

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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Daughter of Byzantine Catholic immigrants from Bardejov in eastern Slovakia

Bayonne, N.J. Native, Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich Beatified During Historic Liturgy at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. on October 4



A group of Slovak area pilgrims who attended the historic Beatification at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. on October 4 are shown above. With them are some of the Slovak clergy who attended, including top row, l-r, Msgr. Peter Smutelovic, Rev. Stefan Chanas, Rev. Jozef Krajnak, Rev. Andrej Kvasnak and Rev. Martin Vavrak.

The long-awaited beatification of the Venerable Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth of Convent Station, N.J., took place on Saturday, October 4 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in New-

ark, N.J. Presiding at the Mass of Beatification was His Eminence Angelo Cardinal Amato, S.D.B., Prefect of the Congregation of the Causes of Saints and representative of the Holy Father Pope Francis. Sister Miriam Teresa was the first American to be beatified in the United States following the revised rules for the process of canonization. In the past, all beatifications took place in Rome. The Newark beatification was a tribute to the American Church in general and the Church of New Jersey in particular.

The damp, rainy weather did not deter the nearly 3,000 of the faithful from all parts of the country and walks of life who enthusiastically filled the Cathedral Basilica to overflowing for the spirit-filled liturgy. Cardinal Amato celebrated the Mass. Joining him were the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, Newark Archbishop John J. Myers, Paterson Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, in whose diocese Sister Miriam Teresa served and in which her cause was first introduced in 1946; Paterson's Bishop-emeritus Frank J. Rodimer, who greatly advanced the cause; and Bishop Kurt Burnette, head of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of

Passaic, in which Sister Miriam Teresa was baptized and chrismated. An additional six bishops, headed by Newark's Coadjutor Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda, along with more than 100 priests of both the Roman and Byzantine Rites concelebrated. These Church leaders all claim the daughter of Greek Catholic immigrants from Bardejov in eastern Slovakia.

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

needed for beatification and a second such miracle for canonization.

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

(Continued on page 9)



The painting of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth, which was unveiled during the beatification ceremony at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J.



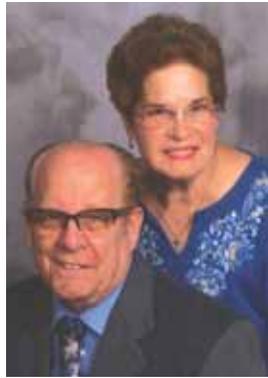
The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart was filled to overflowing with more than 3,000 present at the Beatification of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, S.C. on October 4th.

Jim and Marilu Buck Celebrate Their 50th Wedding Anniversary

James Harold and Marilu Buck of Canfield, Ohio will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on October 24. The lovely couple will be honored at a reception and dinner hosted by their children and their spouses on Saturday, October 25th.

James Harold Buck and the former Marilu Smith were married on October 24, 1964 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church in Youngstown, Ohio. The marriage has been blessed with four children: Patricia Ann and her husband, Christopher Chiaro of Chesapeake, Virginia; Gregory James and his wife, Heidi Buck of Poland, Ohio; Richard Paul and his spouse, Sandra Buck of Delaware, Ohio; and Christopher Michael and his spouse, Meghan Buck of Poland, Ohio.

Jim and Marilu are also the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren: Lyndzie Marie and Stephanie Ann Chiaro of Chesapeake, Virginia; Andrew Gregory and Ashley Nicole Buck of Poland, Ohio; Marina Elima, Shelby Eileen and Carly



Jim & Marilu Buck

Elizabeth Buck of Delaware, Ohio and Caden Patrick and Delaney Liliana Buck of Poland, Ohio.

In past years, Marilu and Jim have hosted nine foreign exchange students from Brazil, Germany, Central America and Belarus.

Marilu is a homemaker who enjoys going to water aerobics at the Ursuline Motherhouse in Canfield and toiling with her flowers in her

beautiful garden. Jim was in the United States Army and served in the National Guard. In 1999, Jim retired from General Motors in Lordstown, Ohio after 42 years of faithful service. He enjoys bowling and participates in leagues at Amron Bowling Lanes in Canfield, Boardman Lanes in Boardman and Holiday Bowl in Struthers. For the past 62 years, Jim has been a gate-man working at the Canfield Fair.

Jim and Marilu enjoy membership in Assembly 108 and Wreath 54, respectively in Youngstown. They have been active in various Sokol activities over the years. All of their children and grandchildren likewise enjoy membership in the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Their's is a 100% Sokol family.

Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Jim and Marilu on this milestone in their marriage. They have been a model fraternal couple who have instilled a love of fraternalism and service to their children and grandchildren as well. May their love for each other continue to grow as the years go by. God bless you and happy and healthy future. Zdar Boh!

Introducing our newest members



Isabella Maria Pogorelec, born April 6, 2014, is the daughter of Steven and Emily Pogorelec, Jr. of Wayne, N.J. She was enrolled as a member of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J. She is the granddaughter of our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.



Jackson David Tarantini, born March 11, 2014, is the son of David Michael and Jill Sorka Tarantini of Harvey's Lake, Pa. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Nathan Guido DiMartino, born May 20, 2014, is the son of Guy and Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, Denise Lendacky DiMartino of Havertown, Pa. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 5TH

In keeping with our bi-weekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, November 5th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, October 30th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!

Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor

Installation of Officers and Directors of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania held

One of the most active groups promoting Slovak culture and heritage is that of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Officers and Board Members were recently installed at ceremonies at a dinner following its annual meeting held at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

The Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania was founded during the observance of the American Bicentennial in 1976 by Monsignor Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L., then pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Parish in Wilkes-Barre and area Slovak cultural activists. The society hosts seasonal Slovak cultural events, most re-

cently the Bratislava Boys Choir who performed two concerts in Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, Pa. in late September. The concert tour was in tribute to this year's 150th anniversary of the birth of Rev. Joseph Murgas, radio's "Forgotten Genius" and well-known Slovak cultural and spiritual leader. The group is currently following through on plans to honor the memory of Father Murgas in a special room in the King's College facilities on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre. The annual St. Nicholas Hymn Sing, featuring treasured Slovak songs and program celebrating the Christmas season will be hosted by the group

on Sunday, December 2 at 2 p.m. in St. Matthew's Slovak Lutheran Church, located on North Main Street in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The interesting and enjoyable program is open to the public.

Over the years, the Slovak Heritage Society has been at the forefront of the promotion of cultural events related to the rich history and heritage of the Slovaks. For information on the group and its programs, visit its website - www.shsnep.org. Congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to all the newly elected officers and directors who work so diligently in promoting our rich history and heritage.



Officers and Board Members who will serve the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania for 2014-2015 are shown above and include, seated from the left, Benevolent Chair, Connie Plewniak, Wilkes-Barre Twp.; Recording Secretary, Anna Hudock, Wilkes-Barre; Society Chair, Professor Philip R. Tuhy, Wilkes-Barre; Membership chair, Mary Migatulski, Wilkes-Barre; and Dorothy Sullivan, Nanticoke. Standing, l-r, Anthony Palischak and Dinner Chair, Elaine Palischak, Plymouth; Treasurer, Jackson Hendershot, Wilkes-Barre; Financial Adviser, Magdalen M. Benish, Plains; Michael Stretanski, Kingston; Corresponding Secretary, Bernadette Yencha, Wilkes-Barre; Education Co-Chair, Helen Savinski, Swyersville; and Public Relations Director, William A. Zdanczewicz, Edwardsville.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SAVE THE DATES!

August 1- 5, 2015

Groups - Assemblies - Wreaths for the

Slovak Catholic Sokol 32nd Quadrennial Convention

at the
Doubletree By Hilton Pittsburgh - Greentree 500 Mansfield Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15205



Zdar Boh! Plan now to be there!



Sokol Calendar

SAT.OCT.25

■ Flea Market and Slovak culinary specialties available for sale at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, South 6th & Laurel Sts., Reading, Pa. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., for information call Marge Danowski (610)375-3515.

SUN.OCT.26

■ Children's Halloween Costume Party hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 1 p.m., signup list at the Club or contact slovenska.hviezda@hotmail.com.

SUN.NOV.2

■ Group 1 annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 235 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. hosted by Assembly 182, Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by luncheon and meeting in the church hall. Deadline for reservations is Oct. 27.

■ 24th Slovak Heritage Festival hosted by the Slovak Studies Program in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning on the University of Pittsburgh campus, Oakland, Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-5 p.m., exhibits, entertainment Slovak culinary specialties, free admission.

■ Annual Benefit for the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew Svorad at Assumption of the BVM parish, 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh., Mass at 12:15 p.m., banquet to follow in the parish center; for information call (216)721-5300, ext. O.

MON.NOV.3

■ Wreath 22 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

FRI.NOV.7

■ Concert of the Slovak band "Helenine oci" at the Bohemian National Hall, 321 East 73rd St., New York City beginning at 7 p.m., advance ticket \$35, at the door \$40, call Marek (203)536-1908 or www.concert.multiharmony.com.

NOV. 7-8

■ 90th annual meeting of the New England Fraternal Alliance in Mystic, Conn.

SAT.NOV.8

■ Group 14 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 9 a.m., call (412)225-8233 for reservations.

■ Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble benefit dinner and cultural evening at Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 West 54th St., Parma, Oh. doors open at 6 p.m., dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. followed by cultural program at 7:30 p.m., \$50.00 per person; for reservations call Tom Evanec (440)668-7797.

SUN.NOV.9

■ 32nd annual St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik."

■ Assembly 255 annual meeting in the social hall of Holy Trinity Parish, 4556 Main St., Whitehall (Egypt), Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., social with refreshments to follow.

MON.NOV.10

■ Wreath 111 meeting and social "Thank a Veteran" at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

FRI.NOV.14

■ Annual Freedom Lecture hosted by the Friends of Slovakia at the Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building, Washington, D.C. beginning at 12 noon.

■ 5th annual Slovak-American Awards Dinner hosted as a benefit by Friends of Slovakia at the Slovak Embassy, 3523 International Court, N.W., Washington, D.C. beginning with reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.; for reservations call Julie Slavik at jlslavik@aol.com.

SAT.NOV.15

■ Group 7 annual meeting in St. John the Evangelist Parish, 19 William St., Pittston, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall.

■ Annual Holiday Fair sponsored by Sokol Greater Cleveland at the Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, Oh. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., imported Czech and Slovak arts and crafts, ethnic culinary specialties, bakery, free admission, free parking; for additional information email www.sokolgreatercleveland.org/HolidayFair.

SAT.NOV.22

■ Wreath 22 patronal feast day appreciation membership breakfast at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 9 a.m. for reservations, call Dolly Lutz (412)884-9415.

DEC.5-6

■ Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors quarterly meeting in Orlando, Florida.

SUN.DEC.7

■ Traditional Slovak Christmas Vilija hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 5:30 p.m., \$20.00 per person, advance ticket sales only, for reservations call Len Zilko (440)988-3236.

■ Group 17 Children's Christmas Party at Camelot Bowling Lanes, Boardman, Oh., 1-4 p.m., for reservations call Edith Babik at (330)782-9555.

■ Traditional Vilija - Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner at St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, Oh. Mass in the Abbey Church at 12 noon followed by dinner in the Benedictine High School Cafeteria; \$20.00 per person, advance ticket sales only; for reservations call (216)721-5300, ext. O.

■ Annual St. Nicholas Slovak Hymn Sing sponsored by the Slo-

vak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania in St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, North Main St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m.

■ Annual Christmas party and general meeting of the Slovak Heritage Association of the Laurel Highlands at the Slovak Band Hall, Cambria City, Johnstown, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m. for information call Susan Kalcik (814)255-5517, nick@bocher.net.

SAT.DEC.13

■ Traditional Slovak Christmas dinner "Vilija" at The Slovak Garden, 3110 Howell Branch Rd. #100, Winter Park, Fla. 2 to 6 p.m., \$15.00 per person; for reservations call(407)677-6894.

■ Assembly 16 & Wreath 22 Children's Christmas Party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2910 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m. for reservations call Carmella Marzec (412)414-9249 or email: suesscm@gmail.com.

■ 21st annual Slovak Vilija & Jaslickari Program hosted by Prince of Peace Parish at the parish center, 81 South 13th St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 5 p.m., donation \$24.00 adults, \$12.00 children(ages 3 - 12), for advance reservations only, call (412)481-8380.

SUN.DEC.14

■ 30th annual Christmas concert and parish dinner of Most Holy Trinity Parish, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y., concert in church at 3 p.m., dinner to follow in the parish social hall. \$35.00 per person. For reservations call the rectory at (914)963-0720.

■ Assembly 72 children's Christmas party at the Slovak Social Center, located at the corner of 5th and Grove Sts., North Catsaquia, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., for reservations call Margaret Hogan (610)264-9798.

■ Annual Vilija - Slovak Christmas Eve dinner and cultural program at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish - St. Matthias site, 915 Cornell St. in the Lansingville section of Youngstown, Oh. beginning at 4 p.m. in the Father Snock Center; \$20.00 per person, advance reservations only; for reservations call Dolores Sonoga at tel.(330)792-9322.

2015 Scholarship details in next issue

Our Supreme Vice President Julie Ann Dobbs will offer complete details on our Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants to be offered in 2015 on the college, high school and grade school levels in our next issue. Some changes have been made to the application process on-line for our college scholarship grants. Complete details as well as tips for success will appear in the next issue. Since 1972, our organization has offered scholarship grants to our deserving young members in their quest for higher education.

From the Desk of the Supreme President

Thoughts on Fraternalism

by Larry M. Glugosh

With the fall weather upon us, it is wonderful to see all the positive changes happening. The trees are vibrant with their autumn colors and the air is crisp and fresh. Food seems to taste better in October and the wine and family gathering are happy and full of great stories and activities. For those of us who like sports, the baseball playoffs have begun, the NHL hockey season has kicked off another year and of course the football games appear daily on our TV screens. It is a great time to be a fan of sports and it provides us some quality family time to discuss the day's events and talk about things that will be happening in the coming months like Thanksgiving and eventually the Christmas season. Yes, there are only about 60 days of shopping left!



For my family, this time of the season always brings us back to our fraternalism roots and provides us a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate more kindness and love within our local communities. In fact, in Canada we are now celebrating the Thanksgiving season and many will go out and provide our time and energy to help those less fortunate. We can work at a food bank, veteran center or just do something nice for someone in your parish or community. Fraternalism is about sacrifice and giving. It is not a monetary issue but rather an offering of compassion and love for someone in need. I hope you take the opportunity to "give back" to your community, which will be significant to those individuals that you touch through your generosity and kindness.

During this time of the year it is also a wonderful opportunity for reflection and prayer to give thanks to God for our many blessings. In our home, we had a great deal to be thankful for this month with the union of two families. This past weekend, I married my fiancée Susanna and joined our lives together forever. The union includes her two teenage children, Ryan (17) and Rachel (15), who now make up our new "Brady Bunch" of 8 people in our home, with my 4 angels from their mom. It was a beautiful ceremony at St. Christopher's Catholic Church and we shared the moment with our family and friends.

Given the life journey we have endured over the past 3 years, this was truly an opportunity to praise God for all of His blessings. Bringing our two families together was another sign of His desire for us to be happy and enjoy our lives. We will never forget our past and will always respect and cherish every moment shared with those we have lost and joined God in Heaven. However this weekend renewed my faith that pain and loss can be followed by love, understanding and happiness. It is one of life's special mysteries and something I will remember forever.

In closing, I wish all of our members continued good health and I hope all of you have a safe and joyous Thanksgiving season in Canada. I hope your interaction with family, friends and perhaps someone new as a result of your fraternal effort, will provide you some added strength and a renewed sense of hope for the future.

May God bless all of you!

Group 17 Hosts its 3rd Mixed Golf Outing

Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" hosted its 3rd annual Mixed Golf Outing on Sunday, September 14th at the Mahoning Country Club in Girard, Oh. Over 20 golfers from lodges in the Mahoning Valley enjoyed the annual fraternal competition. With pleasant weather and traditional Group 17 Sokol fellowship, an enjoyable time was had by all. Prizes were awarded throughout the day's play.

Following the competition on the scenic greens of the golf course, a superb dinner was enjoyed by 33 golfers and guests at the clubhouse of the Mahoning Country Club. Prizes were awarded and traditional Sokol good sportsmanship and camaraderie was enjoyed by all. Thanks and gratitude go out to all who had a hand in the success of this year's golf outing. We hope to see an even better turnout of Group 17 golf enthusiasts at next year's event.

Congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out the following

winners at this year's golf outing.

Ladies Prizes - Front Line: *Hole #2 - Closest to the pin, Julie Kercher; * Hole #6 - Closest to the pin, Judy Babik; * Hole #9 - Longest putt, Mary Starr; * "Least putts" for 9-hole play, Mary Starr; * "Best poker hand" for 9-hole play, Edie Babik.

