇ, KTORY UČINIL PÁN, PLESAJME A RADUJME SA VŇOM.“ A poďakovať sa zaň slovami: „Vďaka TI PANE. Slovensko je malá, ale krásna krajina.

Dnes je potrebné poďakovať aj všetkým, ktorí sa o to pričinili, lebo to v tom čase a v tej situácii, nebolo ľahké a jednoduché.

PodĎakujme sa im minútou tichou. Preto sa všetci postavme a pomodlime sa za nich v tichu, každý z nás, OTČE NÁŠ.....

A teraz si opäť sadnime.

Ved' nebyť ich rozvahy aj odvahy, dnes by sme samostatný štát nemali. Je dôležité, aby ste aj v tejto novej vlasti, na Slovensko nezabúdali a na to vždy mysleli, že sme skrz bolesti Panny Márie, tú drahú vlasť, od Pána BOHA dostali. Veľmi dôležité je, aby ste tento vzťah a túto lásku odovzdávali aj svojim deťom a vnúčatám a tak ste dedičstvo otcov zachovali. Ved' nič viac nemôžete dať svojim deťom, ako VIERU, a vernosť BOHU, CIRKVI a NÁRODU

Druhou udalosťou je vzácna storočnica tridsiateho štvrtého ZBORU SLOVENSKEJ LIGY v AMERIKE, ktorý slávi svoje vzácne jubileum.

AJ za založenie tohto ZBORU a jeho sto ročného jubilea, bez prerušenia, treba poďakovať. A rovnako všetkým členom, ale zvlášť tým, ktorí sa o tento vzniknutý ZBOR starali a starajú, udržiavajú ho a na zasadania členov zvolávajú.

Prosme, aby im túto prácu a starosť, Pán Boh stonásobne odmenil tu na zemi, dobrým zdravím, živou vierou, požehnaním a raz vo večnosti spoločenstvom so svätými v nebi.

Dovoľte mi, aby som vám, ktorý som bol v minulosti zodpovedný za Slovákov v zahraničí, k týmto dvom jubileám z úprimného srdca zablahoželel a poprial do budúcich rokov, Božie požehnanie a ochranu Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, Patronky Slovenska a vyprosil milosť, aby ste zostali verní Bohu, Cirkvi a Národu aj v budúcnosti. O to prosí pre vás a tomu vám žehná

emeritný arcibiskup Ján Sokol

„Slovensko: Poklady v srdci Európy“ v americkej televízii

Americký režisér a producent slovenského pôvodu Pat Uskert a slovenská sprievodkyňa Mila Kissová sa prostredníctvom dokumentárneho filmu pod názvom „Slovensko: Poklady v srdci Európy“ snažia priblížiť americkým divákovi Slovensko ako krajinu plnú prírodných, historických a kultúrnych pamiatok. Dokument je vysielaný na viac ako 88 televíznych stanicách naprieč USA, vrátane metropol New York, Boston, San Francisco, Cleveland a Chicago. Cestovný dokument ponúka pohľad na starobylé hrady, historické katedrály, hudobné a tanečné festivaly, tradičné dediny aj národné parky. Je zaujímavý tak pre milovníkov histórie, ako aj pre vášnivých cestovateľov. Tešíme sa, že tomuto filmu je venovaný tak veľký priestor v americkej televízii a má pozitívny divácky ohlas. Veríme, že aj vďaka nemu sa Slovensko prídopozrieť opäť viac a viac ľudí. Linky: <http://www.adventuresinslovakia.com/>

<http://www.aptonline.org/catalog.nsf/vLinkTitle/SLOVAKIA+TREASURES+IN+THE+HEART+OF+EUROPE>

MZV.Sk



FOTO TASR – František Iván

Stavanie mája, sprievod mestom a vystúpenie folklórnych súborov v rámci Dní mesta Košíc 30. apríla 2016.

The month of May was celebrated with a traditional parade by folklore groups during Kosice Days beginning April 30, 2016.



Slovensko bude mať možno ďalšieho svätca

V procese blahorečenia saleziánskeho kňaza Titusa Zemana nastal posun. Všetky dokumenty k tomu, aby Slovensko mohlo mať ďalšieho svätca, skúma už Kongregácia pre kauzy svätých vo Vatikáne. V rámci každého procesu sa k prípadu vždy vyjadruje aj konzultačná komisia teológov a tá zaujala pozitívne stanovisko. Informoval o tom hovorca saleziánov Rastislav Hamráček.

“Don Titus prežil vo väzení 13 rokov, predtým neváhal riskovať život za záchranu duchovných povolání. Jeho príklad bude povzbudením pre celé Slovensko,“ uviedol provinciál saleziánov na Slovensku Jozef Izold. Kňaz Titus Zeman má už teraz titul Boží služobník. Saleziáni don Bosca na Slovensku a Bratislavská arcidiecéza skúmali jeho život v rokoch 2010 až 2012. Následne všetky materiály putovali do Vatikánu, kde ich skúma Kongregácia pre kauzy svätých.

