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# Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 101, NO. 12

SEPTEMBER 2015

*“Faith is like a  
bright ray of sun  
light. It enables us  
to see God in all  
things as well as  
all things in God.”*

– ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA



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### Fraternally Yours™

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Fraternally Yours,  
ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,



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1. Don't worry about knowing people, just make yourself worth knowing.
2. Be friendly with the folks you know. If it weren't for them you would be a total stranger.
3. Friends are those who speak to you after others don't.
4. The reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail and not his tongue.
5. The way to have friends is to be willing to lose some arguments.
6. Deal with other's faults as gently as if they were your own.
7. A friend is a person who can step on your toes without messing your shine.
8. You will never have a friend if you must have one without faults.
9. You can make more friends by being interested in them than trying to have them be interested in you.
10. A real friend is a person who, when you've made a fool of yourself, lets you forget it.
11. A friend is a person who listens attentively while you say nothing.
12. A friend is someone who thinks you're a good egg even though you're slightly cracked.

... and most important... A FRIEND IS A TREASURE!

Dear Friends,

Recently, we introduced a "Friends and Family" Membership Rewards Program. You can earn \$10 by referring a family or friend to FCSLA. All they need to do is be interested in FCSLA and be willing to sit down and talk with an approved FCSLA representative. Whether you know it or not, YOU, are the face of FCSLA. You introduce your family and friends to our organization by talking positively about FCSLA and the many fraternal activities and benefits we offer. Now, is your chance to help us grow our fraternal family. In addition, I invite you to share with me your stories of how you are helping FCSLA grow. What has worked in your district, branch, or family to bring new members to our fraternal family? Maybe your idea will help someone else find a way to help us grow. As space allows I will try to share some of your stories in future editions of *Fraternally Yours*. Robert Louis Stevenson once said, "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." In the coming months I hope you will help us plant some seeds of growth for FCSLA.

Until next month,  
**Warmly, Carolyn**

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

## SHARING IN THE PRIESTLY, PROPHETIC, AND ROYAL LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST ~ PART 3

**Very Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, D. Min., J.C.L., National Chaplain**

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

In order to become a member of the Christian community, each person must be baptized after the profession of faith which then incorporates the person accepting baptism as a member of the Church. For Catholics, the Rite of Baptism is accomplished by either infusion (the pouring of the water over the head of the person) or immersion (the entire body of the person into the water) three times, with the words invoked by the baptizer, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Immediately following the baptism of the person, and if the Sacrament of Confirmation is not celebrated, the celebrant says to following prayer over the newly baptized, "The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water and the Holy Spirit. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation, so that, united with his people, you may remain for-ever a member of Christ who is Priest, Prophet, and King" [*Christian Initiation of Adults, in The Rites: Volume One, Number 319*]. And once the prayer is completed, each of the newly baptized is anointed on the crown of the head with Sacred Chrism.

Sacred Chrism (used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders) is consecrated at the Chrism Mass celebrated by the Diocesan Bishop during Holy Week, for many dioceses, on Holy Thursday morning. Two other oils (Oil of the Sick for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Oil of the Catechumenate used also in the celebration of Baptism) are also blessed at this Mass and are distributed for use in all the parishes of the diocese. All of the sacred oils are from plants, usually olive oil, but Sacred Chrism has a perfume that is added to it because each member that is anointed with it is reminded of being that special member of the Body of Christ in His Priestly, Prophetic and Royal roles.

In the past two issues, we were reminded of the priestly and prophetic roles that we as Christians are called in which we share with the person of Jesus through our baptismal commitments. The third role that we undertake is participating in the royal nature of Jesus. We see examples of royal features exemplified in the Sacred Scriptures going back to the days of Samuel [cf. *1 Samuel 8-31*].

It was this holy man who asked Yahweh to give the people a king to reign over them because the sons of Samuel did not follow the ways of the Lord, their God, faithfully. The people desired to be like other nations that surrounded them and be ruled by a king. The Lord set forth a description for what the king would do, "But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; and they said, 'No! but we will have a king over us, that we also may like all the nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.' And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, 'Hearken to their voice, and make them a king.' Samuel then said to the men of Israel, 'Go over man to his city'" [8:19-22]. As one continues within this part of the Book of Samuel, the man who is chosen to be king is Saul, the predecessor of King David.

All of us recall the stories in the sacred texts of King David: his selection amidst the sons of Jesse; his encounter with Goliath; his ups and downs with King Saul; his very close friendship with Jonathan, the son of Saul; and, the many other stories that revealed him to be the person of strengths and weaknesses, a human who possessed both graceful and sinful relationships with Yahweh; and, king of a united Judah and Israel. His son, Solomon, succeeded him as king when David went forth to the land of his ancestors and it was the person of Solomon who built the Temple in Jerusalem. After Solomon, there were many other kings that mounted the throne, each of which was in alignment with the Commandments or those who turned their backs on the Law of Yahweh. But never was there a greater one than *the* King of the Christian Scriptures.

Like many great figures of the Hebrew Scriptures, our King was born, a person who was lowliness in state. But He was to become quite higher than anyone before or thereafter. His Kingdom did not have territorial borders but was the entire universe. His people were, are, and will be of every generation, race, nationality, and gender. He is the ultimate gift of the Father's selfless love until the end of time, eternally. In the *Gospel of John*, prior to Him mounting His throne, the Cross, we read that "Pilate entered the praetorium again and called Jesus, and said to him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do say

this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world.' Pilate said to him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice'" [18:33-37]. Subsequently, Jesus was condemned to death, died on His throne, the Cross, and was buried. But His glory is revealed in His Resurrection on Easter morning.

Because we have undertaken the waters of Baptism, we now share in the glory of the Cross and the Morning of Resurrection. We have become new life and have the ability, the obligation to share in Christ's gift of selfless love – that love given to us from the Father through Christ's new life in the Resurrection. We participate in Jesus' royal nature, not so much a reflection of the kingdom of this world but the Kingdom to come. For this you and I have been reborn and have the obligation to give witness to this purity and newness of Christ's preachings and teachings – the Truth! And if this means that we fail in the gifts our God has bestowed upon us in His Son's royal nature, then we too mount the crosses that have been given to us in order our need for forgiveness from the Father in Jesus Christ. In essence, we must always bear witness to the Truth!

Are we perfect in our sharing in this domination of Truth over sin? I dare to say that I am not. I, too, am like many of the personalities in the Sacred Scriptures – a person of my own generation and time. I have sinned and continually seek forgiveness. But because of my King, I know that I can at least become princely, like those who sought forgiveness in the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, like those who are citizens of the Communion of Saints. I share life in Jesus Christ, the King of kings; I become a part of His royal nature by my call to Baptism and walking in His royal path through the Gifts of the Spirit and attempting to live faithfully in His Church bearing witness to the Truth.



## Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear fellow members,

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month and a special time when we focus on reminding consumers about the importance of life insurance in financial planning. Life insurance provides financial support for the unexpected and crisis moments in a family, such as covering the cost of funeral expenses, as well as lost income for survivors. In most instances, the proceeds of the policy are tax

free to the beneficiaries. As a member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, an individual also gets many "added value" benefits, including the splendid array of fraternal benefits we have to offer our members.

Please consider referring a family member or friend to our Association by participating in the "Friends and Family Membership Rewards Program", outlined in this issue of the magazine. By doing so, you will share the positive benefits that First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association has to offer!

As this issue goes to print, we are in the midst of a great deal of preparation for our 41st Quadrennial Convention. I thought it might be interesting for you to have a thumbnail sketch of what goes into official preparations. The convention site is selected several years before the convention itself, and in early January of the convention year the delegate selection and appointment process begins, with the mailing of applications to senior branches. From that time until early July, completed delegate applications are reviewed for certification, donation applications are posted, requests for letters of intent for national officers are posted and proposals for any bylaw changes are received. Hotel site coordination continues. An essential planning provision is planning the special and daily liturgies, which is under the purview of our National Chaplain, Msgr. Peter Polando.