Men's Prizes - Front Nine: * Hole #1 - Closest to the pin, John Sostaric; * Hole #4 - Closest to the pin, Steve Hodos; * Hole #6* - Closest to the pin, Bob Dubinsky; * For Seniors: Closest to the pin, Tom Hodos; * Hole #9 - Longest putt, Ken Hlebovy.

Back Nine Prizes(for 18-hole players): *Hole #14 - Closest to the pin, Rob Hritz; * Hole #15 - Closest to the pin, Jim Dodge; * Hole #17 - Closest to the pin, Glenn Kramer; * Hole #18 - Longest putt, Michael Porter. Congratulations to all our winners!

Zdar Boh!
The Committee



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Historic Danville, Pa. Basilica celebrates its 75th anniversary

On October 17th, the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa. celebrated the 75th anniversary of its dedication. It was on October 17, 1939 that Cardinal Dennis Dougherty, then Archbishop of Philadelphia, solemnly blessed and dedicated the beautiful Motherhouse Chapel of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Following the dedication, the Most Rev. George L. Leech, Bishop of Harrisburg, celebrated a Solemn Pontifical Mass. Bishop Leech preached in English while Father John J. Kubasek, pastor of Most Holy Trinity parish in Yonkers, N.Y. offered the Slovak homily. The dedication was a major event in the life of the American Slovak community.

Since their arrival in Danville in 1919, the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius had dreamed of an appropriate chapel as a dwelling place for God on the grounds of their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart. A temporary chapel had served the religious needs of the sisters. In the 1930s, the Sisters appealed to the Slovak community to assist them in their project. The donations came from working-class immigrants who labored in coal mines, steel mills, factories and on farms across America. The fact that the chapel was erected during the Great Depression is a testament to the steadfast dedication and generosity of thousands of faith-filled people. The dedication took place during the administration of Mother M. Emerentia Petrasek, S.S.C.M., who had a keen eye for art and beauty. The majestic stained glass windows are unique in that they in fact portray the history of the Slovaks in America. In gratitude for the unwavering support given the Sisters by the Slovak Catholic fraternal societies, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol, a majestic window includes the coat of arms of each society. In addition, in gratitude for the steadfast support of the Slovak fraternal press, the masthead of each organization's official publication was featured, including our *Katolicky Sokol* (*Catholic Falcon*).

The chapel has been the scene of the religious profession of hundreds of women who have chosen to serve in vowed religious life. It has been the center of many community activities including the funeral of Mother M. Emmanuel Pauly in 1958, one of the congregation's first three members. The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius received official papal approbation by Pope Saint Pius X in 1909. Their founder was the Rev. Matthew Jankola, who served as the second Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

In anticipation of its 50th anniversary, under the leadership of Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, then General Superior, the complete restoration and renovation of



Cardinal Jozef Tomko came from Rome to officially inaugurate the Motherhouse chapel of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. as a minor basilica. He is shown above blessing the faithful assembled in the basilica during a liturgy he celebrated there on November 26, 1989.

the chapel took place in 1989. New significance was brought to the chapel, when Bishop William H. Keeler of Harrisburg petitioned Rome to have the chapel named a Minor Basilica. On the eve of his departure to serve as ordinary of the primatial see of Baltimore, Archbishop Keeler, who would later be named a Cardinal in 1994, consecrated the chapel anew on May 18, 1989 - as the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius. A month later, on June 30, 1989, the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments notified the archbishop stating "in virtue of special faculties granted it by the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II, has conferred on the Church dedicated to Saint Cyril, the monk, and Saint Methodius, the bishop, in the city of Danville, the title and dignity of Minor Basilica together with all the rights and appropriate liturgical concessions." Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, the general superior who had suggested the idea to the archbishop, was promptly notified of the honor.

His Eminence, Cardinal Jozef Tomko, then Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, came from Rome to celebrate the liturgy on November 26, 1989 inaugurating America's newest minor basilica. Coincidentally, the occasion took place as the fall of the 41-year communist domination of Slovakia and all of eastern Europe was taking place. Today, the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius is one of only 65 minor basilicas in the United States.

To inaugurate the Diamond Jubilee year observance of the basilica, a special liturgy was celebrated on October 18 in conjunction with the annual reunion hosted by the alumnae of St. Cyril Academy.

As we observe the Diamond Jubilee of the dedication of the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius, we recall the many graces and blessings received over the past three quarters of a century in the life of the Church in America. We offer our prayers and warm fraternal wishes to the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius as they celebrate this historic milestone in the life of their community. We pray that God will continue to bless the ministry of our beloved Cyrilites in the years ahead. Zdar Boh!

21st Vilija & Jaslickari program in Pittsburgh on December 13

The Slovak Customs Group of Prince of Peace Parish on Pittsburgh's historic South Side will host its 21st annual Slovak Vilija & Jaslickari Program on Saturday, December 13 in the parish center located at 81 South 13th Street beginning at 5 p.m.

Continuing in the timely tradition, the Vilija begins with the appearance of the first evening star. The dinner begins with the sharing of the Oplatky, eaten with honey, recalling the Manna which God fed the Chosen People in the desert following the Exodus. The meatless meal include all the traditional foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve dinner in a Slovak home. Following dinner, a colorful and lively program will feature the artistry of the Pittsburgh Slovaks under the direction of our well-known Slovak and Sokol activists, Sue and Rudy Ondrejco. The ensemble will entertain the guests with Slovak songs and folk dances depicting advent and winter traditions in the various regions of Slovakia. The program concludes with the tradition of the "Jaslickari" - the re-telling of the shepherds' participation at Christ's birth, in Slovak song and verse. An enjoyable evening is assured. The program is a wonderful opportunity to share our time-honored Slovak Christmas faith traditions with the younger generations.

Tickets for the dinner are \$24.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children, ages 3 to 12. A group discount is available. Advance reservations only. No tickets available at the door. For reservations call tel. (412) 481-8380. The social center is handicap accessible. Our Sokol of Assembly 16 Sokol, Paul J. Zatek serves as chairperson of this year's Vilija. We commend Brother Zatek and Slovak Customs Group for continuing to preserve our many Slovak faith traditions.



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Thirtieth Sunday of the Year - October 27th

Matthew 22:23-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law, tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Feast of All Saints - November 1st

Matthew 5:1-12a

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Feast of All Souls - November 2nd

John 6:37-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,

(Continued on page 18)

Children's Christmas Parties Set

North Catasaquua, Pa. - The annual children's Christmas party for junior Sokol members of Assembly 72, ages 12 and younger, is scheduled for Sunday, December 14 at the Slovak Social Center, located at the corner of 5th and Grove Streets. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. with festivities beginning at 2 p.m. and will include entertainment, refreshments and fellowship for the whole family. The highlight of the fraternal afternoon will be the visit of Santa who will who will distribute gifts and goodies to the children. In order to make the necessary preparations, parents are asked to call either Margaret Hogan at (610)264-9798 or Stephen Roman at (610)262-8301 indicating the names and ages of the youngsters who will attend. An enjoyable fraternal afternoon celebrating Sokol fraternalism is assured. Wishing all a blessed Christmas season along with a happy, healthy New Year, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Stephen Roman

Pittsburgh, Pa. - Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 will host their traditional Children's Christmas party on Saturday, December 13 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson Street on the city's Side. Doors open at 12 noon and festivities begin at 1 p.m.

All children, ages 0-12 years of age who have a Sokol insurance policy and who register are welcome to attend this annual fraternal event. Registration will be held every Wednesday and Thursday evening, October 8 to October 23 at the Sokol Club. Those who wish to call in registrations may do so by contacting Carmella(Suess)Marzec at tel. (412)414-9249 or email: suesscm@gmail.com. Due to space limitations, a limit of 150 youngsters has been set for the party. Therefore the first 150 children to be registered will be welcome to participate. Early registration is recommended. Refreshments will be served and entertainment will be provided. A visit from Santa will complete the afternoon of holiday merriment and fun. As we have asked in the past, so too in the spirit of caring and sharing in the Christmas season, we ask that participants consider bringing along non-perishable food items which will be given to our local food pantry. We are all looking forward to another year of fun during this holiday season in the best traditions of Pittsburgh Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!

Carmella(Suess) Marzec

Chairperson

Youngstown, Oh. - Continuing a wonderful fraternal tradition of many years now, the Physical Fitness Board of Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" is pleased to announce that this year's Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 7 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes in Boardman, Oh. The afternoon of bowling, games and festivities begins at 1 p.m. and will continue until 4 p.m. Children, along with Group 17 members of all ages, are invited to participate in the festivities and celebrate the Christmas Season with their Sokol family and friends. All will be treated to an afternoon of bowling, pizza, snacks and of course a visit from Santa who will greet all the youngsters will complete the festivities. In addition to Group 17, hosting the annual fraternal event will be Wreath 54 along with Wreath 107 and Wreath 108, all of Youngstown.

In order to make the necessary preparations, reservations are necessary. Parents are asked to call Edith Babik at tel. (330)782-9555 indicating the number of children who will attend. Deadline for reservations is Thursday, November 20. We in Group 17 look forward to celebrating the joyous Christmas season with you at Camelot Lanes. An enjoyable afternoon of traditional Group 17 good fellowship and fraternalism is assured.

Zdar Boh!

Group 17 Physical Fitness Board

**Edith Babik, Judy Babik, Susan Babik
and Virginia Bartos**

24th Slovak Heritage Festival set at the University of Pittsburgh

The Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh will host the 24th Slovak Heritage Festival on Sunday, November 2. The annual celebration of Slovak pride will be held in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning located on the university campus in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh from 1 to 5 p.m. This festival was conceived by a group of students who wanted to share their interest in the Slovak and American Slovak culture with the local community. As in previous years, the festival will be the culmination of much hard work, effort and time on behalf of the entire American Slovak community. The festival is the result of the volunteer efforts of all involved in order to promote Slovak heritage.

There will be lectures on the history of Slovak immigration and genealogy, folk art and the Slovaks' participation in World War I, the so-called "Great War" whose centennial we currently commemorate.

Continuing in the long-standing tradition of the festival, a rich cultural program will be featured. Performances will be given by the famed PAS(Pittsburgh Area Slovaks) ensemble, under the capable direction of Angie Lipchick, as well as the Pittsburgh Junior Slovaksians and the Pittsburgh Slovaksians, under the direction of Sue and Rudy Ondrejco. A colorful exhibit of traditional Slovak dress will feature Helene Cincebeaux's Parade of Krojs. In addition, there will be Slovak-related displays,

Appeal for the Missions

Our good friend and long-time missionary in India, Father Paul Cruz again reminds our members that used Christmas and other religious cards, as well as pens, pencils, rosaries and statues are needed for the children of his parish. Father Cruz has nearly 5,000 children who attend three schools within his parish. They are in need of these items which assist in their religious education. Or if you can't send these items, a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated. Father Cruz expresses thanks and gratitude to our many members who have supported his mission over the years. He sends his blessings to all our members as we anticipate the joy of the Christmas season. Send items or donation to: Father Paul Cruz, P.O. Box 691571, Kolliyam-691571, Kerala-INDIA.

Clean Air - A Must!

Take a deep breath. Know what you just inhaled? Air, yes, but what else?

* Dust particles from dirty streets and smoking factory chimneys.

* Unburned hydrocarbons from automobile exhausts.

* Sulfur dioxide.

* Carbon monoxide.

* Yuk!!!

Well, this is a good time to start a cleanup campaign because Cleaner Air Week, October 25 - 31, stresses just that.

Mother-in-Law Day, Oct. 28

After thousands of years, the scorning, maligning, slandering and poking fun at mothers-in-law



may be coming to an end. For on October 28, a day that will live in the heart of every mother who is also a mother-in-law, America will celebrate Mother-in-Law Day.

The object is to refurbish the distinctly negative image of mothers-in-law as interfering, nagging shrews. In actual fact, most Americans don't accept that description at all. Recent studies disclose that most people like their mothers-in-law.

plenty of Slovak culinary specialties and folk vendors featuring imported items from Slovakia. There is free admission and plenty of free parking. For additional information on this year's Slovak Festival, call Chris Metil at (412)624-5906 or visit www.slavic.pitt.edu.

In 1985, five Slovak fraternalism, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol, joined together in a fund-raising effort to create the only Slovak Studies program in the United States at the University of Pittsburgh. With the initial \$500,000 endowment, the program began as part of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature. The Slovak Festival looks to celebrate Slovak pride and feature the work of the Slovak Studies Program.

5th Slovak American Awards Dinner on November 14 in Washinton, D.C.

The fifth annual Slovak American Awards Dinner, hosted by Friends of Slovakia, is scheduled for Friday evening, November 14 in Washington, D.C. The gala evening will be held at the Slovak Embassy to the United States, located at 3523 International Court, N.W. in the heart of our nation's capital. The evening begins with a cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Individual tickets are \$150.00 or \$250.00 for a couple. Complimentary Valet Parking will be available. A silent auction will be held from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

This year's dinner celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution which saw the fall of Communism in the then Czechoslovakia. It also commemorates the 10th anniversary of Slovakia's membership in NATO and the EU and the 70th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising. Keynote speaker will be Robert Kalinak, Slovak Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior. The evening's toastmaster will be our Sokol of Assembly 36 in Detroit, Attorney Edward D. Zelenak, the Honorary Slovak Consul for Michigan.

Honorary Chairman of the dinner committee is H.E. Peter Kmec, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States. Julie Bres

Slavik is chairperson of the committee. Honorary Host Committee include the former Slovak Ambassadors to the United States as well as the former Ambassadors of the United States to Slovakia.

The annual Slovak American Awards Dinners have been organized to celebrate the close ties between the United States and Slovakia. Each year, individuals, organizations and institutions have been honored who have made significant contributions to the strengthening of U.S.- Slovak relations. Proceeds from

the dinner and silent auction support the Friends of Slovakia flagship Slovak Scholars' Program and the Ambassador Peter Burian Scholarship sponsored by the Slovak Honorary Consuls who serve in various communities in the United States. For dinner reservations, contact Julie Slavik at: jlslavik@aol.com.

Friends of Slovakia is a not-for-profit cultural organization which promotes a variety of educational and cultural exchange programs between the United States and Slovakia. For information write: Friends of Slovakia, P.O. Box 8033, Falls Church, VA 22041-9998, email:information@friendsofslovakia.org, www.friendsofslovakia.org.

Bloopers in October History

The best laid plans have often gone astray in Octobers. The Literary Digest, for example in October 1899, announced that the horseless carriage would never come "into as common use as the bicycle."

On October 2, 1905, President Grover Cleveland opposed giving women the right to vote claiming that "sensible and responsible women do not want to vote."

October's also the month that Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over the lantern precipitating the Chicago fire. October 8, 1871 is the date the great blaze broke out.

And talk about football upsets. On October 7, 1916, Georgia Tech crushed Cumberland University on the gridiron by a score of 222 to 0!

Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Donations July to September 2014

We are pleased to acknowledge the following donations received during July through September 2014 earmarked for our Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum located at our home office in Passaic, NJ. The monies received from these donations form our annual \$1,000 Memorial Scholarships, which assist our young people in their educational endeavors. The number of these scholarship grants is dependent upon the amount of donations received.

DONATIONS RECEIVED	
In Memory of	Donated by
Eugene B. Kuruc	Edward and Janice Moeller
Eugene B. Kuruc	Michael J. Horvath
Fran Gable	Edward and Janice Moeller
Robert Stupak Jr.	Edward and Janice Moeller
Frances Gable	Wreath 22, Slovak Catholic Sokol, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Fund	PNC Bank and Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Vice President PNC Institutional Investments.

Total donations \$2,645.

Thank you for your generosity - Zdar Boh!

Dennis J. Zifcak, Supreme Treasurer

Abbey Benefit for Benedictine Order of Cleveland on Nov. 2

The annual benefit in support of the Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey of Cleveland, Oh. is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 at the Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 9183 Broadview Road in Broadview Heights, Oh. The theme of this year's benefit is "Benedictine Monks in Parish Ministry Priests for Parishes."

The program begins with a celebrated Mass in Assumption Church at 12:15 p.m. with the Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. as principal celebrant and homilist. Following the liturgy in the parish hall hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be enjoyed. At 1:45 p.m.,

a bountiful dinner will be catered by Tom's Country Place. Entertainment and recognition will follow. A Slovak raffle will be held. The afternoon concludes with the traditional singing of Ultima by the Monks. An enjoyable time is assured.