Titus Zeman sa narodil v Bratislave-Vajnorochoch 4. januára 1915. Ako 25-ročný sa stal saleziánskym kňazom a pôsobil ako kaplán, školský radca a profesor chémie. Po tom, ako komunistický režim 13. apríla 1950 zrušil mužské kláštory, Titus Zeman zorganizoval a viedol tri ilegálne prechody do Talianska. Pri nich prevádzal mladých saleziánskych študentov teológie, aby tam mohli doštudovať a stať sa kňazmi. Tretí prechod 9. apríla 1951, teda pred 65 rokmi, sa pre rozvodnenú riekou Morava nevydaril. Titusa Zemana zatkli a následne vypočúvali, mučili a odsúdili na 25 rokov väzenia. Po 12 rokoch väzenia ho v roku 1964 podmienčne prepustili. O päť rokov na následky mučenia a väzenia zomrel v Bratislave. Už pri jeho pohrebe sa hovorilo o ňom ako o mučeníkovi. Po roku 1989 začal byť vnímaný ako mučeník za záchranu duchovných povolání.



Foto: tituszeman.sk
Titus Zeman

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu Spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v **nedeľu 22. mája 2016 o 1:00 hodine odpolednia** v malej sále Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, NYC. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Na programe bude podanie finančnej správy a príprava činnosti na budúce obdobie. Po polročnej členskej schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripraví členovia Spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Výstava "Krásy Slovenska"

na generálnom konzuláte v New Yorku

Pri príležitosti nadchádzajúceho slovenského predsedníctva v Rade Európskej únie od 1. júla 2016 pripravil generálny konzulát v New Yorku výstavu „*Krásy Slovenska*“.

Návštevníci generálneho konzulátu majú možnosť vzhliadnuť túto výstavu v našich priestoroch počas úradných hodín.

MZV SR

3. ročník Prehliadky slovenského folklóru v New Yorku

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko srdečne pozýva priaznivcov slovenského folklóru na v poradí už **3. Ročník Prehliadky slovenského folklóru, ktorý sa uskutoční 15. mája 2016 o 13.00 hodine** v telocvični The United Parish St. Johns Nepomucene, Martyr - St. Frances X. Cabrini, 411 East 66th Street, New York, NY 10065. Slovenská svätá omša sa začne 10:30 hodine doobeda. Vstupné: \$ 5 pre dospelých; zadarmo pre členov S-AKS; zadarmo pre deti a mládež do 16 rokov; Je možnosť zakúpiť si slovenský obed od 11:30 do 12:45 hodine vo farskej hale. Viac informácií na: www.SlovakAmericanCC.org

Príďte podporiť našu mladú generáciu a pozvite aj svojich priateľov a známych!

Slovenská katolícka púť do

Marian Shrine vo West Haverstraw, NY

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City Vás pozýva na tradičnú slovenskú katolícku púť v **nedeľu dňa 14. augusta 2016** do Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, New York 10993. Spoveď bude pred slovenskou svätou omšou, ktorá bude o 11.00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed bude nasledovať o 12.30 hodine odpolednia. Ružencová procesia začne o 2:30 hodine odpolednia. Bližšie informácie Vám podajú: Jozef Bilik (718) 353 - 6541; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922. Kto má záujem na túto púť cestovať autobusom, ktorý bude pristený pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého, má sa prihlásiť u Márii Božekovej (347)612-1934. Autobus bude k dispozícii ak bude dostatočný počet záujemcov.

Slováci do Ria opäť s čičmianskym vzorom

Slovenský olympijský výbor (SOV) predstavil koncom apríla v rámci Fashion Show oficiálnu kolekciu oblečenia slovenskej výpravy na XXXI. olympiáde v Rio de Janeiro. Dominovať bude opäť čičmiansky vzor, ktorý sa stal už tradične rozpoznateľným znakom športovcov spod Tatier na OH.

Novú kolekciu vo farbách slovenskej trikolóry - bielej, modrej a červenej - uviedli hudobno-tanečnou šou v štýle brazílskej samby v kombinácii s modernou slovenskou ľudovou hudbou. Čičmiansky vzor sprevádza športovcov už od letnej olympiády 2012 v Londýne. Objavuje sa v podobe srdca aj v slogane výpravy do Ria: „So srdcom dáme do toho všetko.“

„Symbolizuje to jeden tím. Olympiáda je pre väčšinu športovcov najväčší sviatok v kariére, preto reprezentujú s hrdosťou, ktorú najviac odráža práve symbol srdca,“ povedal prezident SOV František Chmelár. „Je skvelé, že sa dokážeme prezentovať jednotne aj vizuálnou formou cez čičmiansky vzor, ktorý je pekný, tradičný a rozpoznateľný,“ pridala sa športová strelkyňa Danka Barteková, ktorá sa spolu s rýchlostnými kanoistami podieľala na tvorbe dizajnu oblečenia.

Kolekcia pozostáva z odevov na otvárací ceremoniál, medailové pódium i bežné nosenie v olympijskej dedine a okolí. Na slávnostné otvorenie prídu slovenskí športovci v červených nohaviciach a sukniach, modrých mikinách a bielych vestách. Pre medaily si prídu v šušťáčkovej súprave. Nechýbajú ani dizajnové kúsky v podobe červených a modrých ponožiek s čičmianskym vzorom, legíny, či tenisky so slovenským znakom.

TASR



Prezident Kiska podpísal v sídle OSN klimatickú dohodu

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Poukázal tiež na záväzok Slovenska ako členského štátu Európskej únie znížiť do roku 2030 emisie o 40 percent v porovnaní s rokom 1990. „Na ceste za splnením tohto spoločného cieľa dosiahlo Slovensko zatiaľ dobré výsledky, pričom si udržalo silný ekonomický rast, založený na konkurencieschopnom prostredí a exportne orientovanej ekonomike,“ uviedol s tým, že tento záväzok sa podarí splniť iba za spolupráce podnikateľského sektora a občianskej spoločnosti.