By the time that, I, as National President, issue the official call of the convention in July, official convention committees have been named. In August, the Credentials Com-

mittee meets to carefully review credentials of delegates, and to verify qualifications of those aspiring to national office. The other standing committees meet to make sure that their work is done and that the responsibilities of the committees will be fulfilled at the convention itself.

At the same time, the convention program and the rules for the convention need to be formulated and articulated. Fine tuning needs to occur with other necessary committees. Interesting activities are planned for those who wish to participate in free time, mostly in the evenings. Many people are involved in this process, from the branches, to the districts, to the home office and to the members of the board, who work together in harmony and as a TEAM to make this quadrennial gathering meaningful, orderly, deliberative and enjoyable for our delegates and guests. If you are not active in a branch now, you may wish to consider becoming active so you may have an opportunity to become part of this process in the future! In addition to moving our society forward in our deliberations, this is an opportunity for meeting many interesting and great people from different regions of the United States!

Until next time, I am fraternally yours,

**Cynthia M. Maleski**

### 50th Jubilee Celebration

FCSLA representatives attended the 50th Jubilee Celebration of Sr. M. Rochelle and Sr. Mary Donald and the Perpetual Profession of Sr. Mary on August 5, 2015 at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, OH. A Eucharistic Liturgy and reception was held in honor of the celebrants.

The FCSLA Home Office, the Cleveland District, Sr. Branch 10 and Sr. Branch 522 continue to support the Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity for their outstanding work and dedication to our Lord and the community.

Gianna Picciano, a representative of the Home Office, was also present.



L-R: Sr. M. Rochelle, Dolores Martinez, Frances Fakult, Sr. Mary Donald, Irene J. Drotleff, Mary Ann S. Johanek and Barbara A. Sekerak.

### FCSLA ANNUITY RATES

Rates for our Elite Annuities:

**SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)**

**3.00% APY\***

**PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)**

**3.50% APY\***

\*This rate is in effect 1/1/2015 thru 12/31/2015.

Additionally the guaranteed minimum rate for Elite Silver contracts issued in 2015 will be increased to 2%.

Do you have "Fraternal Spirit" or is it just talk? We recently started our referral program, "Friends and Family" and it is in full swing. For those states that have no fraternal exemption this is a wonderful way for you to make a little bit extra spending money. Our magazine has many more articles about this new program. Please read how you can become involved and show "Fraternal Spirit".

In July, I along with our National Chaplain, Msgr. Peter M. Polando, National President, Cynthia M. Maleski and National Treasurer, Stephen C. Hudak had the pleasure of spending time with members from three districts at their St. Anne's Day celebration. The celebration was hosted by District #7, Chicago, Illinois. Members from District #6, Indiana and District #9, Wisconsin, traveled many miles to join in the festivities. Our Illinois members showed everyone attending real "Fraternal Spirit" with planning a beautiful liturgy in honor of SS. Joachim and Anne and a very tasty meal that followed. Fraternal thanks for inviting me and allowing me to share with all that were present and thank you to those who took the time to participate.

I hope and pray that all of our delegates bring their

"Fraternal Spirit" to our convention next month. It is a time for all of us to consider how our Association will continue and operate in the future. The time spent at our convention gives us an opportunity to reminisce with friends, but more importantly, assist in the plans for our Association's growth.

"Fraternal Spirit" is part of our nature as members of FCSLA. Our Home Office staff has "Fraternal Spirit" with caring for our members' life insurance or annuity phone calls and questions. We are very fortunate to have dedicated individuals working for us.

Don't forget to show your "Fraternal Spirit" by recommending a family member or friend for membership. If you need help locating a recommender/agent or would like assistance for a quote, our website can assist you, [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org) or call our Home Office. A member of our staff will be more than happy to assist you.

Until next issue, may God keep you happy, healthy and loved.



**Sue Ann**

## First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

of the United States of America  
Beachwood, OH



### Friends and Family Membership Rewards Program • July 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

**We value and appreciate our Members! Thank you for telling everybody you know about us!**

*Submit this form by mail, fax or email*

FCSLA  
24950 Chagrin Blvd.  
Beachwood, OH 44122

Fax: 216-464-9260  
Email: [mlruben@fcsla.com](mailto:mlruben@fcsla.com)  
Website: [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org)

**A valid referral meets ALL 3 of these requirements. Each valid referral earns you \$10!**

- Has completed contact information including address & phone number
- Is interested in FCSLA
- Is willing to meet with an approved FCSLA representative

#### Your (Current Member) Information:

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please Have An Insurance Professional Contact:

Prospect Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_





## Cleveland District Celebrates Saints Anne and Joachim Day of Recollection

The Cleveland District celebrated Saints Anne and Joachim Day of Recollection on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, OH. St. Anne was chosen as the Patroness of FCSLA by our founding mothers back in 1892. Saints Anne and Joachim are the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and grandparents of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Saints Anne and Joachim once again blessed us with a perfect day! The weather was so beautiful we were able to celebrate Mass outside at the Shrine. To quote our District Financial Secretary and National Auditor, Barb Sekerak "St. Anne surely watched over us – like any grandmother would".

Bishop Roger Gries, OSB was the celebrant and was assisted by Msgr. Peter Polando, FCSLA National Chaplain; Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB, Cleveland District Chaplain; Fr. Jerome Lajack, Branch S408; Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB; Bro. Thomas Sanders, OSB, organist, and Bro. Louis Carey, OSB, server.

Lunch was served in the St. Ann's Dining Hall by the Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity. As always they out did themselves with a delicious meal. Following lunch Cleveland District President Joyce Lechman acknowledged special

guests in attendance: the FCSLA 2015 scholarship winners from the Cleveland District; FCSLA National President Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq.; FCSLA National Treasurer, Steve Hudak; Past National President Maryann Johaneck, Past National Secretary Irene Drotleff and the Cleveland District Officers.

All the youth members in attendance were put to work after lunch by assisting Bishop Gries with the "Endless Raffle" as he called it (and you know that name will stick with it for years to come). Thank you to all the branches that so generously donated all the wonderful gifts! Congratulations to all the winners!

The celebration ended with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Rosary and Benediction led by Fr. Gerard Gonda in the Chapel.

A BIG THANK YOU to EVERYONE who worked so hard to make St. Anne's Day celebration so enjoyable. You know who you are. And a BIG THANK YOU to Saints Anne and Joachim for blessing us with the beautiful weather!

Please see more photos on the Cleveland District Web-page [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org)





# PHOTO CONTEST

## Contest Eligibility:

- ♦ Must be a FCSLA Member **ages 16 and older**
- ♦ If you submit an entry and you are not a member your entry will not be considered
- ♦ Member must be the one that took the photo

## Deadline:

- ♦ **Friday September 30, 2015**
- ♦ Please mail entries to: FCSLA, Fraternal & Youth Director, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-5634

## Contest Rules:

- ♦ Photo may be in color or black & white
- ♦ No more than one entry per member
- ♦ Photo size 4x6 or 5x7, un-mounted (no touch-up or computer enhanced photos permitted)

## DO NOT WRITE ON THE PHOTO!!!!

On a separate sheet of paper **PRINT or TYPE**:

- ♦ Your Name, Age, Branch #, Email Address, and Complete Address
- ♦ A Brief Description Where & When your Photo was Taken and Title of your Photo

## Categories:

Animals  
Architecture  
Landscape / Scenic / Nature  
FCSLA Activity

## Prize list for each Category:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$ 50.00 Gift Card to Best Buy  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$25.00 Gift Card to Best Buy  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$15.00 Gift Card to Best Buy

**Bonus:** Winners photos will be published in a future *Fraternally Yours* Magazine issue.  
*Good Luck!*



## FCSLA ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for Interim National Secretary and Interim National Treasurer Positions

As mandated by the changes to the bylaws and the effective dates adopted at the Special Convention held in October 2014, First Catholic Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals for interim positions for National Secretary and National Treasurer in accordance with the process as approved by the Special Convention.

The National Secretary directs the operating activities of the Association on a full time basis and reports to the National President. The minimum qualifications for such position include a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university and possess ten years experience, demonstrating communication, organization and managerial skills. Insurance and/or fraternal benefit society experience a plus.