Tickets for the benefit dinner are \$75.00 of which \$25.00 is tax-deductible. Reservations of tables of eight are available. Patronage tables, which include guests along with a Benedictine Monk are available. Honoring an individual Monk is \$100.00 all of which is tax deductible. For reservations or additional information on this year's benefit call the abbey at (216)721-5300, ext.0.

30th Christmas Concert & Dinner on December 14 in Yonkers, N.Y.

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

The concert, "Upon a Midnight Clear" which will feature traditional and seasonal works, is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers where the parish was founded by Slovak immigrants 120 years ago. The concert will be under the direction of the Music Minister of the parish and our Sokol of Assembly 219, Stephen J. Knoblock. The voices of the choir, one of the finest in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert, a buffet dinner will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the traditional sharing of the Oplatky - the Christmas wafers eaten

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

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

Annual Abbey Vilija set for December 7 in Cleveland, Oh.

St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. will be the site of the traditional Christmas Eve dinner or Vilija as it is known in Slovak on Sunday, December 7. The annual program begins with Mass celebrated at 12 noon in the Abbey Church located at 10510 Buckeye Road. Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., the new superior of the Abbey will be celebrant of the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, the meal and program will be held in the Benedictine High School Cafeteria. A meatless meal, all of the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will be featured beginning with the sharing of the Oplatky and honey. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Advance ticket sales only. No tickets available at the door. Deadline for reservations is December 1. Orders may be placed by mail. Make check payable to: St. Andrew Abbey - Vilija, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104. For additional information or to make reservations by phone, call the abbey office Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at (216)721-5300, ext.0.

Following the meal which will be prepared by the members of the local Slovak Radio Club and served by the monks of the abbey, a colorful and entertaining program will be enjoyed. The Lucia Junior Slovak Folklore Ensemble will perform an array of songs and dances from the various regions of Slovakia. Also performing in a sing-along will be the Slovenske Mamicky Singers. In addition, music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the popular John Pastirk Band. There will be exhibits as well as religious articles and imported items from Slovakia for sale.

Abbot Gary and the monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey look forward to seeing many area Sokols and Sokolky at this year's Vilija dinner, a treasured Slovak faith tradition. The Slovak Benedictines arrived in Cleveland in 1922 and established Benedictine High School in the fall of 1928. In 1934, the monastery was elevated to the status of an Abbey. From their earliest beginnings, the monks of St. Andrew Abbey have always been active in ministry to the American Slovak community.

Lodge Jottings

EGYPT, PA Assembly 255

The annual meeting of our lodge under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel is scheduled for Sunday, November 9 in the social hall of Holy Trinity Parish located at 4556 Main Street in Whitehall (Egypt) beginning at 1 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

At this meeting, our regular order of business will be conducted including the reports of the officers, concluding with the election of officers who will serve our Assembly in 2015. We are looking forward to seeing new faces and hoping for a good turnout of members.

Concluding our business meeting, as is our long-standing tradition, we will join our fellow Slovak fraternal brothers and sisters of Branch 796 of the Jednota for a traditional luncheon featuring Slovak culinary specialties. Good fellowship in the best traditions of Slovak fraternalism will be enjoyed by all.

May Jesus and our Blessed Mother keep our organization in their hands. In the name of the officers of our lodge, I wish to extend to all, best wishes for a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving holiday and extend best wishes to our Brother and Sister Sokols and Sokolky throughout the country. With every good wish, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Monica Fabian

Recording Secretary

PITTSBURGH, PA. Wreath 22

The next meeting of our Wreath is set for Monday, November 3rd at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, South Side, beginning at 7 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

We remind our members that our Wreath along with Assembly 16 is hosting a fund-raiser to benefit the children's Christmas party on Saturday, November 8th. Details of this event may be found on page 15 of this issue.

Our Wreath will observe our patronal feast of St. Cecilia during our annual Appreciation Membership Breakfast on Saturday, November 22 at our Sokol Club beginning at 9 a.m. A delicious breakfast will be served. There will be ample time to reconnect with old friends and socialize with extended family members. As in previous years, I'm sure that all will enjoy the time spent with fellow Sokolky. To reserve your place at the breakfast table, please call Dolly Lutz at tel. (412)884-9415. Deadline for reservations is November 17.

This year our Wreath celebrates its 95th anniversary. It was in 1919 that a group of Slovak women gathered at St. Matthew's Parish to organize a new lodge of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Much has been accomplished over the years by our Wreath. Our founders chose St. Cecilia as patroness of the new lodge. We have enjoyed a very proud past and look forward to a bright future.

Zdar Boh!

Dolly Lutz

Plan to participate

Group Annual Meetings Announced

Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krassula" - This year's meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish located at 235 Ackerman Avenue in Clifton, N.J. Hosting this year's meeting will be Assembly 182 of New York City. Our program begins with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Slovak Mass in Church. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 1. Following the liturgy, the annual meeting will be called to order in the church hall. A luncheon will be served. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for upcoming fraternal and sporting events in the new year will be discussed. We hope to have all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 1 represented at this year's annual meeting. Lodge secretaries are asked to call the secretary at (973)777-4010 as to the number of delegates who will represent their respective lodge. Deadline for luncheon reservations is October 27. Looking forward to a progressive and successful annual meeting in the best traditions of Group 1 fraternalism and fellowship, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

John D. Pogorelec, Esq.

President

Daniel F. Tanzone

Secretary

Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas" - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 15 in St. John the Evangelist Parish in Pittston, Pa. The meeting will be called to order in the parish social hall located at 19 William Street at 1:30 p.m. Reports of the officers will be presented and discussion of our upcoming fraternal events in 2015 will be finalized. 2015 will be an especially active year, in that our 47th International Slet is scheduled for July and our organization's 32nd national convention is set for August. In addition, our Group will be hosting a sporting event as well. We hope to have representatives from all our Assemblies and Wreaths at our annual meeting. Any member who has not attended in the past may call their Assembly or Wreath secretary indicating that they are interested in attending. In

order to make the necessary preparations, lodge secretaries need to contact the Group Secretary by the deadline date of November 7. Following our business meeting, we will attend the 4:30 p.m. Mass in church which satisfies the Sunday obligation. Concelebrating the liturgy will be the pastor, Monsignor John J. Bendik, our Group 7 Chaplain, Rev. Richard Cirba and our Supreme Chaplain and Honorary Chaplain of Group 7, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic. After the liturgy, we will take care of any unfinished discussion in the church hall after which a dinner will be served. We look forward to seeing a good turnout of members from our Assemblies and Wreath in the best traditions of Group 7 Sokol fraternalism. Zdar Boh!

Michael J. Horvath

President

Irene M. Kascaik

Secretary

Group 14, "St. Francis of Assisi" - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 8th at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson Street, South Side, Pittsburgh. The meeting will be called to order at 9 a.m. All Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to our Group are invited to send their representatives. Reports of the officers will be presented. We have enjoyed an active fraternal and sporting year. Plans for our upcoming fraternal and sporting activities as well as fund-raisers in the new year will be discussed. Our organization's 32nd quadrennial convention is scheduled for Pittsburgh in August 2015. In order to make the necessary arrangements, those planning to attend are asked to call (412)225-8233 or e-mail Kathyw323@gmail.com. We are looking forward to a very successful meeting. Even if you haven't been to a meeting lately, please consider attending. Your thoughts and input are always very valuable to the future of our organization.

Zdar Boh!

Kathleen S. Watkins

President

Claudia Borecki

Secretary

Be Not BEWITCHED

Which is witch?

Who can tell on Halloween?

But one thing is certain: A witch is an extraordinary creature. She can tell the future by studying the way a hen pecks at its



food or by observing the pattern created by a flight of birds.

Additionally, any witch worth her craft can cast an evil spell with a knotted rope or the twisted limb of a tree. And the hexes possible when she draws a figure in the sand

with her wand or broom are beyond belief.

Fortunately, the all-American witches still remain in the background.

That is...most people think that's where they are...except for TV's Samantha, whose good witchcraft always prevails anyway.

But Halloween is an exception.

So if you should go bump in the night with some little crone wearing a pointy hat, black clothes, followed about by a black cat and using a broom for transportation, be very sure to "treat" her generously, or prepare to be "bewitched."

Group 2 to host 32nd St. Martin Day Celebration on Nov. 9 in Stratford, Conn.

Group 2 "Rev. Stephen Panik" will host its 32nd annual St. Martin's Day Celebration honoring the patron of our organization on Sunday, November 9th. This year's celebration of Sokol fraternalism begins with participants attending the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Avenue in Stratford, Conn. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 2 by the Rev. Andrew G. Marus, pastor of this Slovak parish. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:45 a.m. so as to march in a body for the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, a reception and luncheon will be enjoyed at the Grassy Hill Lodge in nearby Derby, Conn., where our Sister Sokolka, Martha Dulla Andrade, Esq. is the owner. Music for dancing, listening and sing-along pleasure will be provided by our Brother Sokol, Tony Dulla, Party Central DJ of Assembly 33.

Inasmuch as our celebration is so close to Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, we will pay tribute to and acknowledge all Veterans in attendance.

We will also host a memorial service for members who have gone on to their eternal reward in 2014. Group 2 lodge officers are asked to advise President Eileen S. Wilson, (203)378-8837 as soon as possible the names of their deceased.

Cost of the luncheon, which includes two drink tickets, has remained the same at \$25.00 for

members and \$35.00 for guests. Children age 10 and younger pay \$10.00. Meal choices include Chicken Cordon Bleu, Baked Salmon or Prime Rib of Beef. Children will enjoy chicken tenders. A vegetarian menu is also available. In order to properly prepare reservations, accompanied by a check (non-refundable) made payable to SCS Group 2 by the RSVP deadline of Thursday, October 23 (strictly adhered to) and send to Group 2 Treasurer, John Si-



nanis, 406 Erwin St. Trumbull, Conn. 06611. Reservations will be accepted for tables of 8 or 10 provided all names are listed.

Reservations may be made with the following lodges: Wreath 1, Eileen S. Wilson, (203) 378-8837; Wreath 39, Larry or Mary Ann Wells, (203)375-2836; Wreath 86 and Assembly 23, Bonnie Landor Rossi, (860) 482-9062; Assembly 9, Henry Zack, (203)268-4727; or Judith Salamon (203)333-3716; Assembly 33, Martha Dulla Andrade, (203)734-1616. When making reservations, members are asked to inquire whether there will be any charge if they belong to a particular Wreath or Assembly. As in the past, Wreaths 1 and 39 and Assembly 9 pay for their members.

The traditional special events raffle will benefit the Jozef Cardinal Tomko Scholarship Fund at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. Additional highlights will make the celebration very special

and memorable in the best traditions of Group 2 fellowship and fraternalism.

JOIN US as we observe the 32nd annual St. Martin Day Celebration honoring our organization's great patron. Our Group 2 was the second Group to be organized in the Slovak Catholic Sokol in 1911- 2014 One hundred and three years old! Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this wonderful fraternal event. Fraternally,

Zdar Boh!
Eileen S. Wilson
President, Group 2

Vilija Dinner set for Dec. 7 in Lorain, Oh.

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. organizes a variety of social and cultural programs throughout the year for the benefit of the area's Slovak community. On Sunday, December 7 they will host the traditional Vilija and Slovak Christmas Dinner at the American Slovak Club, located at 2915 Broadway Avenue in Lorain beginning at 5:30 p.m. The dinner will feature all the delicacies enjoyed at the Christmas Eve dinner in a Slovak home. An explanation and cultural program will be enjoyed as part of the festive evening.

The cost of the dinner, which includes the award-winning Ladies Auxiliary perch, is \$20.00 per person and includes all the traditional delights. Advance reservations only. For tickets contact Len Zilko at tel. (440)988-3236. The dinner is open to the public and we look forward to seeing many area Sokols and Sokolky at this dinner. An enjoyable time is always assured.

Zdar Boh!
Michele Mager
Secretary, United
Slovak Societies

Annual Holiday Fair in Cleveland on Nov. 15

All is in readiness for Sokol Greater Cleveland's Annual Holiday Fair set for Saturday, November 15 at the Bohemian National Hall located at 4939 Broadway Avenue in Cleveland, Oh. The fair hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

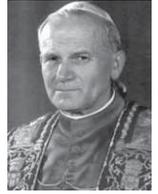
Imported Czech and Slovak items for sale will include Garnet jewelry, crystal, glass, Christmas ornaments, pottery, books, linens and more.

In addition, homemade ethnic foods will be available for purchase including baked goods, dumplings and imported Czech and Slovak beer. Dinners in the lower dining room will feature pork dinners, potato pancakes, garlic sausage, Barley Casserole, Halupky, strudel along with coffee or tea. Dinners will be served beginning at 11 a.m. The upper dining room will feature two cash bars with Czech and Slovak beer along with open faced sandwiches.

There is free admission and plenty of free parking. All proceeds aid Sokol Greater Cleveland. For additional information visit www.sokolgreatercleveland.org/HolidayFair.

Exhibit on St. John Paul II opens at National Shrine in Washington, D.C.

In the national shrine dedicated to the memory of St. John Paul II in Washington, D.C. a new exhibit pays further homage to the man who embodied the Catholic Church for more than a quarter of a century. "A Gift of Love: The Life of St. John Paul II" had its official opening on October 22, the pope's feast day. It was on this day in 1978 that Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow, Poland was elected as Bishop of Rome and the 263rd successor of St. Peter as Supreme Pastor of the Universal Church, taking the name John Paul II in honor of his predecessor Pope John Paul I as well as Popes, Blessed John XXIII and Paul VI. It becomes a permanent exhibit at the St. John Paul II National Shrine located adjacent to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Harewood Road, off Michigan Avenue N.W., in our nation's capital.



The 16,000-square-foot display features numerous artifacts and insights into the life of the late pope, including photographs and footage of him as a young priest in Poland. The executive director of the shrine, Patrick Kelly, said the opening of the exhibit lends a "major catechetical element" to the shrine. "We're a shrine so we're a religious site, but we have this great exhibit, and never before have the two elements been put together, where you have a shrine, but you also have a major exhibit to the saint that the shrine is dedicated to," he said in an interview with Catholic News Service. A walk through the exhibit not only draws the visitor into the works and legacy of the beloved pope, but also offers a glimpse into the life of Karol Wojtyla before he became Pope John Paul. Included among religious artifacts such as traditional headgear worn by the pope is a pair of skis and tennis shoes that St. John Paul used when he was a young man. Before it became a shrine, the building was home to the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center. "The Knights of Columbus acquired the site in 2011 and converted it into a shrine to keep with the original vision of the center," Kelly said. - CNS

Fall Flea Market at Reading, Pa. parish

SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, where the pastor is the Rev. Charles Sperlak, will host its Fall Flea Market and Food Sale on Saturday, October 25 in the church hall located at the corner of South 6th and Laurel Streets in Reading, Pa. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The flea market will feature new and used household items, tools, and toys. In addition a variety of

Slovak culinary specialties will be available for sale and takeout. A variety of homemade Slovak pastries, breads and soups will be featured. All proceeds will aid our Slovak parish. We hope to see many area Sokols and Sokolky at the event. For information, call (610)375-3515.

Zdar Boh!
Marge Danowski

(Editor's note: We have noticed a number of returned copies of our Falcon due to incorrect addresses of our members. We ask that when individuals move, that they complete the form below for a change of address or call the home office. We thank you for your continued cooperation)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REQUEST FOR SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON
P.O. BOX 899 • 205 MADISON STREET
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055

NEW CHANGE CANCELLATION

Certificate No. _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation
Slovak Catholic Falcon
SLOVENSKÝ KATOLÍCKY SOKOL
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Slovak Catholic Sokol Introduces the Irrevocable Burial Trust Agreement

Protection of assets at any age is important, but especially so when faced with the need for nursing home services, Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. One option that may help preserve eligibility for services, while at the same time protecting assets from the reach of creditors, is to place your Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement.

Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy. The benefit of naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust as Owner is that it may help the insured qualify for Medicaid and Social Security Income benefits by preventing the value of the policy from being considered a resource of Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income eligibility.

A further benefit is that the policy proceeds, to the extent they are applied to end of life needs, would in most cases be protected from claims made by creditors, including the state and federal government. Any proceeds unnecessary for burial or funeral expense would be paid to the insured's estate and would then be available to creditor's claims.

Because the policy proceeds are to be applied to the end-of-life needs, the benefits avoid the cost and delay probate, and because they constitute the life insurance proceeds, they are tax free upon death of.

The Irrevocable Burial Trust

An Irrevocable Burial Trust is a valuable option that protects your assets that you want to designate for your final expenses. Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy.