Historickú dohodu o boji proti klimatickým zmenám sa podarilo uzavrieť vlani v decembri počas konferencie v Paríži. Dnes ju v sídle OSN v New Yorku podpisujú predstavitelia viac ako 171 krajín sveta.

Ide o novú medzinárodnú dohodu o opatreniach proti zmene klímy. Jej dlhodobým cieľom je udržanie rastu globálnej teploty pod 2 stupne Celzia v porovnaní s predindustriálnou érou s tým, že krajiny sa budú snažiť o obmedzenie na 1,5 stupňa Celzia. Zmenu má priniesť dôrazné znižovanie emisií skleníkových plynov a postupný prechod na nové technológie.

Zmluva nadobudne účinnosť, ak ju ešte ratifikujú jednotlivé štáty, pričom tak musí urobiť najmenej 55 krajín, na ktoré pripadá najmenej 55 percent globálnych emisií skleníkových plynov. Dokument z Paríža nenadobudne účinnosť skôr ako 1. januára 2020. Ak budú splnené všetky ratifikačné procesy, parížska dohoda potom nahradí Kjótsky protokol. Ratifikačný proces a možnosť podpísať dohodu potrvá do 21. apríla 2017.

TASR

MS si pripomenula 180. výročie výstupu štúrovcov na devínsky hrad

Na Devíne si 23. apríla približne štyri tisícky návštevníkov z celého Slovenska pripomenuli už po piaty raz 180. výročie pamätného výstupu štúrovcov na devínsky hrad. „Podujatie organizujeme ako celonárodné stretnutie a pripomenutie si odkazu našich slávnych predkov, je to slávnosť pre všetkých ľudí, nielen pre matičnú verejnosť,“ uviedol podpredseda MS Jozef Šimonovič, ktorý program pripravil aj moderoval.

Prvé podujatie celoslovenského rozmeru, ktoré zorganizovala MS v roku 2012, bolo venované Roku Antona Bernoláka. „Bernolák, Štúr a Konštantín hľadali inšpiráciu pre slovenčinu práve na Devíne, a keďže v apríli zomrel, podľa nás, na Devíne aj Metod, tak Devín je tým správnym miestom na pripomenutie si tradícií a spojitosti slovenskej kultúry od čias Veľkej Moravy až po súčasnosť,“ povedal predseda MS Marián Tkáč.

„Je to nádherná slávnosť a som rada, že naše Slovensko niečo takéto má, že sme sa k tomu vrátili, potešili ma napríklad remeslá, sú takou spomienkou na skutočnosť, ktorá v našich ľudoch bola, zručnosti. Všetko sme, myslím, vedeli a páči sa mi, že sa tie tradície zachovávajú,“ povedala Božena Dobrovičová z Považskej Bystrice.

Pre bývalého poslanca NR SR Igora Hraška z Martina je Devín prítazlivý najmä symbolickým výstupom štúrovcov na hrad. „Samozrejme, prilákala ma aj tradičná kultúra, program bol naozaj bohatý, zišli sa tu folkloristi z celého Slovenska,“ doplnil.

Prepoludňajšiu rímsko-katolícku omšu pod holým nebom celebraval arcibiskup Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský spolu s biskupom ozbrojených síl Mons. Františkom Rábekom a spišským generálnym vikárom Mons. Antonom Tyrolom, spieval Katedrálny zbor bratislavského Dómu sv. Martina.

Popoludní sa na prvom Folklórnom festivale MS, zameranom na tradičný slovenský folklór, predstavili umelecké súbory z celého Slovenska, okrem iných Nebeská muzika z Terchovej, Folklórny súbor (FS) Podpoľanec, Šumiačan, Kelčovian, FS Osturňa, Skaličan a Matičiarik z Nových Zámok. V programe recitoval Dušan Jamrich, Ida Rapaičová a Božidara Turzonovová. Atmosféru v duchu národných tradícií doplnili remeselníci a voľnočasové aktivity.

TASR

National Geographic Traveller zaradil do svojho výberu Spišský hrad

Spišský hrad sa ocitol vo výbere 11 hradov National Geographic Traveller. Ako informovala výkonná riaditeľka Košice regiónu turizmus Lenka Vargová Jurková zoznam zahŕňa hrady, kde sa návštevník bude cítiť ako príslušník kráľovského radu. Podľa nej bol hrad do výberu zaradený právom.

National Geographic Traveller publikoval galériu, do ktorej zaradil aj Spišský hrad na svojom Tweeteri @NatGeoTravel dostupnom na odkaze on.natgeo.com/1quodzuG. „Spišský hrad je najnavštevovanejšou pamiatkou v našej destinácii a v ich ponuke sa ocitol popri hradoch v Edinburghu (Veľká Británia), Neuschwanstein (Nemecko), Burgundsko (Francúzsko), Budrum (Turecko) či Pražský hrad v Česku,“ uviedla Jurková.

Hrad svojou rozľahlosťou patrí do prvej desiatky najväčších hradov na svete. V roku 1993 bol zapísaný do zoznamu UNESCO. Jurková doplnila, že 8. mája sa na Spišskom hrade otvára letná turistická sezóna. „Plánovanie dovolenky v košickom regióne vám uľahčí aj naša nová destinačná mobilná aplikácia Košice Región Turizmus,“ dodala.