The National Treasurer monitors the financial conditions of the Association, oversees the Association's finances and investments on a full time basis and reports to the National President. All candidates must have either a CPA or MBA in finance or related fields from an accredited college or university and shall have ten years or more experience in the fields of business, finance or related fields.

If selected for the interim position, the candidate for each position has the potential of being considered for the permanent position and reports to the National President. Interested parties meeting the above qualifications should submit a detailed resume and cover letter to National President Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA National Headquarters, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122 on or before September 15, 2015.

## BRANCH W133 MEMBERS HELP RUN LOCAL FAIR

In rural Rush County in Kansas, volunteers run the games and rides at the annual county fair. Members of Branch W133 Timken, KS, volunteered again this year as part of the Holy Trinity Church (Timken) effort to do their part, helping to run the "Plinko" and "Miniature Golf" game stand. Holy Trinity Parish has been taking care of a game all three nights of the fair since 2006. Pictured are Branch W133 volunteers (from left) Larry Stejskal, Betty Stejskal, Julie Huber, JoAnn Tomecek, and Brian Graff.



## Branch 81 Holds Summer Garden Party Luncheon

Whiting, IN Branch 81 members were welcomed with flowers and pastels for a summer garden party luncheon. It took place on Sunday, July 12, 2015 at Andorra Banquet Hall in Schererville. Special guests included Rosemary Mlinarich, Mary Therese Tylus, and Agnes Chervanek. Guests were invited to purchase 50/50 tickets and give a free will offering

to benefit the Whiting Food Pantry. Through the generosity of members we were able to donate \$210 to the needy. Everyone received a gift from the home office, and 14 lucky winners won door prizes, provided by the branch officers. The afternoon was a lovely escape from the hot summer day allowing members to enjoy each others company.



## Cierra Fisher Receives Scholarships

Cierra L. Fisher, (Sr. Branch 623) was the recipient of a FCSLA 2015 College Freshman Scholarship and a \$1,500 local FCSLA Sr. Branch 623 2015 High School Graduate Scholarship. Branch Treasurer, Renee Johansen presented the scholarships to Cierra at the Osceola Public School Honor's Night on May 21, 2015. Cierra will attend the University of Nebraska-Kearney in the fall majoring in Exercise Science. Cierra is the daughter of Darin and Michelle Sterup, and the late Curt Fisher.



## COMBINED CHICAGO JUNIOR BRANCH/ DISTRICT ST. NICHOLAS PARTY

**Sunday, November 8, 2015**

**Noon to 4 p.m.**

Johnson-Phelps VFW Post #5220

9514 S. 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Oak Lawn, IL

**\$15** per person

RSVP by Friday, October 30, 2015 to your Junior Branch Officer or Chairperson Joyce Kelly at 773-927-6314 or

[joymarieke@aol.com](mailto:joymarieke@aol.com)

**Go to the Chicago District website to download the Coloring Contest.**



## District 11 Holds Annual Picnic in Nebraska

District 11 (St. Isidore) held their annual picnic on July 12, 2015 at the North Bend, NE city park. About 100 members and their families attended, including priests, a deacon, and members of the Totus Tuus team. Totus Tuus is a summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel

and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. Food, fun, and prizes were enjoyed by all. After the meal, the youngsters cooled off in the local pool and the adults were entertained with accordion music.



Father Hazuka and members of the Totus Tuus Team.

## Branch 207 Members Run-Walk for Cystic Fibrosis



On May 2, 2015 officers and members of Branch 207 took part in the Run-Walk for Cystic Fibrosis. The group volunteered to set up and hand out refreshments to the participants. Pictured are officers and members of Branch 207 on the day of the event. Specially featured is the branch mascot Molly McCabe holding her favorite friend "Elmo" watching the start of the race. The event was a success!



Father Kimminau visits with other picnickers.



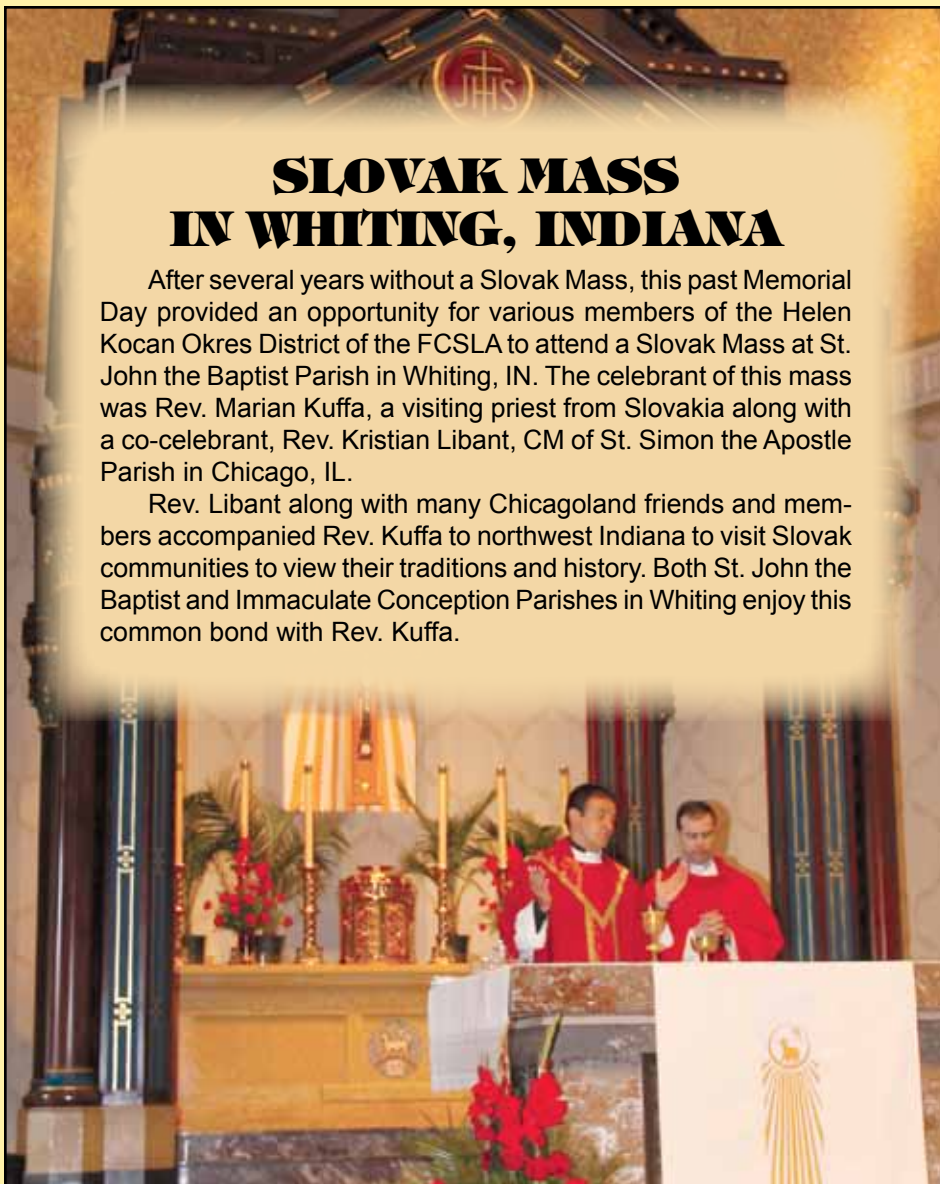
Members enjoying food, fun and fellowship.



## SLOVAK MASS IN WHITING, INDIANA

After several years without a Slovak Mass, this past Memorial Day provided an opportunity for various members of the Helen Kocan Okres District of the FCSLA to attend a Slovak Mass at St. John the Baptist Parish in Whiting, IN. The celebrant of this mass was Rev. Marian Kuffa, a visiting priest from Slovakia along with a co-celebrant, Rev. Kristian Libant, CM of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Chicago, IL.