Types of expenses that qualify for payment from the Irrevocable Burial Trust *

- Funeral home personnel
- Embalming/cosmetology
- Casket and/or other containers
- Clergy honorarium
- Transportation of deceased
- Cremation
- Obituary notices
- Musicians and flowers
- Death certificates
- Other legitimate funeral and burial expenses

* Burial insurance funding should be within the limits of actual funeral costs. Excess proceeds not spent on funeral costs must go back to the estate. Funeral trust burial insurance plans should be used to fund funerals, and not to pass additional money

to heirs.

Reasons to choose an Irrevocable Burial Trust rather than a Prepaid Funeral through a Funeral Home

- If the funeral home goes out of business you might not be able to recover your money
- The funeral home might be sold or merge with another, less-personal funeral home that you would not want handling your final arrangements, and they might not grant you a refund
- What if you move, making your pre-paid funeral in a certain locality impractical or obsolete?
- A funeral trust allows your arrangements to be handled by anyone you wish, such as your personal representative, a relative, friend, or funeral home – anywhere – at the time of your passing

Simple to establish and no extra charges

Purchase a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy and we will create your irrevocable burial trust at no charge. The paperwork is simple to complete and we are here to help.

The best time to protect your burial funds is now **

Purchasing an irrevocable burial trust life insurance policy protects your burial funds.

- The Trust is the owner of the policy and the primary beneficiary
- When a claim is paid, the funeral home is paid first
- Any remaining funds are placed into the estate of the insured.

** The representations included herein are not guarantees and do not constitute legal or tax advice. In addition, they do not ensure that the product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product, we recommend that the client seek the advice of an attorney and accountant.

Protection provided by the Irrevocable Burial Trust

By irrevocably assigning your life insurance policy to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Burial Trust, you receive:

- The ability to exclude your policy as an asset in order to qualify for government assistance programs, Medicaid or Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI). ***
- Policy proceeds are paid to the trust, which then pays your funeral expenses.
- Funds used for funeral expenses are protected from creditors, such as nursing homes, hospital, etc.
- Death benefits used for funeral expenses will avoid probate costs and delays.
- Benefits paid are income tax free. IRV Code Section 101(a)

*** Medicaid (Title 19) rules and laws governing these issues differ by state and change without notice. Before taking any action, we recommend consulting an el-

	Stocks, Mutual Funds, Annuity	Slovak Catholic Sokol	Saving, CD Money Market
Benefits Paid Direct for Final	No	Yes	No
Benefits Protected from Creditors	No	Yes	No
Excludes Benefits to Qualify for SSI, VA, Medicaid	No	Yes	No

der law attorney or professional in your state for advice on your situation

Being Sure

Having the right amount of life insurance or putting money aside to cover your final expenses is the right step. But it's only a first step. You need one more, easy step to protect your burial funds, the Irrevocable Burial Trust through the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Completing the Irrevocable Trust Agreement is a Simple Process:

- The Grantor must be both the Insured and the Owner of the policy.
- Only Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policies are eligible.
- The total face amount of the policy or policies in the Trust are limited in amount in most jurisdictions, which allows them to be excluded as a resource in deter-

mining eligibility for certain governmental service programs, such as those mentioned above. These limitations vary depending on the state in which you reside and frequently change from time to time, but a \$10,000 limitation is quite common. It is your responsibility to determine the limitation that would be applicable to you.

- The Contingent beneficiary of the policy or policies placed in the Trust must be the estate of the insured.

It is important to act quickly, because under IRS rules, death proceeds of life insurance policy given away within three years of the insured's death are automatically included in the insured's gross estate.

The accuracy of the representation stated within are not guaranteed by the Slovak Catholic Sokol and are not meant to constitute either legal or tax advice,

nor do they insure that this product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product or creating an Irrevocable Trust, the client should seek the advice of an attorney or a qualified tax advisor. Laws vary from state to state and are subject to change at any time, which may result in the treatment of this product as being negative to the client's situation.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement is available on new and/or existing Whole Life Policies. If you would like more information regarding this useful option, you can contact your Authorized Slovak Catholic Sokol Agent, the Home Office (800) 886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office (888) 381-5431.

A tradition of providing sound financial protection and benefits to our members.

The 2014 Lučina Slovak Gala...

An Evening in the Heart of Europe

Saturday, November 8, 2014

Holy Spirit Party Center
5500 W. 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129

Featuring:

The Lučina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland

Lučinka Children's Ensemble

Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Chicago

TICKETS: \$50/Person

\$360/Table of 8

\$40/Person under 21

Limited Seating! Only 300 seats available. Advanced sales only.

No tickets sold at the door.

Ticket includes:

Entertainment

Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & Dessert

Open bar

Followed by live music from Veselica for your dancing and listening pleasure.

Raffles & gift baskets throughout the evening

Doors open: 6:00PM

Dinner: 6:30PM

Program: 7:30PM

For tickets call: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797

Christine Matis-Hearn, 440-655-8244

Jenna Allen, 440-439-4119

Bayonne, N.J. Native, Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich Beatified During Historic Liturgy at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. on October 4

(Continued from page 1)

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

At the conclusion of the liturgy, Sister Rosemary Moynihan, S.C., General Superior of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth spoke. She opened her remarks in Slovak, *Dobre Rano*, in tribute to Blessed Miriam Teresa's first language and as a welcome to the many in the basilica who were of Slovak ancestry. She thanked all who had a hand in the success of the process of beatification over the years. Beginning in 1946, the cause had the wholehearted support of the faithful throughout the state of New Jersey. Because of Sister Miriam Theresa's Slovak and Byzantine Catholic origins, organizations and groups from both the Roman and Byzantine Rites have prayed and worked for Sister Miriam Teresa's cause. The Slovak Catholic Sokol has been in the forefront of such support. Many Sokol mem-

bers have served on the board of directors of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer over the years. The Slovak Catholic Federation, both on the national level and within its Eastern Region, hosted numerous meetings and pilgrimages at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. The First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies

Association have also given wholehearted support to the work of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer in the cause of canonization. Over the years, the Slovak Catholic fraternal press has given its full support to the cause of Sister Miriam Teresa. When Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J., the Bishop of Nitra in Slovakia, in April 1992 visited the United States, he asked to be taken to Convent Station to pray at the tomb of the then Servant of God Sister Miriam Teresa.

The impressive Mass of Beatification concluded with the singing of the solemn Te Deum, Holy God We Praise Thy Name, an appropriate hymn of praise to the triune God which Blessed Miriam Teresa so often invoked in her writings. The beatification received wide coverage in the secular media. Extensive articles appeared in the New York Times and other area secular publications and New York and New Jersey area television stations covered the event. In addition, live coverage of the event was provided by the Catholic television network EWTN.

A number of priests of Slovak ancestry participated in the beatification liturgy including the Rev. Msgr. John J. Demkovich, retired pastor of St. Mary's Slovak Parish in Passaic, N.J. who has served as a director of the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer for many years; the Rev. Msgr. Peter Smutelovic, a priest of the Newark

Archdiocese who currently serves on the staff of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican; the Rev. Richard A. Bay, pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Church in Green Pond, N.J. and chaplain of Assembly 162 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in Clifton, N.J.; the Rev. Martin Vavrak, pastor of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, N.J.; Rev. Frantisek, Conka, C.O., Rev. Jozef Krajnak, Rev. Stephen Chanas, Rev. Peter Kvasnak among others.

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

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

Under Pope Benedict XVI, beatifications were allowed to be held outside of the Vatican for the first time. Sister Miriam Teresa's was the first held in the United States. Blessed Miriam Teresa's feast day will be observed on May 8, the anniversary of her death in 1927 at age 26.

While the Beatification Mass was celebrated at the Newark Cathedral, a Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving was celebrated at the same time in St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Bayonne, N.J. with the Very Rev. Marcel Szabo, rector of the Byzantine Catholic Cathedral of St. Michael in Passaic, N.J. as principal celebrant. It was in this church that Blessed Miriam Teresa was baptized, chrismated and received her first Holy Communion in the Ru-



The Most Rev. Bernard A. Hebda, coadjutor Archbishop of Newark, is shown in front of the painting of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich. Following the Mass of Beatification, Archbishop Hebda offered the reliquary containing the locks of hair of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich to the faithful to be venerated.

thenian Catholic rite of the Church in 1901.

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

Believing it to be God's will for her, Teresa entered the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth on Febru-

ary 11, 1925 at their Motherhouse at Convent Station, N.J.. As a novice, she met Father Benedict Bradley, O.S.B. to whom she confided the state of her soul. Under his guidance, she made numerous vows leading her to greater perfection. He asked her to write a series of conferences on the spiritual life which he gave to the novices. After her death in 1927, these were published under the title *Greater Perfection* and have been widely distributed even today.

Sister Miriam Teresa's health declined while she was still a novice and she was given permission to profess her vows in *articulo mortis* (on her death bed) at the Motherhouse at Convent Station. She passed away on May 8, 1927 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Elizabeth, N.J. Upon her body's return to the Motherhouse from the hospital, one of the sisters cut locks of her hair. It was a lock of her hair which was placed on the eyes of the eight-year old boy, Michael Mencer in 1964 whose sight was completely restored. The restoration of the boy's sight was determined as miraculous and accepted by Pope Francis in December 2013 which led to Sister Miriam Teresa's beatification. Over the years, many favors have been asked and received through Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich's intercession.

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

(Contributing to this article were the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth and Catholic News Service)



Some of the New York-New Jersey area Slovaks who were present for the Beatification of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich on October 4 in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. They are shown before the painting of Blessed Miriam Teresa which was unveiled during the historic event.

Scenes of the 37th Annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival

PNC Bank Arts Center + Holmdel, N.J. + Sunday, September 28



Bishop Peter A. Libasci of Manchester, N.H. is shown flanked by festival co-chairpersons, Nina Holy and John G. Duch. With them are the clergy concelebrants of the Slovak Festival Mass.



Slovakia's President Andrej Kiska visited many of the exhibits at the festival meeting and greeting their sponsors.



Enjoying the cultural program are, l-r, Slovakia's Ambassador to the United Nations, Frantisek Ruzicka; Slovak President Andrej Kiska, Nina Holy, co-chairperson of the festival; Slovakia's Foreign and European Minister Miroslav Lajcak and Slovakia's ambassador to the United States Peter Kmec.



Bishop Peter A. Libasci, celebrant of the Slovak Mass at the festival, is shown with members of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvan who donned their kroj for the festival, including, from the left: Bernadette Yencha, Magdaline Benish, Anna Hudock, Mary Migatulski, and Connie Plewniak.



Jane Konzelmann, who was mistress of ceremonies during the cultural program is shown with Ava N. Szulka during the Parade of Slovak Fashions.



Well-known Group 1 Sokol activist, Karol Talafous is shown with his daughter and grandson at the festival. Flanking them are Editor Daniel F. Tanzone and Anna Korcak. Karol's late brother, Attorney Joseph J. Talafous served as the festival's chairperson for more than 20 years.



The picture-perfect day brought out thousands of visitors to this year's celebration of Slovak pride at the PNC Arts Center.



Dr. Mikulas Halko, far right, and his wife Nadine enjoyed this year's festival with their daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren from Saratoga Springs, N.Y., including, from the left, Tania Susi, Eden Susi, Sonia Susi, Juliette Susi and Duane Susi.



Editor Daniel F. Tanzone, in his capacity as president of the Slovak League of America, presented President Andrej Kiska a copy of Slovaks in America, the commemorative book on the history of the Slovaks in America. Shown, l-r, Jana Trnovcova, Slovak Consul General in New York; and officers of the Slovak League including John G. Duch, Nina Holy and John A. Holy.



Our Sokolka, Renata Vasilova, far left, was in charge of the Parade of Slovak Fashion. She is shown introducing the many participants who were attired in their ancestral Slovak kroj.



Some of the youngest performers during the cultural program were the Limboracik Slovak Folk Ensemble from New York City.



A variety of imported arts and crafts from Slovakia, including an array of crystal were available for sale.



Youngsters from "Hlas", a choir of children ages 7-14 from the Slovak School in Astoria, Queens, New York entertained during the cultural program.



Members of the Kecera Folk Ensemble from Jakubany in eastern Slovakia, entertained with music and dance traditions of the region.



Slovakia's Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak is shown above with members of the Kecera Folk Ensemble from Jakubany near Stara Lubovna in eastern Slovakia. The folk ensemble entertained during the festival's cultural program.



Eight-year-old Ava N. Szluca of Hopatcomb, N.J., our Sokolka of Assembly 162, is shown above with her kroj from the Piestany area of western Slovakia.

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Kiska opens business incubator for Slovak firms in San Diego

A new business incubator called the Slovak American Innovation Center was officially opened in San Diego, Ca. on September 29 with Slovak President Andrej Kiska in attendance.

The center is supposed to help entrepreneurs from Slovakia to set up shop in the United States. "There are many talented and clever people in Slovakia, but people sometimes need assistance with premises and ideas at the beginning. So, if you have somebody to rely on in a country such as the United States, it's amazing, as this is a huge market providing vast opportunities," said Kiska in his opening address.

The center was set up by Slovak IT security company eset based in Bratislava. It should provide assistance and support to five to six companies at a time, according to their business potential.

According to Kiska, Eset, which enjoys a worldwide presence and has its US base in San Diego, serves as evidence that Slovakia has many talented people and great potential for developing industries such as information technology.

Eset's business incubator for Slovak entrepreneurs is the first such facility established outside Slovakia, highlighted Ivan Stefunko from the Slovak venture capital fund Neology Ventures, which supports startups. "I suppose that the success of a company such as Eset may help other firms that will venture off for San Diego," said Stefunko, adding that the California city has a strong tradition of endorsing technology - and biotechnology-oriented start-ups.

NATO air combat exercises taking place in Slovakia

As many as 660 military personnel from 14 NATO countries and two countries of the Partnership for Peace are taking part in MACE XVI air combat exercises in Slovakia at the moment, Defense Ministry spokesperson Martina Ballekova told TASR on September 27.

The exercises are being used to train methods of overcoming anti-air defenses by the use of tactical aircraft in conditions of radio-electronic interference and to practice air combat in fighters. The most difficult conditions for using tactical aircraft in modern conflicts are being simulated.

"All the air equipment is being looked after by Siliac Airbase, with the command located in Zvolen and the ground equipment stationed at the training facility at Lest(all Banska Bystrica region)," said Lieutenant-Colonel Andrej Ulincy.

Apart from Slovakia's MiG-29 fighters, F-16 jets(Belgium, Denmark, Norway), DA-20 Falcons(Norway), Learjet 40s(Germany), RFALEs(France), GripenS(Sweden) EA 18Gs(USA) C130js(Denmark) and Typhoons(Spain) are also taking part.

MACE XVI exercises also took place in Slovakia two years ago.

Foodstuffs in Poland 30 percent cheaper than in Slovakia in 2013

Slovakia was ranked among the ten cheapest countries in the European Union last year, as the prices of goods and services in the country were some 30 percent lower than the EU average, an analysis by Postova Banka based on Eurostat figures has revealed.

"The prices of foodstuffs and alcohol-free beverages, on which people spend a considerable part of their family budgets, were 12 percent lower than(average)European prices," said the bank's analyst Jana Glasova.

Slovakia didn't do so well when compared to neighboring states, however. "The prices of foodstuffs and alcohol-free beverages in Poland were 30 percent lower than in Slovakia. They were 9 percent lower in Hungary and 5 percent lower in the Czech Republic," said Glasova. Poland was found to be the

cheapest country in the entire EU.

As for individual food items in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland, Slovakia's prices were the lowest only when it came to wheat flour and black tea. Conversely, Slovakia was the most expensive for pork, chicken, full-fat milk, eggs, butter and cheese products, said Glasova.

Finland was the EU's most-expensive country for foodstuffs and non-alcoholic beverages, although coffee was found to be cheaper in supermarkets there than in Slovakia and even Poland.

Kiska: I also jingled my keys in 1989, wishing for real change

Similar to thousands of other Slovaks, incumbent President Andrej Kiska also took to the streets and jingled his keys during the Velvet Revolution in November 1989. "As a young 27-year-old university graduate, I wished the change to be real and genuine. I'm quite happy that a lot of these dreams have come true," Kiska reminisced about the beginning of democratic changes in the erstwhile Eastern Bloc.

Along with counterparts from the Visegrad Four countries(V4: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia), Kiska is taking part in the commemorative festivities at the 25th anniversary of the fall of communism in Leipzig, where he traveled at the invitation of German President Joachim Gauck. It was on October 9, 1989, when the so-called Monday Protest of some 70,000 people took place in Leipzig that made the leader of the former German Democratic Republic Erich Honecker step down.

"It was here, where the collapse of communism in Germany began 25 years ago. The mass protests and demonstrations also significantly encouraged us, those living in erstwhile Czechoslovakia, to muster courage and take to the streets as well," said Kiska.