TASR



Ku Dňu Matiek

„Deň Matiek“ je jeden z najkrajších civilných sviatkov v roku. My, deti sme viazané vďaka našmu Stvoriteľovi, našmu Bohu, za naše slovenské mamičky. Im patrí dnes všetká úcta, všetká vďaka. Ste prvé po Bohu, že ste nás nosili pod srdcom a priniesli na svet. Až teraz viem, že pre Vás boli sme, ten najkrajší, živý kvet. Ďakujeme Vám, že ste nás naučili sa prežehnať a pomodliť Anjeličku, Strážničku, buď s nami celú noc a opatruj našu detskú dušičku. Ach, ako málo sme sa Vám odmenili, keď ste nás pobožkali a dali hubičku. Áno, začali sme život, vaším materinským mliekom, to bola tá najkrajšia a najlepšia strava a najlepším liekom. Aká to musela byť pre Vás krása, keď naše prvé slová boli „Mama“ Veríme, že tie naše dobré, zlaté slovenské mamičky, sú našim najkrajším darom na svete, darom Božej Matičky. Modlíme sa, aby sme im to osobne povedali, tam hore v nebi, kde bude pre nás večným „Dňom Matiek“ a dňom velyby. Ďakujeme Vám za všetko „Naše drahé, zlaté, slovenské mamičky. Ako darček, na Vás spomíname a venujeme naše denné modlitbičky.“

Jozef Smák

Perla slovenského národa

K storočnici preláta Štefana Náhalku

Dejiny Cirkvi na Slovensku sú poznačené osobnosťami, ktoré v dávnej i nedávnej minulosti významne a nezmazateľne poznačili kresťanskú identitu nášho národného spoločenstva. V druhej polovici minulého storočia, keď sa aj Slovenska zmocnil príznak červenej posadlosti, turiferári komunistického totalitizmu zámerne prekrúcali a falšovali minulosť nášho národa a z našich dejín vedome vymazávali osobnosti a udalosti, ktoré pomáhali nášmu národu uvedomiť si svoje ľudské i občianske práva, etnickú, jazykovú, náboženskú, kultúrnu a politickú individualitu. A niektorí dodnes v tomto prekrúcaní pokračujú a úmyselne znevažujú i zatracujú naše « dedičstvo otcov », zneužívajúc dar nadobudnutej slobody! Bez ostychu a zábran spochybňujú našu kolektívnu súseňnosť z ktorej vieme, že náš národ prešiel úskaliaми dejín len preto, lebo veril v Boha, ktorý nášmu národu tak žehnal, že z jeho lona vyšli desiatky šľachetných kňazov, desiatky a desiatky oddaných služobníkov pravdy, práva a spravodlivosti. Ak vymažeme z našich kultúrnych, hospodárskych i politických dejín katolíckych kňazov, evanjelických pastоров, kalvínskych kazateľov, či židovských rabinov, zostane nám iba hĺstka prachu.

Jednou z osobností proti ktorej bojoval nielen komunistický moloch, bol spišský kňaz Štefan Náhalka (*16. 3. 1916 – †6. 3. 1975), ktorý svojím životom a dielom sa stal jednou z kľúčových osobností slovenského katolicizmu v druhej polovici 20. storočia.

Jeho meno patrilo medzi mená tých Slovákov v zahraničí, ktorí „zradili a opustili vlasť“. Slovenský ústav sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme, ktorý spoluzakladal a vybudoval a ktorý komunistický režim považoval za dielo, proti ktorému bolo treba „bojovať ako s nepriateľským“.

Kto je tento človek, ktorý zo svojich požeňnaných 59 rokov 23 prežil v dobrovoľnom vyhnanstve? A na ktorého zabúdame?...

Rodák z Liptovskej Tepličky základnú školu vychodil v rodisku, gymnázium skončil v Levoči. Kňazskú formáciu dostal v Pápežskom kolégiu sv. Jána Nepomuckého v Ríme a teologické štúdiá absolvoval na Pápežskej Lateránskej univerzite.

Sviatosť kňazstva prijal 19. decembra 1942 v Ríme.

V roku 1943 sa vrátil na Slovensko. Tri roky bol kaplánom v Ružomberku, po boku známeho slovenského národovca Jána Ferenčika a rok spravoval ružomerskú farnosť. Potom bol dva roky (1946 - 1948) tajomníkom spišského biskupa Jána Vojtaššáka. V roku 1947 na Rímsko-katolíckej cyrilometodskej bohosloveckej fakulte Slovenskej univerzity Istropolitany v Bratislave obhájil dizertáciu *Láska v duchovnom živote podľa učenia sv. Tomáša Akvinského* a dosiahol doktorát teológie. Od roku 1948 do roku 1950 vyučoval filozofiu v kňazskom seminári v Spišskej Kapituli, teda do tých čias, dokiaľ túto školu komunistický režim násilne nezrušil.