Rev. Libant along with many Chicagoland friends and members accompanied Rev. Kuffa to northwest Indiana to visit Slovak communities to view their traditions and history. Both St. John the Baptist and Immaculate Conception Parishes in Whiting enjoy this common bond with Rev. Kuffa.



## Mr. and Mrs. Antalek Are Golden Jubilarians



Married in 1965, in St. Agnes Catholic Church in Toledo, OH, FCSLA members Francis and Mary Joan Antalek celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary June 19, 2015. A Mass in their honor was celebrated Saturday, June 20, 2015 at their current parish, Toledo's Blessed Sacrament. Well wishers included their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Francis and Mary are members of Sr. Branch 149, Toledo, OH.

Congratulations and best wishes to our anniversary couple.



## Sr. Branch 114 Annual Bingo Social

St. Ann's Sr. Branch 114 will host its annual Bingo Social on Sunday, October 18th. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway in Lorain, OH. Please make reservations no later than Tuesday, October 13th by calling Bernie Danevich at 440-960-2605 or Marge Thomas at 440-288-1492. All members are invited to attend.



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## Anna Hurban Chicago District Chaplain Receives Master of Arts Degree

On Saturday, May 2, 2015, the Anna Hurban Chicago District's Chaplain, Matus Bohacik, received his Master of Arts in Philosophy and Religion from Mundelein Seminary. In attendance, were Chicago District President, Mary Therese Tylus, and approximately 20 people from St. Simon Slovak Parish in Chicago, including Fr. Kristian Libant, CM. Archbishop Cupich conferred the degree upon Matus. This degree program seeks to equip graduates to engage the questions of the world, which stand in the way of evangelism. Graduates will have a strong philosophical foundation for further study of theology in the Master of Divinity program. After the ceremony, the entire group also had a photo opportunity with the new Archbishop of Chicago, Blasé J. Cupich. (To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



## Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar

The 30th Anniversary of the Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar will be held on September 20, 2015 at the Garden Chalet Banquets, 11000 South Ridgeland Road, Worth, IL. Registration is at 12:00 Noon. At 12:45 p.m. Speaker Abbot Gary Hoover, O.S.B. of St. Andrew Slovak Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, OH. Abbot Gary will speak about the Benedictine roots in Lisle, IL.; their service in the Chicago area, and the establishment of the Abbey in Cleveland, OH. Lunch will follow with a family style meal. The cost is \$25 and the deadline is September 10th. Any reservation received after September 10th will be \$30 and there will be NO reservations at the door. Reservations can be made by calling John Jurcenko at 773-763-0810 or Geri Hletko at 708-387-7812. Reservations/checks may be mailed to: John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631.

## Jr. Branch 339 Welcomes Twin Sisters



Collette



Cecelia

Jr. Branch 339 Chicago, IL welcomes twin sisters, **COLLETTE** and **CECELIA LEARY** to their membership. Born on November 19, 2014, Collette arrived at 8:20 a.m. weighing 7 lbs., 3 oz. and was 19.5 inches. Her sister Cecelia quickly followed at 8:21 a.m., weighing 5 lbs., 15 oz. and measuring 18 inches. They join three-year-old sister Reagan. Their mom and several cousins as FCCLA members.

## Slovak Heritage Group Meetings Schedule for 2015

The WPSCA will present the Slovak Heritage Programs on the first Monday evening of each month from 7-9 p.m. at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228; phone (412) 531-1912. It's free for both members and non-members. The agenda is as follows:

➤ **October 5 — SUMMER SCHOOL IN SLOVAKIA:** Bethany Kaylor, the 2014 WPSCA Scholarship winner, will tell us about her experiences attending the summer language and culture classes at Comenius University in Bratislava. Since Bethany is still a student at the University of Oregon, she has prepared a video of her experiences.



## Father Donald Hawes Participates in Corpus Christi Celebration

On Sunday, June 7, 2015, Branch W033 (Spillville, IA) took part in Father Donald Hawes last Corpus Christi celebration at St. Wenceslaus Church in Spillville, IA, as their pastor. After 18 years of service Father Hawes moved to Waukon, IA on July 14th. He will be missed by his parishioners in Spillville as he kept up the wonderful traditions of both the Corpus Christi and Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at St. Wenceslaus and held two Masses a year at St. Clements Church on the corner of a level field about 1 mile southwest of Spillville, IA. St. Clements always served as a mission church that was a log church built prior to St. Wenceslaus Church that was constructed by the Czech immigrants in the 1860s. Father Hawes held many masses for the FCSLA, one of the most memorable being the 150th Anniversary of St. Wenceslaus Church attended by past National President Mary Ann

Johaneck and past National Secretary Irene Drotleff. In 2010 many Matching Funds projects held by Branch W033 were for the benefit of St. Wenceslaus Parish under the leadership of Father Hawes. Although Father is officially retired he feels blessed to continue to serve in some capacity with his retired brother Monsignor Cletus Hawes at St. Patrick's Church in Waukon, IA. Father Hawes will celebrate his 87th birthday this December. After a beautiful Corpus Christi procession from the church to Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto and to the two decorated chapels following 8:30 a.m. Mass, a fellowship was held serving assorted homemade Kolaches, juice and coffee, with over 58 people in attendance. Branch W033 thanks Father Hawes for so many years of selfless service and wishes him well in his semi-retirement.



Father Donald Hawes at Lourdes Grotto for Corpus Christi Celebration at St. Wenceslaus Church with the FCSLA banner showing in the background.



Children taking part in Corpus Christi celebration at St. Wenceslaus Church, Spillville, IA on June 7, 2015.



Father Hawes and parishioners walking through St. Wenceslaus Church cemetery from Lourdes Grotto to the next chapel for another benediction under a canopy refurbished by W033 member Joyce Zoulek.



Parishioners walking in the Corpus Christi procession at St. Wenceslaus Church to the next chapel for benediction by Father Donald Hawes.

Email your Wedding, Anniversary  
and Birthday Announcements!  
[zjbazik@comcast.net](mailto:zjbazik@comcast.net)



## Branch W018 Holds Annual Picnic

Branch W018 (Omaha, NE) held its annual picnic at Mahoney State Park in Ashland, NE on Sunday, June 28th. Although cool weather prevailed, the fun was not diminished. After a delicious potluck dinner (the Branch supplied



Hailey Zuroske's smile says it all after Julianne Popelka presented her with her High School scholarship letter.



Serious fisherpersons from Branch W018 caught many fish at CenturyLink Lake.



Branch youth members celebrate FCSLA and Branch W018 picnic.

the pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, and beverages), Board member Julianne Popelka announced the Branch scholarship winners. R.J. Hladik and Noah Steinkraus were awarded the Elementary K-4 scholarships; Sophia Adamek and Luke Rice, the Elementary 5-8 scholarships; and William Rice and Hailey Zuroske, the High School Scholarships. Julianne also announced that member Olivia Adamek won a National Grade 7 Elementary scholarship. All scholarships (Branch and National) were presented at dinner on July 21st. After the formalities, the members enjoyed the swimming pool, miniature golf, paddle boating, and fishing.



R.J. Hladik receives his Elementary K-4 scholarship letter from Julianne Popelka.

## PEGGY BARKSDALE INAUGURATED



In March 2015 Peggy Barksdale MSN, RN, OCNS-C, CNS-BC (S289 Gary IN) was inaugurated as President of the 2015-2016 National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists

Board of Directors.

Peggy Pazak Barksdale was daughter of Andrew and Margaret Pazak. She attended Holy Trinity Grade School and Andean High School. She graduated from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Arts, Associate of Nursing Science and Masters of Nursing Science – Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist. She practiced as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) for Community Health Network in Indianapolis, IN. Her expertise is in orthopaedics and she is board certified APRN.

Every patient should ask if a Clinical Nurse Specialist is involved in their care and being consulted for complications especially in healthcare facilities.

## Kyle Hornung Graduates from Middlesex High School

Kyle Joseph Hornung (S072) of Middlesex, NJ graduated from Middlesex High School on June 18th, 2015. He is the son of Christopher A. Hornung of Middlesex and Renee Dubiel Hornung (S072) Peckville, PA. Kyle is the grandson of Joseph and Mathilda Dubiel also of Peckville, PA.