The Slovak President pointed out that changes in former post-communist states had a profound effect in helping to shape the current form of the EU. "And we, people from these countries, should care first and foremost about preserving the values of democracy, and if these principles are violated anywhere in the world, we should be among the first to make ourselves heard," he added.

Potatoes fall from grace among Slovaks

The eating habits of Slovaks have changed considerably over the past 20 years, with an average Slovak now eating half the amount of potatoes than in 1993, for example, Postova Banka analyst Dana Vrabcova has pointed out in an analysis.

While potatoes have fallen from grace, pasta, coffee and non-alcoholic beverages have jumped up quite significantly.

"The wash-out of the past two decades is potatoes. While the consumption per capita reached 89 kilograms annually 20 years ago, it was only 47 kilograms last year" noted Vrabcova. (editor's note 1 kilogram equals 35 ounces).

"Meanwhile, Slovaks now eat 70 percent more pasta than 20 years ago, with the Italian cuisine gaining in popularity in our country," said Vrabcova, adding that the consumption of pasta increased from 4.6 kilograms per capita per year in 1993 to 6.8 kilograms in 2013.

Interestingly enough, honey - which has been under threat recently around the world due to large scale deaths among bee colonies - has also become significantly more popular, with its consumption increasing by quite a decent 120 percent over the past two decades.

The consumption of coffee, non-alcoholic beverages and tea has also increased by a factor of two. As the Postova Banka

Selected stories are provided by TASR-Slovakia, the Slovak Republic's official News Agency.

analysis reveals, Slovaks don't consume these drinks only at home but increasingly more also at cafes and restaurants.

"Nevertheless coffee aficionados may see an increase in the cost of their pleasure, as we've been witnessing a steady growth in the price of coffee on global commodity markets. Coffee is now 90 percent more expensive than it was at the beginning of the year," said Vrabcova.

Slovaks now also consume significantly more cheeses, nuts and durable baked goods than 20 years ago. These products have replaced the traditional fresh bread, the consumption of which has dropped by almost one quarter.

"People also eat around 30 percent less legumes and eggs than in 1993. From among alcoholic beverages, people have been increasingly abandoning spirits and beer, with the consumption of both dropping by around one fifth. Nevertheless, they afford themselves more wine than before," said Vrabcova.

The consumption of meat has fallen by around one-sixth compared to 1993. "On the other hand, Slovaks have come to like fish more, with the consumption going up by one third over the past two decades," said the bank analyst.

Even though vegetable salads have made it recently not only as an accompaniment but also a main dish, the overall consumption of vegetables has fallen slightly - by 2 percent.

"Nonetheless, the consumption of fruit has recorded a far more significant slump - by 18 percent over the past 20 years," added Vrabcova.



The scenic village of Kysuce is located in northwestern Slovakia. The village contains many rare objects of folk architecture. The Museum of Kysuce is a popular tourist attraction. The outdoor exposition presents the "kapanice" type of scattered settlements in hilly areas which was typical of the Kysuce region. Due to the construction of the Nova Bystrica dam, several villages now lie under water. To preserve these architectural gems, a number of historic homes, barns and churches were relocated from the area villages and relocated to the Kysuce Museum. The center of the village includes a beautiful church dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, relocated from Zborov nad Bystricou; an inn from the village of Korna, as well as a house dating from 1806 from Oseadnica. Every Sunday, a cultural program is held presenting the museum as an authentic village with livestock, the cultivation of crops and a restaurant featuring the cuisine of the area. Its scenic location makes it a popular tourist attraction.

VANTAGE 1 ANNUITY – ENHANCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

For a number of years the investment climate has had its ups and downs. Everyone is waiting and expecting the interest earning rates to increase, it just has not happened. Without a crystal ball or being able to predict the future no one is sure when these changes will occur. Our current short-termed annuity plans the Vantage 1, Vantage 2 and Vantage 3 are designed for this purpose. These plans are for the individual looking for a solid short-term investment alternative that affords them the flexibility to make financial decisions without a long term commitment and crediting an excellent interest rate.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making a change to further enhance the Vantage 1 Annuity, it is designed and tailored primarily for the individual that is not quite sure what investment vehicle is right during these low interest rate times, is undecided what length of time they want to invest, waiting for the stock market to take-off, or looking for a good short-term investment alternative with numerous options and flexibilities.

With this in mind, the enhanced version of the Vantage 1 Annuity now includes a "30-Day Window", which starts on the anniversary date of the annuity certificate. During this period the annuitant/owner can exercise a number of options that meets their investment needs. Annually prior to the certificate anniversary date, a notice is sent to the annuitant/owner that presents each of the available options, which consists of the following: 1) continue as a Vantage 1 earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; 2) withdrawing a portion of the certificate amount and continuing

the certificate earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; or 3) transfer all or specified portion of the total deposit to a new annuity contract with the Slovak Catholic Sokol or another financial institution.

Not only will you find the Vantage 1 Annuity Plan competitive, but also it outperforms the current short-term market offerings and is tax deferred. The Vantage 1 is currently earning a yield of 1.25% APY.

Vantage 1 Features:

The Vantage 1 Annuity is tax-deferred annuity, with a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 1%. What makes this annuity special is a unique feature, the "30 Day Window", that allows the certificate holder to notify the Slovak Catholic Sokol of their intentions to withdraw their deposit and interest earned, penalty free, at the end of each certificate anniversary date. This option is available for the life of the annuity certificate. Any withdrawal made outside the timeframe of the "30-Day Window" and exceeds the annual 10% annual withdrawal will result in a penalty charge as follows:

During	1st year –	6%
	2nd year –	5%
	3rd year –	4%
	4th year –	3%
	5th year –	2%

As with our entire Vantage Collection of Annuity Plans the Slovak Catholic Sokol allows a 10% penalty free withdrawal, annually after the first year. However, the 10% free withdrawal may be subject to IRS penalty.

Vantage Annuity Plans Features

Tax-Deferred Earnings

Earnings grow tax-free until a

withdrawal occurs. Due to the power of compound tax-deferred growth, your retirement savings will accumulate quicker compared to a fully taxable account.

Cost

With all of our Annuity plans your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, transaction or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premiums goes directly into your annuity's cash value and earns interest immediately.

Safety

Your annuity deposits are protected by the total resources of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Information regarding the solvency can be readily verified by our financial statements filed with the New Jersey Insurance Department. These financial statements are accompanied by the required Actuarial Certification and Opinion of an independent Certified Public Accountant.

Early Withdrawal

Each of the Vantage Collection of Annuity Products has a 10% penalty free withdrawal feature after the first anniversary year.

Guaranteed Income Option

Each of the Vantage Plans has an option that allows the Annuitant at any time to settle/annuitize the contract. When the annuity contract is settled/annuitized a guaranteed payment is established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income.

The settlement options available are: • Life Only, • Specified Period, • Life and Period Certain and • Payments for Life for both situations on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.

Held in Douglas, Mass.

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak"

The semi-annual meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak" was held on Sunday, April 27 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall in Douglas, Mass. Coffee and Danish were served.

Group 3 President Kevin Conway called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Wreath 18 President Rose Manyak led the delegates in the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was then led by Vice President Roger J. Manyak. Secretary Christine Manyak read the roll call of officers and delegates. A total of 13 members representing Assembly 28 and Wreath 18 were in attendance.

Secretary Christine Manyak reviewed the minutes of Group 3's annual meeting held on Sunday, September 22, 2013. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Joseph Bolte, seconded by John Manyak.

Brother Kevin welcomed everyone and thanked all for attending. He had high praise for all who had a hand in the highly successful dinner honoring our 46th Slet participants held the night before. It was well attended and Group 3 was recognized as the International Slet Track & Field winners. Brother Kevin acknowledged the camaraderie and reported that the event was also attended by our local parish priest, Father Ernie. Brother Kevin stressed the importance of letting our youth know that the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall was their building.

The Treasurer, Ralph Quinn was unable to attend the meeting, therefore the treasurer's report was read by Brother Kevin. After review and discussion, the treasurer's report was then accepted on a motion by Larry Bombara, seconded by Jeanne Bomara.

Group 3 Physical Directress Judy Manyak reported that the Christmas party held the first Sunday in December was a resounding success. The children enjoyed a Magic Show. Group 3 hosted this year's Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament. Group 3 had two volleyball teams competing. Team A placed 2nd and Team B placed 3rd.

Brother Roger reported that even with a short notice, the Eastern District tournament, we had one Junior 8-11 team which placed 1st; two Junior age 12-15 teams and

two senior men's teams with the A team coming in 1st. The event was held at the Douglas Public Schools and the Douglas Municipal Center. Brother Roger thanked Sister Judy Manyak and Lori Cyr for taking charge of the meal and managing food coming in for the breakfast and dinner. He also acknowledged the many parents who baked desserts and helped with score keeping and coaching our teams. All of this help made for a very successful and enjoyable tournament in the best traditions of Group 3. Again, thank you members and parents.

Upcoming events include the 27th softball tournament in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. on July 12th. We plan to send one men's and one women's team. Brother Roger stated that the Groups in the Eastern District need to try and work with each other so that we can make it easy for them to host the tournaments in their area. It would be nice to see the ones who have become inactive start getting involved again.

New Business

Membership growth is important. We need to be informing people of our great organization and try to encourage them to become our members.

The Group 3 Sokol Open is scheduled for September 6, 2014 at the Connecticut National Golf Course. This is one of our very successful fund-raisers. Brother Roger continues to chair this event.

Our organization's 32nd quadrennial convention is set for August 1-5, 2015 in Pittsburgh, Pa. Anyone interested in being a delegate needs to let Brother Kevin know. We need to participate and stay involved.

Upcoming fund-raising: In addition to the Sokol Open, the Octoberfest is tentatively scheduled for October 4, 2014. Other ideas include a Comedy Night and a pot luck supper.

It was recommended that a card or email be sent to parents regarding the annual meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Joseph Bolte, seconded by Larry Bombara. Sister Rose Manyak concluded the meeting with a prayer for our deceased members. Suhlhas!

Zdar Boh!
Christine Manyak
Group 3 Secretary

Freedom lecture in Washington, D.C.

The annual Czech-Slovak Freedom Lecture hosted by the President Woodrow Wilson Foundation is scheduled for Friday, November 14 at the Woodrow Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, located at One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. in Washington, D.C. beginning at 12 noon.

The distinguished speaker at this year's lecture will be Pavol

Demes, former Minister of International Relations and foreign policy advisor to the first Slovak president, Michal Kovac. Mr. Demes' lecture will focus on the Velvet Revolution and Slovakia's progress since independence, including its entry into the EU and NATO. There is free admission and the lecture is open to the public. For additional information on the lecture, call the Wilson Center at (201)691-4000.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

ANNUITY RATES

EFFECTIVE SINCE: JULY 1, 2012

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
VANTAGE 1	1.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 2	1.50%	1.00%
VANTAGE 3	2.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 5	3.25%	2.00%
VANTAGE 7	3.50%	2.00%

SINGLE PREMIUM IMMEDIATE ANNUITY

SPIA

5 THROUGH 9 YEARS	2.75%
10 YEARS OR MORE	3.50%

NO LONGER OFFERED

EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 31, 2011

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
FLEXIBLE	3.00%	3.00%
SINGLE PREMIUM	3.00%	3.00%



Sokol Birthdays

OCTOBER 28
Elizabeth M. Gress, Columbia, N.J., a member of Assembly 78, Bethlehem, Pa.

Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, SS.C.M., Danville, Pa., a member of Assembly 312, Passaic, N.J.

Simon Koval, Poway, CA, a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Rebecca Lee, Wilkes Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Veronica Gdula Maslar, Beaverdale, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

Marian Mitro, Millis, Mass., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

OCTOBER 29
Arlene Most, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Kelli Lynne Newmaster, Cannonsburg, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 30
Andrew M. Chuba, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes Barre, Pa.

Michelle Minnick, Elyria, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.
Joseph Jurasi, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

Sara Elizabeth Oleksak, Allentown, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

OCTOBER 31
Robert D. Betza, Gibsonsia, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Kerri Ann Malanowski, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Anna M. Warrick, West Newton, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

NOVEMBER 2
Julie Brincka Gural, Columbia, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

Paul L. Mudrak, Carteret, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

NOVEMBER 3
Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., our Honorary Supreme Officer.

Michaela B. Benyak, Monongahela, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Mary Lou Hamilton, Arlington

Heights, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Morgan Elizabeth Pudgil, Vista, Ca., a member of Wreath 39, Bridgeport, Conn.

Robert Toskovich, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Mary Tribou, Lakeville, Mass., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

NOVEMBER 4
Thomas A. Masi, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

Joseph Nicholas Oros, Reading, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

Caroline Ruth Yench, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 5
Joanne Bartos, Struthers, Oh., a member of Wreath 107, Youngstown, Oh.

Elizabeth Florek, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Assembly 69, Smock, Pa.

Joseph J. Hornack, Independence, Oh., a member of Wreath 34, Cleveland, Oh.

NOVEMBER 6
Jennifer Bell, Cannonsburg, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOVEMBER 7
Makayla Breann Macurak, Acworth, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOVEMBER 8
Marc E. Drevitch, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 9
Eric A. Koval, Bear Creek Twp., Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Irene Kuchta, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., our esteemed Supreme Secretary and financial secretary of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

John Tomcho, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Eleanor E. Venit, Kingston, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 10
Rebecca K. Kunec, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Noah Compiled



Words

On October 16, 1758, Noah Webster began his 85 years on earth. As time passed the teacher, patriot, journalist, lecturer, lawyer, legislator, and author managed to make a mark for himself few can match. Webster is most remembered for his American Dictionary of the American Language, a work which took him 20 years to complete.

Eighth Stayed Tenth

October, the tenth month of the year, comes from the Latin word for eight. It was the eighth month in the calendar of ancient Rome.

The Roman Senate tried to change October's name four times - to Germanicus, Antonius, Faustinus, and Hercules. Those names honored General Germanicus Caesar, Emperor Antonius Pius, Antonius' wife Faustinus and Emperor Commodus, who considered himself the Roman Hercules.

But the names did not appeal to the citizens of ancient Rome. They continued to call the month - October. It stuck....

Cleveland Slovak Institute offers items for Christmas

The Slovak Institute, a reference library and cultural center located at St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. offers a variety of items which make perfect gifts during the Christmas season.

Slovak Christmas cards, 10 to a package, are available at the cost of \$10.00, these cards are also available to those residing in Canada at the cost of \$12.00 Canadian. English Christmas cards are also available at \$10.00 for a pack of ten cards. Christmas Oplatky, three to a package are available at \$1.00. A large map of Slovakia including all villages, towns and cities costs \$10.00. Small Slovak flags, 4" x 5.5" are available at \$4.00 each while large flags of Slovakia, 3 1/2 by 5 feet cost \$20.00. Slovak language and history books are also available. "Let's Learn Slovak" 4th edition by Philip A. Hrobak is available at \$5.00 a copy, Slovak Songs and Dances by Michael Sinchak costs \$7.00 a copy. Books on Slovak history include: "Slovaks in Florida" by Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., \$10.00; "Humble Beginnings," a Slovak upbringing in Grassflat, Pa. by Anne Lucas Ryba, \$15.00; "Remembrances and Testimony - Dr.

Jozef Tiso and the Slovak Republic, 1939-1945 by Karol Murin, \$18.00; "Cleveland Slovaks" by John T. Sabol and Liza Alzo, \$22.00; "History of the Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood" by Jan Pankuch \$24.00; "Night of the Barbarians, Experiences under Communism," by Cardinal Jan Korec, S.J., \$28.00 and "Icon of Spring" girlhood memories of Pennsylvania by Sonya Jason, \$10.00. A number of books in Slovak are also available. A booklist is available upon request. Add \$4.00 to cover shipping and handling when ordering any of the above items. Make checks payable to: The Slovak Institute and send same to: Slovak Institute, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104. For additional information on any items offered by the Slovak Institute call tel. (216)721-5300, ext. 294 or email slovakinstitute@cbhs.edu.

Founded in 1952 by the late Abbot Theodore G. Kojis, O.S.B. and others, the Slovak Institute serves as one of the most important depositories of Slovakianna in the U.S. Andrew F. Hudak, Jr. currently serves as the Institute's director with Joseph J. Hornack as assistant director.

Keep Your Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Numbers Handy

- TOLL FREE NUMBER - 1-800-886-7656
- HOME OFFICE - (973) 777-2605 or 777-2606
- DIRECTOR OF SALES - 1-888-381-5431 or (412) 381-5431
- UNDERWRITING - (973) 777-4704
- EDITOR - (973) 777-4010
- FAX NUMBER - (973) 779-8245
- E-MAIL - Sokol205@aol.com
- WEB SITE - www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

From the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

Plans for a Pilot Program of Youth Soccer Suggested

Over the past several years, the Members of the Supreme Physical Fitness have discussed, as a pilot program, adding Youth Soccer as part of one of our annual events. The Board of Directors informally discussed the possibility of such an event if there is enough interest amongst our members. This event may be planned in conjunction with one of our other adult events, allowing for the possibility of families to attend. The youth soccer games (ages 13 and under) could possibly be played during our Annual Softball Tournament next year.