Ako jeden z popredných slovenských katolíckych intelektuálov bol terčom komunistického režimu, ktorý po ňom sledil, takže sa musel takmer 3 roky skrývať, až kým sa mu nepodarilo v máji roku 1953 utiecť do slobodnej cudziny. Natrvalo zakotvil v Ríme, kde sa hneď stal spolupracovníkom Slovenského katolíckeho ústredia. V roku 1956 sa aktívne podieľal na založení Slovenského vydavateľstva sv. Cyrila a Metoda, ktoré vzniklo zo skromnej základiny známeho americko-slovenského kňaza Jána J. Lacha, farára vo Whitingu (Indiana), a stal sa prvým redaktorom jeho vydání. V roku 1957 sa stal vedúcim Slovenského katolíckeho ústredia. V tom istom roku 1957 bol vymenovaný za člena Najvyššej rady pre emigráciu pri Konzistoriálnej kongregácii Apoštolskej stolice s poslaním starať sa o duchovnú službu slovenských emigrantov, čím na seba prevzal povinnosť zorganizovať duchovnú správu medzi Slovákmí v zahraničí. V tejto funkcii sa pričínal o založenie slovenských katolíckych misií v Anglicku (Londýn) a v Brazílii (Rio de Janeiro a Sao Paulo). Po reorganizácii duchovnej služby emigrantom podľa rozhodnutí 2. vatikánskeho koncilu Pápežská komisia pre emigráciu a turizmus ho vymenovala za delegáta pre duchovnú službu slovenských emigrantov. Založil slovenské katolícke misie v Sydney (Austrália), v Morges, v Bazileji a Zürichu (Švajčiarsko), v Stockholme (Švédsko) a v Manneime (Nemecko). Zúčastňoval sa na medzinárodných pastoračných kongresoch o emigrantoch a referoval na nich o slovenskej emigrácii (r. 1961, 1973).

V roku 1958 navrhol založiť a pomohol uskutočniť knižnú edíciu *Series Cyrillomethodiana* na vydávanie slovakistických prác vo svetových jazykoch a vedeckú ročenku *Slovak Studies*.

Koncom roku 1959 bol signatárom iniciatívy na vybudovanie Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme – spolu s Michalom Lackom SJ, Felixom J. Litvom SJ, Eudovítom Macákom SDB a Jozefom Tomkom. Stal sa predsedom prípravného výboru pre vybudovanie tejto ustanovizne a bez jeho osobného pričinenia by sa toto dielo nikdy neuskutočnilo. V roku 1961 sa stal jej prvým rektorom, ktorým bol až do 28. februára 1973, kedy sa funkcie vzdal. Od roku 1954 až do roku 1966 bol aj redaktorom časopisu slovenských katolíkov *Hlasy z Ríma* a dal podnet k publikovaniu periodika *Slovenský kňaz*, ktorý sa neskôr premenil na mesačník *Diakonia*.

Od 1. októbra 1972 až do svojej predčasnej smrti bol predsedom Slovenského ústavu v Ríme, ustanovizne slovenských kultúrnych, najmä vedeckých pracovníkov, a od januára 1974 znova prebral redigovanie mesačníka *Hlasy z Ríma*, ktoré redigoval už v rokoch 1954-1966.

Zomrel nečakane v Ríme. Pochovali ho na rímskom cintoríne Campo Verano odkiaľ jeho telesné pozostatky neskôr preniesli do hrobky Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na nový rímsky cintorín Prima Porta.

Za svoj príkladný kňazský život i za prácu pre Cirkev mu Pavol VI udelil 14. augusta 1963 titul monsignora 30. decembra 1967 hodnosť pápežského preláta.

Osobnosť Štefana Náhalku je zložitá a bohatá. Bol to nielen človek všestrannej činnosti, ale aj muž modlitby. Bol výborným organizátorom, ale aj plodným spisovateľom. Jeho spisovateľská činnosť mala skôr ráz divulgačný, než prísne vedecký. Venoval sa aj historickému výskumu, avšak pre zanepřádznenosť v iných oblastiach nestihol v tejto veci vykonať toľko, ako si to on želal a by sa dalo predpokladať pri jeho nadaní.

Na poli organizačnom treba spomenúť dve úspešné a d'alekosiahajúce podujatia: starostlivú organizáciu dušpastierskej činnosti slovenských emigrantov a založenie Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme.

Apoštolská stolica poverila Štefana Náhalku starať sa o slovenskú diasporu. Precestoval skoro všetky európske krajiny a osobne ponavštevoval miesta, kde žili slovenskí emigranti, pretože mu záležalo mu na tom, aby zistil, aká je ich situácia, a podľa možnosti usiloval sa pre nich založiť a udržať slovenskú katolícku misiu. Bolo treba rokovať s biskupskými konferenciami jednotlivých krajín, aby slovenskí misionári mohli vykonávať dušpastiersku činnosť medzi Slovákmí. Za daných okolností zriaďovanie slovenských katolíckych misií v jednotlivých európskych krajinách bolo to najlepšie, čo sa dalo dosiahnuť, pretože misie sa stali strediskami Slovákov v jednotlivých krajinách a okolo nich sa zorganizoval nielen náboženský, ale aj národný život. Ako delegát pre slovenských emigrantov sa Štefan Náhalka zúčastňoval na pracovných stretnutiach *Pápežskej komisie pre emigráciu a turizmus*. Tam podával referáty o stave slovenskej emigrácie, viditeľňoval Slovensko a jeho prirodzené aspirácie a tak si získal mnoho známostí medzi delegátmi iných národností a krajín. Zvlášť sa staral o slovenských utečencov počas ich prechodného pobytu v Taliansku.