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP  
A NEW MEMBER  
RECENTLY?



## REBECCA VISINTAINER GRADUATES SUMA CUM LAUDE

Pictured with Sr. Branch 45 (Hazleton, PA) officers Marie Kokinda and Dorothy Cusatis is Rebecca Visintainer, daughter of Dr. Ferdinand Visintainer and Mary Theresa Visintainer and the granddaughter of FCSLA member Margaret Janosov Cammisa. Rebecca recently graduated Suma Cum Laude from Mason Gross School for the Arts at Rutgers University with a Bachelors of the Fine Arts in Dance Performance. She is now attending the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University studying for her Masters in Dance Education and was the recipient of a FCSLA Scholarship.



## Ordination of Father Isaac Haywiser, O.S.B.



**Gerald LaFrankie, Pittsburgh District Vice-President, Father Isaac Haywiser and Monica LaFrankie (S177).**

On Saturday, May 2, 2015, Greensburg Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt ordained Benedictine Brother Isaac Haywiser, of Bethel Park, PA, to the priesthood at St. Vincent Archabbey Basilica in Latrobe, PA.

The son of Mark and Ellen Haywiser of Bethel Park, he is a 2005 graduate of Bethel Park High School. Father Isaac earned a bachelor's degree in 2009 in management from St. Vincent College. He entered the novitiate of St. Vincent Archabbey in 2009 and made simple profession of monastic vows in July 2010. He made solemn profession of vows in July 2013 and received a Master of Divinity Degree from St. Vincent Seminary on Saturday, May 8, 2015.

Gerald LaFrankie, Pittsburgh District Vice-President, and Monica LaFrankie represented the Pittsburgh District at the ordination of Father Isaac Haywiser.

## 65th Wedding Anniversary Celebrated

Louis E. and Violet V. Kosarek (W111), of Hot Springs, AZ celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with their children at Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, in Westmont, IL. The couple was married July 1, 1950, in St. Odilo Catholic Church, in Berwyn, IL. Louis Kosarek was a building contractor, is president of Wiser Bunch, does volunteer work for the needy and is a member of the Knights of Columbus for whom he built piers at the entrance of the property. Violet worked at Liberty Insurance Company, is a Czech language interpreter for Arkansas and volunteers to bake pastries for clubs and the church. They are members of The Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist. They couple was blessed with four children and eight grandchildren.



## Strbjak Family Celebrates Four Generations

Marjorie Strbjak, Secretary of Branch 81, is pictured with her son Tom, grandson Brett and her great-granddaughter Elyse. All adults are members of Whiting, Branch S81 and Elyse is a new member of J58, also of Whiting, IN.



## Celebrates 65th Wedding Anniversary



Frank and Shirley Ann (Studer) Welik (W051) of Britt, IA celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on August 1, 2015. They married at St. Joseph Church in Wesley, IA. The couple was blessed with 8 children, 17 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.



## Christmas in July at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park

The Frances Jakabcin Eastern PA District hosted Christmas in July at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA on Thursday, July 9th from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 100 members and their families enjoyed a fun-filled day at America's largest free-admission Amusement Park. Knoebels has been family owned and operated for over 89 years. New memories were made the old fashioned way with classic rollercoasters, kid-friendly rides, swimming, and

attractions for the whole family. Pavilion D was available all day with snacks and beverages courtesy of the district and a place to get out of the sun. Many district junior branches use this as their annual event, bringing food for their members and providing tickets for the attractions. It is a way for the district members, young and old, to enjoy some fraternal fun! Everyone left already looking forward to next year's event, on July 14th, the second Thursday of the month!



## Maria Kollar District Makes Donation to Saint Francis Commons

The Maria Kollar District, Scranton, PA recently made a \$100 donation to Saint Francis Commons part of the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton, PA. On April 29th of this year they broke ground for St. Francis Commons, a facility of the Diocese of Scranton that will provide affordable housing, meals and other supportive services for homeless veterans. The Commons will be operated by Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton. The project will be funded through Pennsylvania Housing Finance Association (P.H.F.A.) and the tax credits provided by Enterprise, Inc. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA in conjunction with Catholic Social Services (C.S.S.) and St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen), and be supported with private donations. Through their donation the district is heading Pope Francis's reminder of our obligation to care for one another.

## Silver Wedding Anniversary

FCSLA Branch W187 member Ken Dudek and his wife Janet (Reuter) celebrated their 25th Anniversary with a dance for family and friends on July 4, 2015 at Starlite Ballroom, Wahoo, NE. Ken and Janet were married May 26, 1990, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Omaha, NE. Their children, Charles and Alison are also members of Branch W187 and former National scholarship winners.



L-R: Charles, Janet, Ken, and Alison Dudek.



# IN MEMORIAM

## CARLJOHN LINEN, S269



Carljohn J. Linen, 56, departed this life on March 20, 2015 at Albany Medical Center, as a result of an accident. Born on October 9, 1958 in Saratoga Springs, NY, he is the only child of Joyce M. (Frydel) of Saratoga Springs and the late Carl Linen. In addition to his mother of Saratoga Springs, he is the proud father of Lonnie Xavier and Lander Adell Linen and half-brother of

Carleen Narolsky of Latham. Survivors also include several aunts, uncles, cousins, many good friends and his dog, Hook. He was the grandson of Mary A. Frydel, past Treasurer of S269 for 70 years. Carljohn lived an exciting life. He was a union man and worked as an iron worker in Local 12, the Plumber and Steamfitters Local 773 and was currently a professional driver for YRC Freight Teamsters 294. A lifelong motorcycle enthusiast who enjoyed attending the Ohio Skunk Fest every year, he was a fantastic cook who loved music, bon-fires and Genesee Bock beer. Memorials may be made in his name to WEXT-97.7, 4 Global View, Troy, NY 12180 or H.O.P.E. Rescue (Home for Orphaned Pets Exist), P.O. Box 2497, Wilton, NY 12831.

## MARGARET B. PARKERTON, S322



Margaret Barbara Parkerton, 95, of Egg Harbor Township, NJ, passed away on April, 6, 2015. Born September 3, 1919 in Perth Amboy, NJ, she lived in various cities but settled in Egg Harbor Township in 1973. She graduated from St. Mary's High School and continued her education at the Perth Amboy School of Nursing. She enlisted in the Army during World War II. She

served her country in Northern Africa as a 2nd Lieutenant Army Nurse. She continued to practice nursing throughout the years at Shore Memorial Hospital, Linwood Convalescent Center, and the Rahway State Prison. Margaret was a devoted Catholic and a member of St. Gianna Berretta Molla Parish of Northfield. She had the opportunity to travel all over the world and see many beautiful things. However, she preferred to be surrounded by her loving family and her adoring Chihuahua, Shirley. Her living legacy includes her daughter; Barbara (nee Eakin) Yarger (Herbert, Sr.); sister Rose Gochel; eight grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. Margaret was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Mary Rapach; her first husband, Kenneth Eakin; her second husband, Milford Parkerton; and her sons Kenneth Eakin (living spouse Candy Eakin) and James Eakin (living spouse Anna Eakin) and siblings Mary Hasuly, Helen Skalla, Michael and Joseph Rapach and Agnes Bobal.

## MARCELLA A. "MARCIE" KRISCHEL, S007



Marcella A. "Marcie" Krischel, 90, of Wena, died February 9, at home. Marcie was born June 1, 1924, in Streator, IL, to George and Mary (Kulpa) Devera. She married Leo F. Krischel on May 8, 1946, at St. Stephen Church in Streator. Mrs. Krischel worked at Dr. Farnner's office and also helped cater dinners and special events with lady friends. She was a member of St. Mary's Church, the Altar and Rosary Society and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

Marcie was an avid Chicago Cubs and Bulls fan. She was a 1942 graduate of Streator Township High School. Mrs. Krischel is survived by one daughter, Kathleen (Roger) Haig, of Normal; one son, Richard (Laurie) Krischel, of Somonauk; and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband on January 30, 1980; two sons, Patrick, in 1981, and Joseph, in infancy in 1958; twin granddaughters, Heather and Heidi Krischel; and two sisters, Jeanne Ragusa and Patricia Kahanec.