If your group does not have a youth soccer team, it is no big deal. The Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics and staff may create and combine teams so all members can participate. The Soccer competition is just meant to be a fun event for our junior members.

So that we can gauge the interest level for adding youth soccer, please e-mail me at kathyw323@gmail.com (or complete the form below) and return it to me by Thanksgiving. More details will follow once the membership is heard from.

Group _____ Member's Name _____

Child / Children's Name:	Age

Would you play on a team with members from other groups? YES _____ NO _____

Would you be willing to play on a co-ed team? YES _____ NO _____

Zdar Boh!

Kathleen S. Watkins, Supreme Physical Directress
7019 Highland Creek Drive
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the Memorial Scholarship fund? Donations made payable to: SCS Memorial Scholarship Fund may be sent to:

Dennis J. Zifcak
SCS Museum Treasurer
33 Pinecrest Rd.
Uxbridge, MA 01569

or

Julie Ann Dobbs
SCS Museum Chairperson
5314 Agatha Turn,
Racine, WI 53402



The Mixing Bowl

ROSE AND STAR COOKIES

1 lb. salted butter
4 egg yolks
5 cups flour
1 tsp. baking powder
Pinch of salt
Juice of half lemon
1/2 pint sour cream
1 cup sugar
1/2 of 10 cent portion
of Baker's yeast

Mix flour, salt, baking powder and yolks(dry) together. Add butter and work in. Beat egg yolks lightly and add to mixture. Take the sugar and lemon juice and add to sour cream and mix. Then add to mixture and work until smooth. Let stand in refrigerator overnight.

Filling with your favorite filling. Make star or rose or horseshoe cookies. Bake in moderate oven at 350degreesF for 12 to 15 minutes.

DATE AND NUT BARS

1 cup dates cut up
1 teaspoon soda
1 cup boiling water, pour water over dates and soda, let stand until cool.
1 cup white sugar
1 egg
2 tbsp. butter
2 cups flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. cinnamon or nutmeg
1 cup chopped nuts

Cream butter, sugar. Add egg, baking powder, cinnamon or nutmeg. Add flour with dates and nut. Bake in a cake pan 8 x 10 inches. Bake at 350degreesF for 40 to 45 minutes.

BUTTER COOKIES

1 cup sugar
1 pound butter
2 eggs, separated
1/2 lemon rind and juice
1 tsp. baking powder
6 cups flour
1 cup walnut meats
chopped fine

Cream butter, add sugar, than the yolks of eggs slightly beaten, add rind of lemon, lemon juice and flour mixed with baking powder. Knead together. Chill dough several hours, then roll.

Roll dough on lightly floured board 1/4 inch thick. Cut cookies, brush with white of eggs, sprinkle with sugar and chopped nuts. Bake in moderate oven at 350degreesF for 10 to 15 minutes.

OATMEAL COOKIES

2 1/2 cups sifted flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
3/4 cup soft butter or margarine
3/4 cup sugar
2 tablespoons milk
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla
1 cup Mother's Oats(quick or old fashioned uncooked)

Sift flour, baking powder and salt into bowl. Add butter, sugar, milk, egg and vanilla. Beat until well blended, about 2 minutes. Stir in rolled oats - roll out on lightly floured board to 1/4 inch thickness,

cut in shapes. Bake on greased cookie sheets in moderate oven 375degreesF for about 15 minutes. Decorate with tinted confesioneers' sugar frosting. Makes 3 1/2 dozen.

SOUR CREAM COFFEE CAKE

1/2 cup, plus 1 tbs. butter
1 cup sugar
3 cups flour
1 tsp. baking soda
3 eggs
1 cup sour cream
1/4 cup milk

Cream butter and sugar, add eggs and beat, until light and creamy. Add dry ingredients, alternately with sour cream and milk.

Filling

3/4 cup chopped nuts
1/2 cup sugar
1 teaspoon cocoa
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Mix these ingredients together and set aside. Place half of the batter in 8 inch tube pan and cover with remainder of filling. Bake in 350degreesF oven for 50 minutes.

PERSIAN NUT TORTE

12 eggs, separated
12 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
6 tablespoons flour
1 bar German sweet chocolate
grated

Beat egg yolks well, add sugar gradually and beat for 20 minutes. Then add baking powder,sifted with flour and the chocolate. Beat egg whites and fold in. Bake in moderate oven 350degreesF in three layers or spring form pan for 25 minutes and cut in three layers.

Filling

Beat for 1/2 hour. One pound of unsalted butter and one cup of powdered sugar. Pour 1/2 pint boiling milk over 1/2 pound ground walnuts. When cool, add to butter and beat well. Add teaspoon vanilla and put between layers and on top and sides. Make the day before and put in refrigerator over night.

DELICATE NUT ROLL

6 eggs, separated
3/4 cup sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
1 cup wheat germ
1/2 cup grated pecans
1 1/2 cups heavy cream
3 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
Confectioners' sugar

Beat egg whites until stiff. Using same beater, beat egg yolks until thick, gradually adding 3/4 cup sugar. Fold in combined baking powder,wheat germ and pecans, then the beaten egg whites. Spread in waxed paper lined jelly roll pan, 15 x 10 x 1 inch. Bake in preheated 350degreesF oven for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and cover with damp cloth; chill in refrigerator. Turn cake out on cloth; remove paper. Beat cream until it begins to thicken. Gradually add 3 tablespoons sugar, then vanilla and continue beating until cream holds its shape. Spread on cake. Roll cake

gently from narrow end. Chill in refrigerator until serving time or freeze. If frozen, it may be served immediately after slicing because it thaws quickly. Sprinkle roll with confectioners' sugar just before serving.

SET GOOD HAUNTING FOR KIDS

There are trick-or-treat dangers on Halloween. Unfortunately, excited youngsters are too often mindless of the dangers surrounding them. Parents, therefore, should keep the following in mind:

* When driving, watch for fender-high tykes who may suddenly spring out into the street.

* Before your youngsters set out, review safe pedestrian practices with them.

* Be sure their costumes contain some white material or reflecting tape.

* Use make-up instead of masks that can hamper vision.

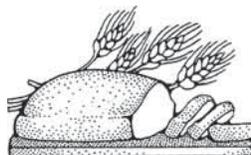
* Light jack-o-lanterns with flashing lights.

* Demand that your children save all their treats until they return home. Then, inspect each treat.

Happy haunting....

Yeast Doubled It

Bread was accidentally born thousands of years ago. As legend has it, in 1500 B.C., an absent-minded Egyptian baker left some



dough standing out overnight. By the next morning, the dough had curiously doubled in size. He baked the mysterious dough and to his surprise the first yeast bread in history was born.

From that day on, what came to be known as bread was highly acclaimed. Skillful bakers artistically kneaded their breads in a variety of shapes - round, conical, braided. The more enterprising among them carefully carved bread into fish, bird and pyramid forms. In fact, bread was so prized by Egyptians that pharaoh is used the decorative loaves as barber.

Be Heart Informed

The American Heart Association is offering free presentations on cholesterol, high blood pressure, heart disease risk factors and heart-healthy food choices to clubs, business firms and church and fraternal groups.

Presentations are made as a free public service by volunteers, many of whom are physicians, registered dietitians, and registered nurses. For more information, call your local AHA office.

Going into the Wild?

* If you'll be without a refrigerator, take only those perishable foods that you can use early in the trip.

* For backpacking, try some of the new dehydrated and dried foods. Many camp foods need no refrigeration.

* Boil stream and river water for 15 minutes, then let stand until cool before use.

* Thoroughly cook meat from any game or fish caught in the wild. Wild animals often carry parasites.



THE ONE HUNDRED CLUB



NOVEMBER 8TH @ THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CLUB

COME OUT FOR A NIGHT OF DINNER, DRINKS, MUSIC, PRIZES, AND HELP SUPPORT A GOOD CAUSE!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!

TICKET PRICE: \$100 GUEST: \$25

EACH TICKET GETS 1 NUMBER,
ONLY 100 TICKETS SOLD, WITH UP TO 16 WINNERS!!!
WILL THE LAST 3 SPLIT IT....OR GO FOR IT ALL?!



4 - \$50 WINNERS
9 - \$100 WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE
3 - \$1,000 WINNERS
OR
1 - \$3,000 WINNER



EXTRA PRIZES: CHINESE AUCTION, 50/50 & MORE!

TICKET INCLUDES:

6:00 PM: COCKTAIL HOUR

7:00 PM: DINNER BUFFET

8:00 PM: GAMETIME!

DJ AND BAR ALL NIGHT!

* TICKET INCLUDES: BEER, POP, COFFEE/TEA & WATER

MEAL:

ROAST BEEF
CONRAD'S MARINATED FRIED CHICKEN
EGGPLANT PARMESAN
ROASTED POTATOES
LINGUINI SALAD
CUCUMBER AND TOMATO SALAD
TOSSED GREEN SALAD
ROLLS & BUTTER
DESSERT

For Tickets or Information - Call Carmella at 412-414-9249 or Email at suesscm@gmail.com



Obituaries...

John Kulhan, Decorated Slovak World War II Hero and Author, Passed Away

John Kulhan, 91 years old, passed away on September 2, 2014. During WWII, John was a decorated lieutenant in the Czechoslovak Army 3rd Infantry Brigade under General Svoboda whose life he saved three times. He survived the bloody Battle of Dukla Pass-October 5, 1944. In 1950, he came to America with his wife, Marta and their two children.

For the next forty-eight years John fought for Slovakia's freedom. To help oppressed nations, he immersed himself in American politics by working with the Captive Nations, Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations, and the National Republican Heritage Groups Council. He also worked alongside Presidents Dwight Eisenhower through George W. Bush. President Nixon honored him with the Bronze Medal of Freedom in 1969. Eleven years later, Senator Bob Dole presented him the Republican Presidential Legion of Merit Medal. In 1986, he became a Charter Member of the Executive Board of the Republican Presidential Task Force Presidential Committee established by President Ronald Reagan. He served as a Life Member of the Republican Presidential Task Force. In 1991, Vice President Dan Quayle nominated John to the Republican Senatorial Inner Circle. In 1993, he received the Presidential Legion of Merit Honor Roll, which was signed by four U.S. Presidents. The National Republican Congressional Committee issued him the Congressional Order of Merit in 2007.

John had been an active member of the Slovak League of America since 1950. In 1957, he served as Chairman of the Slo-

vak Liberation Committee in the United States. He helped establish the St. John Nepomucene Church Council in 1967 of which he was Chairman/Honorary Chairman. In 1970, he became a founder and the first Vice-President of the Slovak Cultural Center of New York. In the same year, he became president of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly 182, New York. When plans were underway for the Major John Polerecky Monument in Yonkers, New York, in 1977, John served as Financial Committee Chairman for the Slovak Cultural Center. One year later, he became Secretary of the Political Committee of the Slovak World Congress. He was active in the Slovak Catholic Sokol until his death.

As a WWII hero, John was awarded numerous medals and citations. In 1946, General Ludvik Svoboda awarded him a certificate and the Medal of the White Eagle for his bravery during WWII. The next year, the Czechoslovak Legion honored him with the Czechoslovak War Cross. For his heroism against Hitler and his army, John received the Anti-Fascist Freedom Fighter Medal presented by Rodion Malinovsky, Commander of the Ukrainian Front WWII in 1948. On the 60th Anniversary of WWII, John was presented a medal by the Order of the President of the Russian Federation. Then in 2005, in Svidnik, Slovakia, he was presented with the Dukla Pass Freedom Medal and a WWII Freedom Medal from the Polish Military in Krosno, Poland. One year later, the Slovak Defense Department gave him the Dukla Pass Battle Freedom Fighter Medal as did the Czech Republic. In 2009, he was once again awarded a WWII Freedom Medal



John Kulhan, a prominent leader within the American Slovak community, who passed away peacefully on September 2, is shown above with his daughter, Dr. Darline Kulhan.

IN MEMORIAM

Slovak Catholic Sokol extends sincere sympathy to the bereaved families of deceased members

SEPTEMBER 2014

Assembly/Wreath	Member	Age	Date of Death
Assembly 1	Joseph Soltis, Passaic, NJ	92	September 6, 2014
Assembly 9	John J. Mino, Bridgeport, CT	72	December 24, 2012
Assembly 11	Jakub Bendik, Chicago, IL	80	September 8, 2014
Assembly 11	Ann Delzeno, Chicago, IL	95	September 14, 2014
Assembly 24	Patricia Caras, Boonton, NJ	69	August 22, 2014
Assembly 28	Francis J. Bombara, East Douglas, MA	87	August 17, 2014
Assembly 32	Mary Steigler, Palmerton, PA	83	July 11, 2014
Assembly 36	Jerome Joseph Hayden, Detroit, MI	78	August 18, 2014
Assembly 57	Dolores Grazer, Allentown, PA	92	August 16, 2014
Assembly 57	Sylvia M. Brucker, Allentown, PA	84	July 24, 2014
Assembly 59	Ann Kollesar, Wilkes-Barre, PA	83	September 16, 2014
Assembly 64	John P. Palkovic, Erie, PA	87	August 26, 2014
Assembly 78	Elsie Hilda Pribula, Bethlehem, PA	90	July 9, 2014
Assembly 79	Paul Bart, Lilly, PA	62	September 6, 2014
Assembly 86	Bernadine Helen Gosser, Port Griffith, PA	85	August 21, 2014
Assembly 108	Deborah Lee Ziots, Youngstown, OH	60	September 11, 2014
Assembly 108	Robert Bednar, Youngstown, OH	77	August 11, 2014
Assembly 127	Thomas E. Zdilla, Monessen, PA	94	August 25, 2014
Assembly 136	Anna Dudasko, Nanticoke, PA	93	May 11, 2014
Assembly 162	Rose Search, Clifton, NJ	82	December 6, 2013
Assembly 162	Anthony Navarino, Clifton, NJ	69	August 8, 2014
Assembly 163	Catherine Karabin, Donora, PA	88	October 21, 2011
Assembly 182	John Zigo, New York, NY	93	February 15, 2012
Assembly 182	John Kulhan, New York, NY	91	September 2, 2014
Assembly 188	Sharon Ann Fogarty, Lansford, PA	44	September 4, 2014
Assembly 219	Margaret Komar, Yonkers, NY	89	February 4, 2013
Assembly 261	John B. Bednarik, Reading, PA	90	July 11, 2014
Assembly 312	Elizabeth Serroka, Passaic, NJ	88	August 20, 2014
Assembly 312	Jeffery Chianello, Passaic, NJ	58	September 4, 2014
Wreath 8	Mary Rentos, Bellaire, OH	98	August 24, 2014
Wreath 11	Robert Mazairz, Johnstown, NY	82	August 20, 2014
Wreath 11	Robert Conti, Johnstown, NY	51	July 9, 2014
Wreath 15	Jean Bianchi, Perryopolis, PA	81	August 25, 2014
Wreath 54	Elizabeth Rogenski, Youngstown, OH	84	August 19, 2014
Wreath 81	Albin Derbis, Whiting, IN	82	May 16, 2014
Wreath 85	Joseph Martonik, McKees Rocks, PA	95	August 21, 2014
Wreath 85	George Raskovsky, McKees Rocks, PA	83	August 25, 2014
Wreath 155	Debra Lacoskie, Reading, PA	58	September 18, 2014

by the Slovak Republic Ministry of Defense.

One of John's greatest accomplishments was the contribution he and his family made in the canonization process for St. Faustina, whose feast happens to be on October 5th. For their efforts, St. Pope John Paul II bestowed an Apostolic Blessing upon John and his family. In addition, John and his family helped collect funds for the building of the Holy Rosary Church in Praznoce, Slovakia. This church, dedicated to The Divine Mercy, was completed in 2000.

Before his death John authored his memoir Freedom's Gate which can be purchased at freedomsgatestory.com. Harry Cournots and Annette Davies, his grandchildren, produced and directed the screenplay Freedom's Gate which won several awards at the 2009 Queens International Film Festival; Beverly Hills Hi-Def Film Festival; and Indie Fest.

John is survived by five children: Ann Marie, Jean, Dr. Darline, John Jr. and Sonia. He has six grand-children and three great grand-children. Marta, his wife of 67 years, passed away on January 22, 2014. He will be greatly missed not only by his family but also by the Slovak community.