Druhé veľké dielo, späť s menom Štefana Náhalku, je osnovanie a vybudovanie Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme. Je všeobecne známe, Ústav bol založený za veľmi ťažkých pomerov na 1100. výročie príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda k našim staroslovenským predkom. Situácia Cirkvi na Slovensku po roku 1948 bola veľmi kritická a bolestná a bolo potrebné hľadať spôsob ako jej pomáhať a ju chrániť. Išlo hlavne o tlačový apoštolát a o výchovu mladých kňazov. Spoločnými silami všetkých, ale najmä za pomoci amerických Slovákov, sa Štefanovi Náhalkovi podarilo uskutočniť také dielo, ktoré sa stalo pomníkom jeho oddanosti Bohu a národu. Aj za normálnych pomerov by nebolo bývalo jednoduché uskutočniť také dielo v cudzine. Za prvých 25 rokov jeho činnosti prešlo Slovenským gymnázium Antona Bernoláka pri Slovenskom ústave sv. Cyrila a Metoda 140 študentov, z nich si 37 zvolilo duchovnú dráhu, 22 po nej kráčajú a z vydavateľstva vyšlo približne 3 000 000 výtlačkov kníh, drobnotlačí a periodík (*Diakonia/Slovenský kňaz*, *Magnifikat*, *Hlasy z Ríma*, *Slovak Studies*).



Foto: Archív Jednota

Štefan Náhalka

Slovenská verejnosť si iba postupne uvedomuje, aké veľké dielo Štefan Náhalka vykonal, keď sa aj Slováci môžu pridružiť k iným národom, ktoré majú v stredisku kresťanstva svoju vlastnú reprezentatívnu ustanovizneň. A preto aj na tomto mieste treba Štefanovi Náhalkovi vyjadriť uznanie a vďačnosť celého národa.

V harmonickom súlade s náboženskými a cirkevnými záujmami Štefana Náhalku boli slovenské národné a kultúrne otázky. Bol iniciátorom vzniku a zakladateľom *Slovenského ústavu v Ríme*, ustanovizne slovenských kultúrnych, najmä vedeckých pracovníkov žijúcich v zahraničí. Bol jedným zo zakladajúcich členov *Svetového kongresu Slovákov*. Zúčastnil sa na prvom i druhom valnom zhromaždení (v New Yorku i v Toronte), a ako predseda náboženského odboru (do r. 1973) na viacerých zasadaniach predsedníctva (naposledy v máji 1974 v Ríme).

Štefan Náhalka zredigoval prvé dva zväzky *Slovak Studies*, do ktorých aj prispel hodnotnými prácami. Po slovensky prispieval tiež do časopisu *Most* a do niektorých inonárodných časopisov (*L'Osservatore Romano*, *Der neue Ackermann* ai.).

Treba zdôrazniť veľkú úctu Štefana Náhalku k slovanským vierozvestom sv. Cyrilovi a Metodovi a vôbec jeho veľký záujem o cyrilometodskú problematiku. Prvý navrhol, aby Slovenský ústav v Ríme bol postavený na pamiatku 1100. výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda k starým Slovákom a aby im bol zasvätený. V rokoch 1963, 1967 a 1969 spolu s inými rímskymi Slovákmí zorganizoval slovenské cyrilometodské slávnosti, pričom pri všetkých troch slávnostiach Slovákov prijal na zvlášťnej audiencii pápež Pavol VI. a mal k nim významné prejavy. V knižnici Ústavu zhromažďoval pamiatky staroslovenského písomníctva a produkciu svetovej literatúry o cyrilometodskej otázke. V roku 1973 začal redigovať edíciu *Dedičstvo Otcov*, v ktorej mienil uverejňovať staroslovenské texty a štúdie zo slovenských cirkevných dejín. Niekoľko rokov pracoval na životopise prvého slovenského svätca, cyrilometodskeho učeníka a prvého slovenského biskupa sv. Gorazda, ktorý zostal v rukopise. Bol zberateľom cyrilometodskej ikonografie.

Na Slovensku prispieval do časopisov *Verbum* a *Smer*. Prvý časopis sa venoval kultúrnym prúdom, druhý duchovným otázkam. Vydavateľstvo *Verbum* v Košiciach vydalo knižne jeho práce: *Láska v duchovnom živote* (1947) a *Sviatosť znovuzrodenia* (1948, o krste). Jeho obširna práca o francúzskom filozofovi Gabrielovi Marcelovi a o kresťanskom existencializme zaviazla v rukopise v jednom katolíckom vydavateľstve, ktorého činnosť komunistický režim práve zlikvidoval. V roku 1957 vydal po taliansky knihu *La Slovachia oggi: un richiamo alla libertà* (Slovensko dneška: volanie po slobode), v ktorej cudzinu informoval o Slovensku. V roku 1958 vydal pod krycím menom Michal Bystrík knihu *Naša cesta*, katechizmus v podobe otázok a odpovedí. Mimoriadnu dokumentárnu hodnotu má jeho zborník *Exsul familia Slovacorum* z roku 1962 v ktorom zhromažďil množstvo informácií o živote Slovákov v rôznych častiach sveta. Vrcholným dielom jeho redaktorského úsilia bolo vydanie *Rímskeho misálu latinsko-slovenského* v roku 1966, čím sa umožnilo uvádzať do života slovenských katolíkov na Slovensku i v zahraničí liturgickú obnovu, ktorú stanovil 2. vatikánsky koncil. K tomuto dielu treba pridať aj redakciu nového prekladu *Nového zákona*, ktorý podľa grécko-semitskej pôvodiny spracoval Štefan Porúbčan SJ (1968). V roku 1973 vydal pramennú publikáciu *Pamätnica Slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda. Vznik a prvé desaťročie* a zostavil zborník *Rozsievateľ perál*, ktorým si slovenská literárna obec šestdesiatiny básnika Gorazda Zvonického a 25. výročie kňazstva.