## MARY FEDORCHA, S410



Mary Fedorcha entered into eternal rest March 19, 2015 in Mahoning Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Lehigh, PA. She was married to the late Emro Fedorcha who passed away in 1969. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Gaydos) Sherbin. She was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and the former Immaculate Conception Church in

Nesquehoning, PA where she was part of the kitchen crew. She was also a past president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch S410. Surviving is her daughter, Suzanne and her husband, Sanders Martin of Anaheim, CA, and many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews and great-great nephews.

## PAUL ZROSTLIK, W051



Paul A. Zrostlik, 87, of Garner, IA died January 23, 2015. He was born January 11, 1928, the son of John and Mary (Hadacek) Zrostlik. He attended country school in Liberty Township to the 8th grade. On January 12, 1951 he was drafted into the US Army during the Korean Conflict. After basic training,

he served in Korea from June 1951 to March 1952 with the 25th Division, 27th Regt., Medical Co., called the "Wolfhounds". He attained the rank of Sgt. In 1955 he attended and graduated from Midland Linotype School in Charles City. He worked for the Buffalo Center Tribune in Buffalo Center for two years and later for the Garner Leader as a linotype operator. On June 11, 1962, he married Margaret "Lila" Baker at St. Mary's Church in Waucoma, IA. They made their home in Garner where they raised their family. He was a member of



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ASSOCIATION



St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Duncan, and the Garner VFW Post #5515. Paul is survived by his wife of 52 years, Margaret "Lila" of Garner; four children, Michael Zrostlik and his wife, Julie, and their two children, Anna and Nicholas of Garner, Jane Zrostlik of Garner, Steven Zrostlik of Ames and Marvin Zrostlik of Eldridge, IA; a sister, Rose Kern of Wesley; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Joe, John and George; and two sisters, Betty Holecek and Mary Zrostlik.

### WILFRED KOZISEK, W033



Wilfred Kozisek, 95, of David City, died March 17, 2015. He was born October 2, 1919, north of Rogers, Nebraska to Charles E. and Ella (Hlavac) Kozisek. A graduate of David City High School in 1937, he then graduated from Chillicothe, Missouri Business College in 1939. He served in the United States Army Air Force from April 1942 through November 1945, earning the rank of Corporal. On May 10, 1943, he married Leola A. Shorney at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Abie. Wilfred farmed the family farm near Bruno for 57 years while also serving as clerk and Postmaster in Bruno, retiring in 1984. A member of St. Anthony's, he served years on the church council, was a lector and acolyte. He was a member of the Linwood Township Board, School District 25 Board, and spearheaded the drive to build a new school building in District 86. He was a member of the Bruno VFD for 40 years and the Knights of Columbus. Wilfred is survived by his four daughters: Anne (Larry) Pickel, Denton; Jean (Ron) Jakub, Bruno; Judy (Gary) Puetz, Columbus; and Joan Kozisek of Omaha, daughter-in-law Karen Kozisek, Omaha, ten grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandson, a sister and sister-in-law; 8 nieces and 9 nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Leola, son Thomas Kozisek, a brother Harold Kozisek, three nieces and two nephews.

### KENNETH "KEN" J. BEHNKE, SZJ0



Kenneth "Ken" J. Behnke, age 81, of the Township of Union, Waupaca County, WI, passed away March 19, 2015. Ken was born on December 20, 1933 on his family's home farm. He was the son of the late John and Selma (Peters) Behnke. Ken graduated from Clintonville, WI High School in 1951. He was united in marriage to JoAnn Moede on March 12, 1955. Ken and JoAnn just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple resided on the Behnke homestead where Ken dairy farmed until 1995, then raised beef and cash cropped until his retirement in 2003. Ken and JoAnn enjoyed spend-

ing their winter months in Edinburgh, TX. Ken was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church where he held various positions over the years. He also served as a past Supervisor for the Township of Union. Ken was never afraid to try something new. Survivors include his wife JoAnn; four children, Russel Behnke, Kathy (Tim) Krause, Jon Behnke, and Andy (Lisa Wheelan) Behnke; four grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; nephews, nieces, cousins, and many friends. Ken was preceded in death by his parents, brothers; Rueben and Eugene Behnke, and two nephews.

### RUTH A. BAESLACK, S525



Ruth A. Baeslack, age 82, passed away November 19, 2014. Beloved wife of the late Robert W. "Bob"; loving mother of Robert "Mike" (Diane), Thomas (April), Dennis (MaryAllyn), Linda McNeeley, William "Willy" (Lori), Donna Shisler, Patti Donahue (Michael) and Daniel; dear grandmother of 19; great-grandmother of five; dear sister of Mildred "Mitzi" Hagan and the following deceased: Mary, Emil, Antoinette Sherba, Ethel Dorko, Louis, Stephen, Helen, Edward and Arthur; survived by nieces and nephews; daughter of the late Sophie (nee Tomigal) and Emil K. Bielek. Ruth was Prom Queen at St. Procop High School in 1950. Her passion was cooking and baking and she was an "avid Cleveland sports fan. Family suggests memorial contributions to The Poor Clare Nuns, 3501 Rocky River Dr., Cleveland, OH. 44111 or the Spirit Ranch, c/o Rev. Jerome Duke, P.O. Box 32, Addison, PA, 15411-0032.

### ROBERT W. "BOB" BAESLACK, S525



Robert W. "Bob" Baeslack, 90 died on May 24, 2014. Beloved husband for 61 years to Ruth A. (nee Bielek); loving father of Robert "Mike" (Diane), Thomas (April), Dennis (MaryAllyn), Linda McNeeley, William "Willy" (Lori), Donna Shisler, Patricia Donahue (Michael) and Daniel; dear grandfather of 19; great-grandfather of five; loving son of the late William and Irene (nee Maple) Baeslack; brother of Margaret "Peg" Haught. Survived by sister-in-law Mildred "Mitzi" Hagan, nieces and nephews. US Army Veteran, awarded three Bronze Stars. Member of C.W.V. Post 579, Lakewood, OH and avid Cleveland sports fan. Family suggests memorial contributions to The Poor Clare Nuns, 3501 Rocky River Drive, Cleveland, OH 44111 or The Spirit Ranch, c/o Rev. Jerome Duke, P.O. Box 32, Addison, PA, 15411-0032.

Email your Wedding, Anniversary and Birthday Announcements! [zjbazik@comcast.net](mailto:zjbazik@comcast.net)

# MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

## Sr. Branch 177

### Team Walk for Center for Victims

Sr. Branch S177 (Clairton, PA) sponsored a team to walk for the benefit of Center for Victims in the Annual Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community on Saturday, May 16th, 2015. The walk was held at Stage AE on the North Shore in Pittsburgh, PA. Members from S177, J115 and staff from the Center formed a team to collect pledges and raised a total of \$850. The funds were donated to the center for Victims to continue to provide individuals, families, and communities of Allegheny County a comprehensive response to help heal from the trauma and harm caused by all forms of violence and crime, including domestic violence, rape/sexual assault, physical assaults, child and elder abuse, homicide, robbery, and burglary. Sr. Branch 177 and the Center for Victims would like to thank FCSLA for the \$600 donation in matching funds.



Junior and Senior Branch members and Staff of Center for Victims.



Iceberg, Mason and Blake Stover



Monica & Gerald LaFrankie

## Jr. Branch 362

### Basket Raffle

Jr. Branch 362 held a successful matching funds activity on April 25, 2015 for the benefit of Wilkes-Barre Academy 8th Grade class trip by donating baskets for a basket raffle held at the Academy's Night at the Races.



Barbara Ceklosky, J362 Treasurer, Martha Iskra, J362 President and Theresa Ceklosky, J362 Secretary are pictured with the gift baskets donated for the raffle.