Albert Kollesar, 90, Well-known Group 7 Activist, Passes Away in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Albert Kollesar passed away peacefully on September 27th in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. following an illness. He was 90.



A native of Jeddo, Pa. outside Freeland, he was born there October 10, 1923, son of Slovak immigrant parents,

the late John Kollesar and the former Mary Yuda. He was educated in the Freeland area schools.

Following his education, John proudly served in the defense of our country in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was stationed in LeHarve, France, and in Belgium. He earned the rank of technical sergeant upon his honorable discharge. Following the war, he joined the Pennsylvania National Guard in 1947, and was recalled for duty during the Korean conflict on November 20, 1950, with the 101st Airborne Division, stationed at Camp Breckenridge, Ky. at the time of his second honorable discharge on Oct. 25, 1951. Upon his retirement in April of 1989, Albert

was employed for 15 years, working in the Dittmco of the Tobyhanna Army Depot. Prior to that, he was the owner and operator of Little Al's Texaco Service Station in Freeland for more than 20 years.

Brother Albert has been an active Sokol of Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre all his life. He has participated in many Sokol fraternal and sporting events over the years. He was especially active in Group 7, with his late wife, Anna, who preceded him in death just 11 days prior on September 16. He was a Gold Member of the North End Slovak Citizens Club, where in 1958, he served as the first chairman of the club's annual children's Christmas party. He was a member of St. Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre, having previously been an active member of the former Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak parish and its Holy Name Society. Active in civic affairs, Brother Kollesar also held membership in Council 302 of the Knights of Columbus, where he was a life member and was a Fourth Degree Sir Knight with the Bishop William J. Hafey Assembly 302 of the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5010

(Continued on page 18)

**2014 Scholarship Winners
Express Thanks and Gratitude**

Dear Brother Steven Pogorelec and staff at the Slovak Catholic Sokol,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to continue my education at St. Pius X School by choosing me as a recipient of a Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grant. This money will help offset the increase in tuition this year and help ease the cost for my parents.

I appreciate the generous nature of the Slovak Catholic Sokols and am very grateful for this scholarship.

Fondly yours,
Maura Waite
Albany, N.Y.

Dear Supreme Board of Directors and Scholarship Committee,

I would like to acknowledge that I have received my scholarship check from the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

I would also like to thank you for selecting me to receive this generous college scholarship grant. Your grant will help allow me to pursue my medical degree. I could not be more excited to begin my medical education this month at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Again, I very much appreciate your generosity. Thank you again!

Sincerely,
Dana Ley
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,

I would like to thank the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors Scholarship Advisory/Selection Committee for selecting me as one of the 2014 recipients of a Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship Grant. I am honored to be one of the few chosen for this prestigious award. I will be a senior at Seton Hill University this semester, and with the help of this scholarship, I plan on continuing my quest to become an Early Childhood/Elementary Ed-

ucation school teacher. Thank you again for the support and acknowledgement of my accomplishments. Zdar Boh!

Sincerely,
Jenna C. Synder
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Pogorelec and members of the scholarship selection committee,

I would like to thank each and every one you again for choosing me to be a recipient of a 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship Grant. I am again very honored and grateful to have been chosen for this award. This grant will be extremely helpful in completing my education in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. I am currently a student nurse in a Pittsburgh hospital and your generosity has made me determined to work with and give back to the less fortunate in the community. Thank you again for your consideration and generosity in awarding me with this scholarship and for helping to support my education.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Adams
Plain City, Oh.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,

I want to take the opportunity to thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of a one thousand dollar Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship Grant for 2014. This is a great honor and I am very thankful for your generosity. I am currently beginning my sophomore year at Robert Morris University. This scholarship will do wonders for me this year!

Thank you again for the opportunity and support for higher education.

Sincerely,
Paige Gasiorowski
Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Snack Wisely,
Not Too Well**

Snacking is a well-established eating pattern among adolescents as well as adults. Although snacks can be a source of needed nutrients and calories, it's important that they don't become a substitute for regular meals. Selections should be balanced with other food choices over the entire day. If snacking leads to unwanted pounds, these simple weight management tips can guide the way to CHANGE:

Count out crash diets or quick weight-loss schemes.

Have patience in losing a half pound to one pound per week. Always drink plenty of water or other fluids.

Never skip meals in efforts to lose weight

Get up and go, increase your physical activity.

Eat a variety of foods.

American Naval Fleet Born

America's first naval fleet was hurriedly constructed during the summer of 1776 in Whitehall (then Skenesborough), New York, while a British task force was sailing down Lake Champlain. Outnumbered and outgunned, the hastily completed 15-ship "navy" commanded by Benedict Arnold, took on the British fleet in an October 11-13 battle near Valcour Island.



Although all 15 vessels were scuttled or sunk, the attack delayed the British assault on Ticonderoga and Albany for another year.

Light The Lanterns, Jack

This October 31 eve, as for many years past, excited youngsters will hide behind costumes of their favorite heroes, cartoon characters or traditional characters as witches, ghosts and skeletons. Then they will troop noisily through their neighborhoods ringing doorbells, shouting "trick or treat" while thrusting bags forward for expected goodies.

Some youngsters will also embrace more mischievous acts like papering trees or soaping the windows of houses and cars. A few youngsters will take the opportunity to vandalize; a few so-called adults will use the opportunity to contaminate the "treats" they give away with rat poison, razor blades, pins, etc. Clearly some evil spirits are still abroad in the land as the ancients believed.

Halloween lore seems to date back hundreds of years B.C. to the ancient Celts living in the British Isles and northern France. They worshipped the Sun God whose time ran out October 31 with the harvest. Then would come the unknown perils of winter.

So on the night of October 31, the Celts believed that Samhain, Prince of Darkness and Death, captured the Sun God and allowed the dead spirits to walk the earth. To the wicked among these spirits, Samhain gave animal forms - cats being reserved for the most wicked of all. To frighten away this evil, the Celts built huge bon fires, then chanted and danced. In addition, they disguised themselves in costumes and

masks so the dead would not recognize and harm them.

Another bit of Halloween lore, the jack-o-lantern, comes down from the Irish. A man named Jack was refused entry into heaven because he had played practical jokes on the devil. He was thus made to walk the earth with his lantern until Judgement Day.

The trick or treat custom comes from the idea of the Celts that the "little folk" or mischievous imps were also out on this particular night. Those who were generous with treats for the "little folk" had no tricks played on them.

May the laughter and joy of youngsters enjoying the old pagan rituals continue to frighten away the evil - not all supernatural as the Celts believed, but unfortunately human in form.



**Our Ever-Popular, 304-Page
Sokol Cook Book
is Now in its Fourth Edition**

For all your fall recipes



**Just \$14.50 which includes postage and handling
Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of
12 cook books for just \$160.00 - Place your order today!**

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(Effective January 1, 2012)

Christmas Oplatky 2014

The celebration of Christmas in a Slovak home would not be complete without the sharing of the traditional Oplatky, the Slovak Christmas wafers.

They are a time-honored tradition passed on from generation to generation. Jankola Library and Slovak Museum located at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. has provided these Oplatky for those of Slovak ancestry scattered across the United States. Where in previous times, the Oplatky were available at one's local Slovak parish, sad to say many of these Slovak parishes no longer exist and many of our members reside in all 50 of our states. However, preserving this wonderful Slovak faith tradition is important. Orders for Oplatky will be accepted from October 20 until December 19, 2014.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be pur-

chased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising cost of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order. For more information or to place an order, contact: Sister Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M. at tel. 570-275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698. Sharing the Oplatky either at the Christmas eve supper or on Christmas Day will add a special Slovak dimension to your celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Jankola Library also has a supply of books, tapes and other material related to the study of the Slovak language as well as Slovak music and song are available. Call for a book list. Such items make wonderful gifts at Christmas for those who cherish their Slovak heritage.



realLIFEstories

The Responsible Thing to Do

Summer was much like her name: bright, bubbly and energetic. She was also hardworking. At 22, she was managing her own household, working full-time as a waitress, while attending school with dreams of becoming a doctor.

She would drop by her insurance agent's office each month to pay her auto insurance and was always greeted by licensed insurance professional Christie Trahan. One month, Summer revealed that she was expecting a baby. Christie was thrilled for her, but also knew she had to talk to Summer about something more serious: life insurance. Summer listened carefully, but said she'd think about it. Money was tight for the single mom-to-be; she also wanted to discuss it with her mother, Coleen.

After asking her over the course of several months, Christie told Summer that she felt she needed to ask one last time: "Are you sure you don't want to buy that life insurance?" At \$12 a month, Christie felt that it was affordable even for a working student. Summer agreed, saying that she knew it was the right thing to do, even though her mother had advised her to wait.

That was a fateful decision. Just nine months after Summer gave birth to Nathan, she was struck by a car while walking and killed.

After the accident, Coleen called Christie to ask if Summer had gone ahead and bought the policy. Christie assured her she had. Relief swept over Coleen, as she now had funds to give Summer a beautiful funeral. The death benefit also allowed Coleen to take a leave of absence from her job to take care of Nathan.

Nathan is now a happy 5-year-old, and Coleen has officially adopted him. She set aside the remaining money from Summer's policy for Nathan to use for college. "I'm so proud of Summer for making that wise decision for Nathan," says Coleen. ■



It's More Affordable Than You Think



If you think you can't afford life insurance, you may want to think again.

People overestimate the actual cost of life insurance by **two times**.¹

For example, a healthy 30-year-old male would pay less than \$13 a month for a 20-year, \$250,000, level-term policy.² Let an insurance professional help you find a policy to fit your budget.

¹ 2013 Insurance Barometer Study, conducted by the LIFE Foundation and LIMRA
² Best annual life policy cost quoted by AccuQuote.com, 2013

Albert Kollesar

(Continued from page 16)

and the Chicken Pluckers Club, both of Freeland, Pa.; as well as the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge 1145.

In addition to his wife of 58 years, the former Anna Halci-sak, he was preceded in death by his brothers, John and Michael Kollesar, and sisters, Mary Stefanick and Helen Wydock.

Surviving are the couple's children, Albert M. at home, our former Supreme Physical Directress and currently our Honorary Supreme Officer, Anne Marie Trethaway and her husband, David of Toms River, N.J.; and Mary Beth Dautrich and her husband, Ken of Naragansett, R.I.; grandchildren, Maria and Laura Trethaway, both of Toms River, N.J., Kenneth Dautrich of Boston, Mass. and Allison Dautrich of New York City; a sister, Mrs. Margaret Nagy of Jeddo, Pa. and several nieces, nephews and dear friends.

The John V. Morris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Funeral services were conducted on Saturday, October 4 with a concelebrated Mass of Christian burial celebrated in the chapel of Little Flower Manor in Wilkes-Barre, where the couple recently resided. Interment followed in Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery of St. Andre Bassette Parish in Dallas, Pa.

Brother Al, as he was affectionately known throughout our organization, was a wonderful ambassador of our Sokol way of life. He competed in numerous Sokol sports tournaments over the years. The Kollesar family has been a shining example of dedication to the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system. Brother Albert and his wife, Sister Anna will be sorely missed. However, we are blessed in that the Sokol and Slovak spirit continues in their children and grandchildren. May Brother Albert rest in peace.

available at \$5.00 a copy, Slovak Songs and Dances by Michael Sinchak costs \$7.00 a copy. Books on Slovak history include: "Slovaks in Florida" by Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., \$10.00; "Humble Beginnings," a Slovak upbringing in Grassflat, Pa. by Anne Lucas Ryba, \$15.00; "Remembrances and Testimony - Dr. Jozef Tiso and the Slovak Republic, 1939-1945 by Karol Murin, \$18.00; "Cleveland Slovaks" by John T. Sabol and Liza Alzo, \$22.00; "History of the Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood" by Jan Pankuch \$24.00; "Night of the Barbarians, Experiences under Communism," by Cardinal Jan Korec, S.J., \$28.00 and "Icon of Spring" girlhood memories of Pennsylvania by Sonya Jason, \$10.00. A number of books in Slovak are also available. A booklist is available upon request. Add \$4.00 to cover shipping and handling when ordering any of the above items. Make checks payable to: The Slovak Institute and send same to:



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Gospel for the Feast of All Souls

(Continued from page 4)

and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Cleveland Slovak Institute offers items for Christmas

The Slovak Institute, a reference library and cultural center located at St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. offers a variety of items which make perfect gifts during the Christmas season.

Slovak Christmas cards, 10 to a package, are available at the cost of \$10.00, these cards are also available to those residing in Canada at the cost of \$12.00 Canadian. English Christmas cards are also avail-

able at \$10.00 for a pack of ten cards. Christmas Oplatky, three to a package are available at \$1.00. A large map of Slovakia including all villages, towns and cities costs \$10.00. Small Slovak flags, 4" x 5.5" are available at \$4.00 each while large flags of Slovakia, 3 1/2 by 5 feet cost \$20.00. Slovak language and history books are also available. "Let's Learn Slovak" 4th edition by Philip A. Hrobak is

Ako jesť semiačka, aby vám prospeli?

Semiačka dodávajú nášmu telu množstvo minerálov aj vitamínov. Preto ich odporúčajú jesť aj mnohí odborníci.

Tekvicové jadierka

Odporúčajú sa pri problémoch so zväčšenou prostatou, pri žľúdočných problémoch, ochoreniach močových ciest, reume, zvýšenom cholesterole, pri srdcovocievnych ochoreniach, málokrvnosti. Majú antioxidantné, protizápalové a protiparazitické vlastnosti. Optimálna denná dávka je približne dvadsaťpäť až päťdesiat gramov, čo predstavuje asi hrst surových tekvicových semienok denne. Najzdravšie sú surové a nesoľené. Pre lepšiu chuť si ich môžete zľahka nasucho opražiť alebo pomaly upiecť, či ušúšiť v rúre.

Slnecnicové semienka

Znižujú krvný tlak a cholesterol, riziko kardiovaskulárnych ochorení, pôsobia upokojujúco, priaznivo pôsobia na vlasy a nechty, sú prospešné pri kožných problémoch, zlepšujú činnosť štítnej žľazy. Pomáhajú budovať a regenerovať svaly.

Vhodné sú surové a opražené, so šupkou i bez nej. Môžete nimi očuchovať kaše, ovsené vločky, zeleninové šaláty, používajú sa pri pečení chleba. Dve polievkové lyžice denne doplnia odporúčanú dávku vitamínu E. Viac ich však nejedzte – síce sú ľahko stráviteľné, ale kalorické. Odporúčajú sa pri alergií na bielkovinu kravského mlieka a pri cukrovke.

Sesamové semienka

Olejnaté semená sú zásobárnou zdraviu prospešných látok. Znižujú hladinu zlého cholesterolu v krvi, sú prevenciou vysokého krvného tlaku a osteoporózy, zmiernujú úzkosť a neurózu, pôsobia antioxidantne, ochraňujú pečeň pred poškodením. Stačí, ak zjete jednu hrst semienok denne.

Lanové semienka

Známejší je síce lanový olej, ale aj samotné semienka, ktoré sú lesklé, tmavohnedé a majú

tvár slzy, prospievajú zdraviu aj pos-tave. Celé pomáhajú pri tráviacich problémoch, najmä pri zápche ako prírodné, nenávykové preháňadlo. Majú totiž priaznivý vplyv na hygienu hrubého čreva a udržanie probiotickej kultúry. Pomleté znižujú hladinu zlého cholesterolu v krvi, pomáhajú pri prevencii a liečbe rakoviny, zvýšeného krvného tlaku, autoimunitných ochorení, podporujú imunitu. Pomáhajú pri chudnutí, lebo vás skvelo zasýtia a znížia chuť do jedla. Účinkujú pri prevencii a liečbe cukrovky druhého typu. Pomáhajú pri chudnutí, lebo vás zasýtia a znížia chuť do jedla.

Ak sa chcete zbaviť zápch, nechajte celé semená odstáť niekoľko hodín vo vode. Nápoj pite postupne v priebehu dňa. Dobre chutia v šalátoch, omáčkach, domácom chlebe, v mäsli s jogurtom. Viac živín z nich však dostanete, ak ich pomeliete. Dve polievkové lyžice denne sú dostatočná dávka, zohľadnite však príjem tuku v celkovom kalorickom príjme.

Semienka chia

Drobné semienka šľavie hispánskej sú asi najživnivejšie na svete, hoci v našich zemepisných šírkach ešte nie sú také známe.

Majú výrazné antioxidantné účinky, pomáhajú pri prevencii Alzheimerovej choroby, zlepšujú pamäť a koncentráciu, znižujú hladinu cukru v krvi a riziko cukrovky, podporujú srdce a cievy, správnu funkciu pečene, obličiek, zlepšujú črevnú peristaltiku, podporujú detoxikáciu organizmu, dodávajú telu energiu.