Iným poľom záujmu Štefana Náhalku bola kresťanská filozofia. K filozofickým otázkam sa v rámci možností vracal aj v emigrácii a uverejnil niekoľko článkov, v ktorých sa prejavoval ako zástanca tzv. kresťanského realizmu, ktorý je uprostred medzi idealizmom a materializmom. Zvlášť dôkladne sa zaoberal kritikou a zamietaním dialektického materializmu.

Od filozofie prešiel na rôzne polia teológie. Zaoberal sa najmä praktickou teológiou, t. j. teológiou sviatostí a duchovnou teológiou. O tom svedčia jeho príspevky v časopisoch *Smer*, *Most* a *Hlasy z Ríma*.

Štefan Náhalka bol príkladným a veľmi zbožným kňazom. Možno bez prepínania povedať, že za normálnych pomerov by bol býval akiste jedným z najkvalifikovanejších kandidátov na stolec sídelného biskupa spišského, biskupa-mučeníka Jána Vojtaššáka. Aj keď k tomu pre vonkajšie okolnosti nedošlo, Štefan Náhalka zaujíma jedno z najpoprednejších miest v dejinách slovenského katolicizmu.

Jozef M. Rydlo, člen Slovenského ústavu

Prezident zablahoželal držiteľke Goldmanovej ceny Zuzane Čaputovej

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Ako dodal, príbeh skládky v Pezinku je aj silným environmentálnym príbehom. „Dokázal posunúť celú Európsku úniu, dokázal spraviť posun nielen v hlavách ľudí, ale aj v hlavách úradníkov a v hlavách celej našej spoločnosti.“

Na ľudí, ako je Zuzana Čaputová, môžeme byť podľa prezidenta pyšní. Podľa Andreja Kisku treba ľudí vyzývať, aby išli za príkladom, aký ukázala. Aby sa nebáli, aby vedeli, že je to beh na dlhú trať. „Ale ak si človek dobre postaví otázku prečo, ak myslíme na naše deti, našu budúcnosť, tak hoci je to beh na veľa rokov, ten beh stojí za to bežať. A pokiaľ človek robí veci z presvedčenia, zo srdca, tak dokážu priniesť aj výsledky.“

Prezident.sk



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota



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

Ročník 125

STREDA, 11. MÁJA 2016

Číslo 5938

Prezident Kiska podpísal v sídle OSN klimatickú dohodu

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska uskutočnil v dňoch 20. až 22. apríla 2016 pracovnú cestu do New Yorku. Na základe pozvania generálneho tajomníka OSN Pan Ki-muna sa zúčastnil na slávnostnom podpise Parížskej klimatickej dohody a v mene Slovenskej republiky ju podpísal.

Jej implementácia podľa prezidenta nebude jednoduchá, pretože podmienky a kapacity jednotlivých krajín sa líšia. „Najzraniteľnejšie štáty by mali dostať pomoc,“ vyhlásil.

V tejto súvislosti pripomenul blížiaci sa slovenské predsedníctvo v EÚ, ktorého úlohou bude aj úsilie o čo najrýchlejšiu implementáciu dohody. „Zníženie emisií CO2 nie je vecou voľby. Vieme, že naša produkcia i spotreba musí byť viac udržateľná, viac energeticky efektívna. Pozrime sa bližšie na enormné možnosti technológií a inovácií,“ poznamenal Kiska.



AP Photo/Mark Lennihan

Na snímke slovenský prezident Andrej Kiska reční počas Tematickej debaty k implementácii cieľov trvalo udržateľného rozvoja v sídle OSN v New Yorku 21. apríla 2016.

Andrej Kiska, President of Slovakia, addresses the United Nations High-level Thematic Debate on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, Thursday April 21, 2016 at U.N. headquarters.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

Nová značka Slovenska pre svet

Good idea, Slovakia! Dobrý nápad, Slovensko. Pod týmto sloganom sa bude Slovenská republika predstavovať v zahraničí. Logo i slogan novej „značky Slovensko“ 28. apríla predstavili na pôde Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí (MZVaEZ) SR.

Minister zahraničia Miroslav Lajčák (nom. Smer-SD) pripomenul, že nový logotyp je zavŕšením niekoľkoročného procesu hľadania novej identifikačnej značky. „Výsledok tohto procesu založeného na odbornosti, komunikácii s expertmi i širokou verejnosťou sa snažil nájsť to, čo si ľudia predstavujú pod pojmom značka Slovenska, čo by mala podľa nich obsahovať,“ informoval minister. „Len táka značka krajiny, s ktorou sa jej obyvatelia identifikujú, má šancu na úspech,“ dodal. Nový vizuál i slogan má podľa neho veľký potenciál pozitívne prezentovať SR v zahraničí. „Samotný slogan je v anglickej verzii jednoduchý, zvukomalebný, úderný a zároveň vľúdny,“ uviedol.