L-R: Magdalen Iskra, District President; Barbara Ceklosky, J362 Treasurer; Cappie Evers and Cletta Salavantis, Wilkes-Barre Academy; Theresa Ceklosky, J362 Secretary; Martha Iskra, J362 President; Kevin Ceklosky (S172), father of Michael Ceklosky, 8th grade student at the Academy.



## Jr. Branch 157

### Monessen Library Presentation

Below are officers of FCSLA Jr. Branch 157 of Monessen presenting a Matching Funds check to Monessen Library. L-R: Suzanna Swade Library Board of Directors and FCSLA Branch 88 member, Dorothy Urbanowicz, Jr. Branch 157 President, David Zilka, Library Director and Rosemary Betza, Jr. Branch 157 Financial Secretary.







### Sr. Branch 350

#### Raffle and Walk Participation

Sr. Branch 350, Shamokin, PA joined with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) with a walk and raffle to benefit its members. Branch 350 donated and sold raffle items and participated in the walk in Kirby Park, Wilkes-Barre, PA. All proceeds support services that NAMI provides to local people with a mental illness or brain disorder. These include among other things, holding support meetings, networking with other groups and having access to current information on the brain.



### Jr. Branch 157

#### Hoagie Sale

Recently Monessen Jr. Branch 157 conducted a Hoagie Sale for the benefit of the Monessen Public Library. A total of \$717 was profited from this sale



**FCSLA 41st  
National Convention  
OCTOBER 3-8, 2015**

## District 11 Holds Branch Officer Training Workshop

District 11, St. Isidore held a Branch Officer Training Workshop in Valparaiso, NE at St. Mary and Joseph Church Hall. District officers presented seminars on insurance products available, what is a branch, and how to take advantage of fraternal benefits. The informational sessions included a question and answer session.



L-R: District 11 Officers — Ron Paseka, Treasurer; Gene Svoboda, President; and Clarice Sabata, Secretary.



Branch officers attending a District Workshop.

## Branch W133 Annual Picnic

Branch W133 held their annual picnic at the Timken Hill in Timken, KS. Members and their families and guests enjoyed a wonderful meal, social time, and a brief meeting to discuss service projects, including support for the local Rush County Food Bank. The annual meeting will be held Sunday, February 7, 12:30 p.m., at the Timken Hill.





## BRANCH 289 HOLDS ANNUAL SPRING SOCIAL

Gary, IN Branch 289 recently held their Annual Spring Social on Sunday, April 12 at Our Lady of Consolation Church Hall in Merrillville, IN. It was an afternoon of socializing with fellow Branch members and guests.



### *Branch W130 Potluck Picnic*

On Sunday, July 19, Branch W130 of Clutier, IA, held their annual potluck picnic. Chicken and drinks were provided by the lodge. Bingo was played in the afternoon. Many winners went home with watermelons, cantaloupes, and gas gift cards. The Colvin boys (above) are showing off some of their winnings.



### **Attend Slovak Day at Kennywood Park**



Members of Sr. Branch 88 of Monessen, PA attended the 92nd Slovak Day at Kennywood Park. The group enjoyed a meal at the Slovak kitchen and the many baskets available for auction. Rev. Joseph Grosko, former FCSLA National Chaplain, gave the invocation at Mass and the newly installed Bishop Edward Malesic of the Greensburg Diocese was the Principal Celebrant at the 4:00 Mass.





## Jubilee Celebration

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA recently celebrated the Jubilees of some of their members.

The celebration included a Mass in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius concelebrated by Rev. John Kemper, S.S., Baltimore, MD, Provincial Superior of the Sulpician Fathers; Rev. Msgr. Ronald Cellini, Pastor of St. Gregory the Great Parish, Bluffton, SC; Rev. Kenneth Seegar, Pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes Barre, PA; Rev. John Szada, Chaplain of Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Elysburg, PA; Rev. Patrick Divine, Bloomsburg, PA.; Rev. Mr. Thomas Baranoski, St. Joseph Parish, Charleston, SC, served as Deacon of the Word.

Liturgy was followed by a dinner to which the friends, family and Community members of the celebrants were invited.

The Sisters celebrating jubilee anniversaries currently serve in the dioceses of Bridgeport, CT; Charleston, SC; Gary, IN; Harrisburg, PA, and Scranton, PA.



**L-R: Sisters Denise Marie, Joanne Marie, Agnes Marie, Loretta Marie and Irene Marie prepare for the entrance procession before the Jubilee Liturgy.**



Celebrating anniversaries were: Front Row, L-R: Sister Michaeline Bitsko (70 years), Sister Gerard Greskovic (70 years), Sister Noel Stasko (65 years), Sister Isidore Tomascak (65 years), Sister Virginia Zapotocky (50 years). Middle Row, L-R: Sister Carol Marie Walsh (55 years), Sister Gloria Marie Kascak (60 years), Sister Donna Marie Ivanko (60 years), Sister Irene Marie Gaydos (45 years), Sister Denise Marie Fallat (55 years), Sister Madonna Figura (50 years). Back Row, L-R: Sister Christopher Godlewski (55 years), Sister Agnes Marie Winter (45 years), Sister Joanne Marie Schutz (45 years), Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec (45 years), Sister Pamela Smith (40 years), Sister Virginia Dewan (55 years).

## Slovak Catholic Federation SS.C.M. Appeal Mid-Year Report

The halfway point of the 2015 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal has recently passed. Most of the funds from this annual Appeal are used to aid the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries. Donations to the Appeal also benefit those Slovak communities of men and women Religious which have a counterpart in the United States represented on the Conference of Slovak Religious.

While collections taken up in parishes of Slovak ancestry at one time provided the bulk of the donations, today the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors. If you have already made your donation to the 37th Annual Appeal, thank you. If not, please consider doing so by filling out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it, along with your check, to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated. As of June 30, the 2015 Appeal has raised \$14,253. Again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

*The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Slovak Catholic fraternal organizations for cultural, religious, and educational needs. Serving as Episcopal Moderator is the Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D., bishop emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdo, supreme chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, Pennsylvania. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and pastor of Our Lady of Ransom Parish, Philadelphia, PA, serves as first vice president of the Federation and is the Appeal coordinator.*

### 37th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to*  
**Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:  
Dolores Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer  
Slovak Catholic Federation  
173 Berner Avenue  
Hazleton, PA 18201

## Slovak League of America to Offer 10 Scholarship Grants

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry founded in Cleveland, OH in 1907 will offer ten (10), \$1,000 college scholarship grants to students of Slovak ancestry currently enrolled as full time students in a college, university or professional school. These grants are available to both students in the undergraduate and graduate level of study. The grants will be awarded in late December 2015 and made payable directly to the student.

These scholarship grants are given in memory of Doctors Catherine and Ladislav P. Hinterbuchner of Rye, NY. Dr. Ladislav P. Hinterbuchner served for many years as the national first vice president of the Slovak League of America. A native of Slovakia, Dr. Hinterbuchner and his wife, Dr. Catherine Hinterbuchner were active in the work of the Slovak League as well as other Slovak American cultural projects over the years. This year's scholarship grants are designated as the Doctors Ladislav P. and Catherine Hinterbuchner Memorial Grants.

Applicants are asked to prepare a study paper on some theme from Slovak history or culture of no less than five, type-written double-spaced pages. Through the preparation of this paper, hopefully the applicant enjoys a learning experience acquiring a better appreciation of his/her rich Slovak heritage. The completed application, a head and shoulders photo along with the study paper in hard copy is to be returned by the deadline date of December 7, 2015. The scholarship grants will be paid directly to the individual student by December 30, 2015. For an application, write: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. daily Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (973) 472-8993.

The Slovak League of America Scholarship Fund, Inc. was established in 1972 to assist American students of Slovak ancestry in their quest for a good education. To date, more than 200 students have received scholarship grants from this fund. Tax deductible donations are welcome. Make checks payable to: Slovak League Scholarship Fund and send same to the address listed above. We encourage students of Slovak ancestry to make application for this year's scholarship grants honoring the memory of Doctors Ladislav P. and Catherine Hinterbuchner.