Celými semienkami si posypte šalát, jogurt, smoothie. Keďže nemajú žiadnu chuť, môžete ich pridávať do všetkých jedál. Dobré je nasucho ich opražiť a rozomlieť. Alebo si z nich spravte gél. Pripravte ho tak, že semená zalejete vodou a necháte desať minút odstáť. Napučia a získajú želatínovú konzistenciu. Gél vydrží v chladničke niekoľko týždňov.

Nová slovenská poštová známka

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

dovršilo formovanie jeho politických a spoločenských postojov. Popri národných otázkach u Andreja Hlinku vystúpil do popredia politický, sociálny a náboženský konzervativizmus.

Ako duchovná a cirkevná autorita, predseda SLS (ktorá od roku 1925 niesla jeho meno) i poslanec parlamentu v praktickej a ideovej rovine rozvinul koncepciu slovenského nacionalizmu a autonomizmu a bol tvorcom a hybatelom procesu politickej emancipácie slovenských katolíkov v opozícii voči koncepcii unitárneho československého štátu a alternatívnym českým i slovenským politickým subjektom. Pokiaľ ide o ovplyvnenie myslenia celých generácií, vrátane tých, ktoré presahovali horizont jeho života, bol Andrej Hlinka v pravom slova zmysle slovenským Charlesom Maurrasom so všetkými z toho vyplývajúcimi dôsledkami, spravidajúcimi obraz jeho osobnosti až do dnešných dní.

Slovenská armáda bude cvičiť irackých vojakov

Slovensko bude v rámci medzinárodnej koalície v boji proti Islamskému štátu cvičiť vojakov Irackých ozbrojených síl. Ako agentúru SITA informovala hovorkyňa ministerstva obrany Martina Balleková, kurzy odminovania budú môcť vojaci absolvovať v treňčianskom Centre výnimčnosti pre oblasť likvidácie výbušných prostriedkov.

V minulom roku už prešlo výcvikom v centre 14 irackých vojakov, ktorí sa cvičili v teórii výroby, detekcie, identifikácie a neutralizácie podomácky vyrobených nástražných výbušných systémov.

Slovensko Iraku dodá aj muníciu a humanitárnu pomoc. Podľa ministra obrany Martina Glváča je toto jeden zo spôsobov, ako aj Slovenská republika prispeje k boju proti Islamskému štátu.

Táto pomoc podľa ministerstva negatívne neovplyvní výcvik slovenských vojakov. - SITA

Informácie slovenských podujatiach na internete

Informácie o slovenských spoločenských, náboženských a športových podujatiach, video záznamy zo slovenských podujatí a ďalšie informácie nájdete na internetovej adrese: www.slovaknewstv.com

Krátke správy zo Slovenska



▼ Čínske firmy plánujú postaviť v Trnave novú výrobnú halu, sklady a administratívne priestory. Vzniknúť by tak malo minimálne 400 nových pracovných miest a rozšírenie aktivít výskumu a vývoja predpokladá vznik ďalších desiatok pracovných miest.

▼ Prestížny britský denník The Times zverejnil pred začiatkom lyžiarskej sezóny 2014/2015 celosvetový prehľad 50 najlepších lyžiarskych stredísk, v ktorom sú aj Vysoké Tatry. Prednosťou Vysokých Tatier je podľa The Times ich výhodná cenová dostupnosť pre britských lyžiarov. Potenciál Vysokých Tatier na britskom trhu zvyšuje aj nové letecké spojenie medzi letiskami Londýn Luton a Poprad-Tatry.

▼ Vo Vysokých Tatrách 7. októbra zahynula po asi 300-metrovom páde 28-ročná poľská turistka. Nehodu na Horskú záchrannú službu ohlásil dopoludnia iný poľský turista, ktorý videl padať človeka z vrcholu Východnej Vysokéj smerom do Veľkej Studenej doliny. Leteckí záchranári pre silný nárazový vietor a veľkú oblačnosť sa nemohli dostať vrtníkom do Veľkej Studenej doliny, preto sa vrátili a pokračovali po zemi.

▼ Medzitým sa oznamovateľovi

podarilo dostať na miesto, kde ležalo telo 28-ročnej poľskej turistky z Gdanska. Pri páde utrpela zranenia nezlučiteľné so životom. Vo Vysokých Tatrách je to siedma tohto roka obeť, informovala Horská záchranná služba.

▼ Od 13. do 22. októbra sa vo vojenskom Výcvikovom priestore Vojenského obvodu Lešť v Kamenici nad Círhovou konalo cvičenie pod názvom Ground Pepper, ktorého sa zúčastnilo 1300 vojakov z piatich krajín. Slovenské ozbrojené sily zastupovalo viac ako 900 vojakov, 42 vojakov bolo z Poľska, 11 z Maďarska a 38 z USA.

▼ Automobilky Volkswagen Slovakia, Kia Motors Slovakia a PSA Slovakia sú v desiatke najlepších autovýrobcov v strednej a východnej Európe. Vyplýva to z rebríčka Coface CEE TOP 500 podľa obratu za rok 2013. Vedúcim slovenských automobiliek je Volkswagen Slovakia s obratom 6,524 mld. eur za ostatný rok, ktorému patrí v regióne pozícia dvojky hneď za českou Škodou Auto. Kia Motors Slovakia, ktorá vlani dosiahla obrat 4,45 mld. eur, obsadila štvrté miesto. Na deviatom mieste skončila PSA Slovakia pri minuloročnom obrate 2,18 mld. eur.

V Himalajách zahynuli dvaja Slováci

Nepálske úrady 16. októbra potvrdili smrť dvoch Slovákov a troch nepálskych horských vodcov, ktorí boli nezvestní po lavíne v základnom tábore pod vrchom Dhaulágirí v strednom Nepále.

„Pátranie po dvoch nezvestných horolezcov bolo ukončené, ich telá boli nájdené, identifikované a dopravené vrtníkom do základného tábora Dhaulágirí.

Najmenej 85 horolezcov je nezvestných v strednom Nepále po tom, čo tamojší oblúbený trektingový trasu zasiahli 15. októbra snehové búrky a lavíny, ktoré sú pre toto ročné obdobie netypické.

Desaťčlennú slovenskú výpra-

vu a troch nepálskych horských sprievodcov zasiahla snehová vichrica pri siedmej najvyššej hore sveta Dhaulágirí (8167 metrov nad morom), kde sa na ich základný tábor zrútila lavína. Sedem Slovákov a jedného Čecha sa v stredu podarilo zachrániť.

Prívaly snehu pripravili o život na pešom okruhu okolo osemtisícovky Annapurna a na ďalších miestach celkovo 12 Nepáľčanov, štyroch Kanadčanov, troch Poliakov, troch Izraelčanov, dvoch Slovákov, jedného Indu a jedného Vietnamca. Desiatky ďalších horolezcov sa podarilo zachrániť a asi 15 sa ich zotavuje v nemocnici.

Z Afganistanu sa vrátilo vyše 200 vojakov

Časť slovenských vojakov, ktorí pôsobili v misii ISAF v Afganistane, sa začiatkom októbra vrátila späť do vlasti. Spolu 242 vojakov sa po prilete podrobilo lekárske vyšetreniam. Niekoľko slovenských vojakov ešte zostalo pôsobiť v Afganistane.

Minister obrany Martin Glváč nedávno uviedol, že do novej misie NATO plánuje Slovenská republika poslať maximálne 66 vojakov v dvoch ročných rokoch. „Samozrejme, všetko bude závisieť od reálnych potrieb a schválenia mandátu Národ-

nou radou Slovenskej republiky,“ dodal šéf rezortu obrany.

Slovensko sa chce zapojiť do novej misie v Afganistane. Hlavnou náplňou činnosti slovenských vojakov by mal byť v novej novej misii NATO výcvik a pomoc afganským národným bezpečnostným silám.

Slovenskí vojaci ukončili svoje pôsobenie v operácii ISAF už 22. septembra. Pri tejto príležitosti stiahli slovenskú zástavu, ktorá roky viala nad slovenským kempom na základni v Kandaháre.



Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation
Slovenský Katolícky Sokol
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V Newarku, NJ blahorečili rehoľnú sestru slovenského pôvodu Miriam T. Demjanovič

Išlo o historicky prvé blahorečenie na pôde USA

V sobotu 4. októbra sa v Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart v Newarku, NJ konalo blahorečenie Ctihodnej s. Miriam T. Demjanovičovej, S.C. Bolo to prvé blahorečenie vykonané v Spojených štátoch. Doteraz sa konali len v Ríme. Prítomných bolo asi 3 000 veriacich z blízkeho o ďalekého okolia.

Sv. omša začala o 9.30 hodine dopoludnia. Formulu blahorečenia sestry Miriam z Kongregácie milosrdných sestier sv. Alžbety predniesol ako delegát Svätého Otca prefekt Kongregácie pre kauzy svätých kardinál Angelo Amato. Biskup diecézy Paterson Arthur J. Seratelli požiadal kardinála prefekta Angela Amata o prečítanie Apoštolského listu Svätého Otca Františka o uznání hrdinských čností sestry Miriam Terézie Demjanovičovej a jej vyhlásenie za blahoslavenú.

Následne bola prinesená v procesii relikvia blahoslavenej žijúcimi príbuznými, na čele s uzdraveným Michaelom Mencerom, ktorý sa zázračne vyliečil z ochorenia oka na príhovor sestry Miriam T. Demjanovičovej. Práve jeho zázračné uzdravenie

bolo ako jedno z mnohých vybrané v kauze na prešetrenie a uznané za zázrak.

Evanjelium bolo spievané najprv po slovensky a následne v anglickom jazyku.

Životopis s. Miriam

V skupine prisťahovalcov, ktorá prišla do USA v máji 1884, bol aj mladý manželský pár - Alexander a Johana Demjanovičovi z Bardejova. Usadili sa v Bayonne, NJ, kde bol gréckokatolícky kostol a kde sa slúžili sväte omše ako u nich doma, v Bardejove.

Demjanovičovi mali sedem detí. Dve zomreli v útlom veku. Otec musel zanechať remeslo a pracoval v olejovej rafinérii. Rodičia boli pracovití a príkladní pre deti. Držali sa svojho duchovného dedičstva, svojej viery a náboženských zvykov. Cez týždeň sa pracovalo, v nedeľu svätito. Po presťahovaní sa do nového domu, dosť vzdialeného od gréckokatolíckeho kostola, deti začali navštevovať rímskokatolícky kostol. Otec Terézie zomrel v roku 1925. Matka umrela sedem rokov predtým - v novembri 1918.

Miriam Terézia sa narodila

ako siedme dieťa - 26. marca 1901. Pokrstená bola o päť dní neskôr v rodnom dome. Vtedy, ako je zvykom vo východnej cirkvi, dostala aj sviatosť birmovania. Udelil jej ich gréckokatolícky kaplán Teodor Štefan. Terézia, živé dieťa, vyrastala v dobrej katolíckej rodine, v prostredí presiaknutom hlbokou vierou a nenútenou nábožnosťou. Bola bystrá, a preto ju už ako 4-ročnú prijali do ľudovej školy. V roku 1913 ju rodičia zapísali na štvorročnú štátnu strednú školu v Bayonne. Maturovala tam v januári 1917.

Teréziu učil náboženstvo gréckokatolícky kňaz. Po maturite a po skončení učiteľskej akadémie, keď jej medzitým zomrela aj mama, a po dlhom rozlišovaní a modlitbách, 8. decembra 1924 sa rozhodla vstúpiť do rehoľnej Kongregácie milosrdných sestier svätej Alžbety. Do noviciátu ju prijali krátko po smrti jej otca, 11. februára 1925. Jej spovedníkom bol benediktín, páter Bradley, ktorý si veľmi skoro uvedomil, že má dočinenia s omilostenou dušou. Jej túžbou, vplyvom jezuitskej spirituality, ktorú denne počúvala v rámci duchovného čítania, bolo stať sa svätou. Nie však v očiach svojich spolusestier, ale v skrytosti, iba pred Pánom Bohom.

Rehoľný život Terézie Demjanovičovej bol veľmi krátky. Trval iba dva roky a tri mesiace - od 11. februára 1925 do 8. mája 1927, kedy zomrela na komplikovaný zápal slepého čreva a pochovali ju na kláštornej cintoríne.

Pápež Benedikt XVI. jej 10. mája 2012 prisúdil hrdinský stupeň čnosti, ktorý sa spája s titulom „ctihodná“.

Dekrét potvrdzujúci zázrak na príhovor sestry Miriam bol zverejnený na základe autorizácie pápeža Františka 17. decembra 2013.

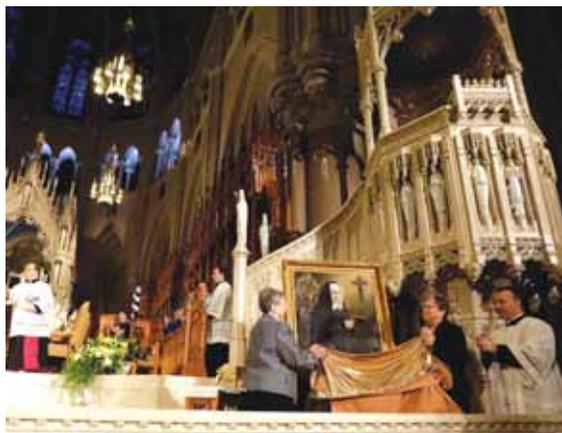
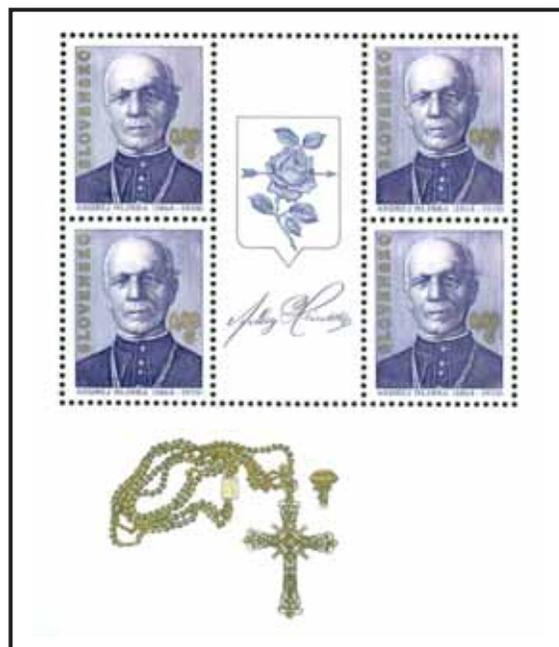
Nová slovenská poštová známka pri príležitosti 150. výročia narodenia A. Hlinku

Rímskokatolícky kňaz, pápežský protonotár, rodák z prostej pltnicko-roľníckej rodiny z ružomerskej mestskej časti Černej, Andrej Hlinka (1864 - 1938) sa svojím životom zapísal medzi najvýraznejšie osobnosti moderných slovenských dejín konca 19. - 1. polovice 20. storočia. Prvou životnou zastávkou, kde sa v plnej miere prejavila energia jeho osobnosti, sociálne a národné ctenie a organizátorský talent, boli od roku 1892 Liptovské Sliače.

Prelomovým momentom z osobného hľadiska i ďalšieho politického vývoja na Slovensku sa stalo zvolenie Andreja Hlinku za ružomerského farára v roku 1905 a jeho aktívna podpora kandidatúry reprezentanta slovenského tábora Dr. Vavra Šrobára do uhorského parlamentu v máji 1906. Zároveň sa toto hektické obdobie Hlinkovej činnosti prelínalo s jeho pôsobením v rodnej Černej, kde všetku osobnú energiu a zápal

vložil do stavby nového kostola a organizoval aktivity podporujúce tento zámer. Politická a spoločenská angažovanosť Andreja Hlinku na strane slovenských národných záujmov vyzvala negatívnu odozvu zo strany uhorských úradov i cirkvi. Nasledovalo suspendovanie z úradu ružomerského farára 4. mája 1906 a v ružomerskom politickom procese so slovenskými národovcami v novembri - decembri 1906 Andreja Hlinku odsúdili na trest dvojročného väzenia, ktorý si odpykal v Segedíne. Napäté obdobie súdnych perzekúcií sa prelínalo s úspešnými prednáškovými turné Andreja Hlinku, venovaným slovenskej otázke, v českých a moravských mestách a s tragickými udalosťami v rodnej Černej v októbri 1907. Po návrate do úradu vo februári 1910 sa začala nová etapa jeho kňazského i politického života, počas ktorej sa definitívne

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)



Počas svätej omše bol odhalený obraz blahoslavenej Miriam Terézie Demjanovičovej. - Foto: SITA