Zozbierané dáta v prieskume, realizovanom agentúrou FOCUS na vzorke 1000 respondentov v období od 27. januára do 3. februára 2015, vygenerovali štyri kľúčové slová, ktoré sa ukázali ako východisko pre tvorbu značky - rôznorodosť, vynachádzavosť, autenticita a vitalita. S týmito kľúčovými slovami začal pracovať víťaz verejného obstarávania na návrh obsahovej a vizuálnej značky SR - spoločnosť Creative Department. „Hľadali sme niečo výnimočné, niečo identické, pôvodné, čo by Slovákom ukázalo, v akej dobrej krajine žijeme,“ uviedla riaditeľka spoločnosti Simona Bubánová. Dôraz kládli tvorcovia na to, aby predstavili modernú krajinu, ktorá môže ťažiť nielen z tradícií, ale aj nápadov, vynálezov a produktov, ktoré sa dokážu v súčasnosti presadiť vo svete. „Chceli sme poukázať na to, na čo môžu byť dnes Slováci hrdí,“ uviedla Bubánová.

Víťazný návrh stál 80.000 eur. Súčasťou verejného obstarávania bolo aj zjednotenie vizuálnej identity štátnej správy. Tá bude mať jednotný vizuál, ktorý bude odlišný podľa úrovni štátnej správy. „Podľa umiestnenia trikolóry a vyobrazenia štátneho znaku bude možné rozlíšiť, či ide o vrcholný, alebo podriadený orgán štátnej správy, prípadne o samosprávu,“ vysvetlil Lajčák. Pre ministerstvá a ústredné orgány je používanie nového logotypu povinné, pre podriadené orgány a samosprávu odporúčané. Ako minister spresnil, od 1. októbra je potrebné nový vizuál implementovať, plné zavedenie je stanovené od začiatku roka 2017.

TASR

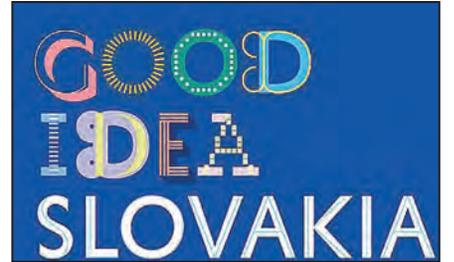


FOTO: MZV SR

The new proposed logo for Slovak Republic abroad was announced on April 28, 2016 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Slávime významný kresťanský sviatok

Zoslanie Ducha Svätého

Katolícka cirkev na Slovensku i vo svete, ale aj evanjelici a ďalší kresťania slávia 15. mája sviatok Zoslania Ducha Svätého. Svätodušné sviatky známe aj pod názvom Turíce, sú po Vianociach a Veľkej noci tretie najvýznamnejšie sviatky cirkevného roka. Veriaci si 50 dní po Veľkej noci, pripomínajú udalosť, keď Ježišovi učeníci zhromaždení v Jeruzaleme boli naplnení Duchom Svätým a začali hovoriť rôznymi jazykmi. „Keď prišiel deň Turíc, boli všetci vedno na tom istom mieste. Tu sa náhle strhol hukot z neba, ako keď sa ženie prudký vietor a naplnil celý dom, v ktorom boli. I zjavili sa im akoby ohnivé jazyky, ktoré sa rozdelili a na každom z nich spočinul jeden. Všetkých naplnil Duch Svätý a začali hovoriť inými jazykmi, ako im Duch dával hovoriť,“ uvádza sa v knihe Skutky apoštolov.

V deň Turíc bol Duch Svätý zjavený ako tretia božská osoba Svätej Trojice a zároveň bola v tento deň cirkev zjavená svetu. Pod vplyvom Ducha Svätého vtedy porozumelo kázni apoštola Petra, uverilo v Ježiša Krista a dalo sa pokrstiť viac ako 3000 ľudí. Tento sviatok teda pripomína aj založenie kresťanskej cirkvi. Sväté písmo chápe Ducha Svätého ako tvorivú silu života, ktorá neustále oživuje osobu, slovo a dielo Ježiša Krista. Tak ako Božie narodenie a Zmŕtvychvstanie Pána Ježiša aj sviatok Zoslania Ducha Svätého dostal druhý deň sviatku - Svätodušný pondelok. Medzi symboly Ducha Svätého patrí najmä voda, ktorá naznačuje jeho pôsobenie pri krste, oheň symbolizujúci jeho pretrvávajúcu silu a tiež oblak, svetlo a holubica. V Katolíckej cirkvi sa pri príležitosti Svätodušných sviatkov už tradične konajú na viacerých miestach púte.

TASR



Prezident zablahoželal držiteľke Goldmanovej ceny Zuzane Čaputovej

Prezident Andrej Kiska v pondelok 2. mája prijal Zuzanu Čaputovú z VIA IURIS, ktorá nedávno získala medzinárodnú Goldmanovu cenu za dlhodobé komunitné a právne líderstvo v kauze Pezinská skládka. V odborných kruhoch je cena považovaná za akúsi environmentálnu Nobelovu cenu.

„Za pani Čaputovú sa skrýva úžasný príbeh,“ zdôraznil prezident po stretnutí. „Príbeh, ktorý ukazuje, že občianska spoločnosť, pokiaľ ľudia vidia, že niečo nefunguje a postavia sa za to a zabojujú, dokážu veci zmeniť,“ konštatoval. Prezident Kiska v tom vidí aj jej silný osobný príbeh, v ktorom ako matka dvoch detí prežila veľa emócií a strachu.



Na snímke držiteľka Goldmanovej ceny Zuzana Čaputová s prezidentom SR Andrejom Kiskom.

President Andrej Kiska congratulates Zuzana Caputova on receiving the international Goldman Award for her many years of community and legal leadership. Zuzana received the award in the White House in Washington, D.C. on April 20, 2016.

Pokračovanie na str. 23