## Jankola Library Offering Christmas *Oplatky*

*Oplatky*, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will once again be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 26 until December 18, 2015.

The *Oplatky* come five per package and are thermal-sealed. They can be purchased for \$5.00 per pack. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$6.00 and upwards, depending upon the number of packets ordered and the cost of priority mailing. Payment, made to **Jankola Library**, is required before orders will be shipped.

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

## REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF APRIL 30, 2015

### ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 22,760,638
Bonds	743,907,328
Preferred Stock	2,105,553
Common Stock	5,560,373
Investment Income Due & Accrued	11,625,701
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,751,529
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	3,082,092
Other Assets	153,066
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 794,946,280</b>

### LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 252,663,197
Annuity Reserves	427,886,990
Death Claims Payable	2,285,646
Unearned Premiums	517,622
Matured Endowments	359,597
Provision for Dividends Payable	2,464,335
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,252,634
Accrued Convention Donations	806,033
Provision for Future Conventions	546,000
Asset Valuation Reserve	7,496,468
Interest Maintenance Reserve	986,953
Other Liabilities	1,171,670
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 701,437,144</b>
Surplus	\$ 93,509,136
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ 794,946,280</b>

### INCOME STATEMENT For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2015

#### REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 2,564,011
Annuity Premiums	14,434,133
Investment Income	13,201,488
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	30,033
Rental Income	125,419
Other Revenue	4,540
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 30,359,624</b>

#### EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 1,788,314
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	11,636,553
Insurance Benefits	2,156,917
Annuity Benefits	8,482,481
Commission Expense	385,792
Surrender Benefits	1,414,296
Post Mortem Benefits	493,818
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	22,454
Matured Endowments	23,100
Donation Expenses	20,122
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	81,488
Convention Expenses	46,183
Bank Service Charges	5,210
Data Processing Service Fees	66,414
Accounting Fees	16,325
Actuarial Fees	74,720
Legal Fees	14,126
Consulting Fees	42,736
Bonus to Branches	283,332
Fraternal Activities	35,366
Official Publications	139,383
Scholarship Awards	86,424
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	140,979
Fees — Directors	44,633
Salaries — Employees	474,633
Salaries — Officers	154,848
Interest Expense	102,988
Tax Expense	94,723
Depreciation Expense	85,512
Utility Expense	27,874
Postage and Printing	62,779
Advertising	45,718
Travel Expense	20,379
Insurance Department Fees	50,591
Sales Promotion	66,461
Rental Expense	125,419
Other Expense	145,863
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 28,958,953</b>

#### Income (Loss) from Operations

Dividends to Members	\$ 1,400,671
<b>Subtotal Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 863,550</b>
Capital Gains (Loss)	0
<b>NET INCOME (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 537,122</b>





# FRESH MEAL IDEAS

## KEE-KEE'S BLUE CHEESE PORTOBELLO BURGERS

- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 large portobello mushrooms, stems removed
- 4 cups thinly sliced sweet onion, divided
- 2 tablespoons water
- ¼ cup ruby port
- ½ teaspoon salt, divided
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper, divided
- ½ cup crumbled reduced-fat blue cheese (2 ounces)
- 4 hamburger buns
- 1 cup baby spinach
- 4 thick slices tomato

Whisk 2 tablespoons oil, vinegar and garlic in a bowl. Brush the mixture all over mushrooms and let stand for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, heat the remaining 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over high heat. Add 3 cups onion and cook, stirring frequently, until beginning to brown, about 5 minutes. Reduce heat to low, add water and cook, stirring frequently, until the onion is browned and very soft, about 15 minutes. Add port; cook, stirring occasionally, until mostly evaporated, about 3 minutes more. Stir in ¼ teaspoon salt and ⅛ teaspoon pepper. Remove from the heat and cover.

Preheat grill to medium. Sprinkle the mushrooms with the remaining ¼ teaspoon salt and ⅛ teaspoon pepper. Grill, gill-side down, for 5 minutes. Turn over and top each with 2 tablespoons cheese. Grill until the mushrooms are tender, 4 to 5 minutes more. Toast buns. Divide the cooked onions among the mushrooms. Serve (cheese-side up) on buns with spinach and tomato, and additional sliced onion if desired.

## COCONUT SHRIMP

- 2 pounds shell-on raw shrimp (16-20 per pound)
- 2 cup all-purpose flour, divided

- 1½ teaspoons kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- ⅛ teaspoon 5-spice powder
- 1 13.6-ounce can coconut milk
- 2 eggs beaten
- 2 cups panko bread crumbs
- 2 cups shredded coconut
- Vegetable oil (enough to fill a pan or wok three inches up the sides)

Remove shells from shrimp but leave tails on. This will act as a handle to pick up the cooked shrimp.

Lay out three medium to large bowls. In the first one; mix 1 cup flour, salt, pepper and 5-spice powder.

In the second; mix coconut milk with the two beaten eggs. In the third; mix Panko, coconut flakes and the remaining 1 cup of flour.

Handling a few at a time, dredge in flour, shake off excess and then into the egg mixture. Let the mixture drip off for a few seconds then dredge in the panko mixture.

Place on a sheet tray not touching as you go. Once you finish breading the shrimp, heat the pan or wok with the oil to 325 degrees using a candy thermometer, then maintain that temperature as you fry each batch. Get the oil back to 325 degrees between each batch.

Fry in about four or five batches placing them in one at a time not touching. They will cook for about three minutes and will float and be golden brown once done. Do not over cook. Serve immediately with sweet chili sauce.

## SWEET CHILI DIPPING SAUCE

- 1 tablespoon roughly chopped fresh ginger
- 2 tablespoons roughly chopped fresh garlic, about three cloves
- 3 tablespoons roughly chopped fresh jalapeño or Serrano peppers, stemmed and seeds removed
- ¼ cup champagne vinegar
- ½ cup water
- ¼ cup ketchup
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 1½ teaspoons kosher salt
- 1½ teaspoons corn starch
- 1 tablespoon water

In a blender, place ginger, garlic, peppers, vinegar, water, ketchup, sugar and salt. Puree until smooth but leave a few bits unprocessed, about 30 seconds.

Place ingredients into a sauce pan and bring to a simmer and simmer for five minutes. In a small cup, mix corn starch and water and add to pan. Heat just to thickened, then remove from heat.

Cool and refrigerate until ready to use. Serve at room temperature. Store in refrigerator up to 2 weeks.

## FRESH STUFFED ZUCCHINI

- 2 medium 2-inch-wide zucchini
- ½ teaspoon salt, divided
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground pepper, divided
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon white-wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon minced shallot
- 1 cup quartered grape tomatoes
- ½ cup diced fresh mozzarella cheese
- ¼ cup thinly sliced fresh basil

Trim both ends off zucchini; cut in half lengthwise. Cut a thin slice off the backs so each half sits flat. Scoop out the pulp, leaving a ¼-inch shell. Finely chop the pulp; set aside.

Place the zucchini halves in a microwave-safe dish. Sprinkle with ¼ teaspoon each salt and pepper. Cover and microwave on High until tender-crisp, 3 to 4 minutes.

Whisk oil, vinegar, shallot and the remaining ¼ teaspoon each salt and pepper in a medium bowl. Add tomatoes, cheese, basil and the reserved zucchini pulp; toss to combine. Divide the filling among the zucchini.

## BERRY QUINOA SALAD

*Citrus Honey Dressing:*

- 1 teaspoon orange zest
- 4 tablespoons fresh orange juice
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped mint
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped basil

*For the Salad:*

- 2 cups cooked red quinoa
- 1½ cups strawberries, cut in half
- 1 cup raspberries
- 1 cup blackberries
- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup roughly chopped Blue Diamond Honey Roasted Cinnamon Almonds
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped mint
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped basil

First, make the dressing. In a small bowl or jar, whisk together the orange zest, orange juice, lemon juice, lime juice, honey, mint, and basil. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine cooked quinoa, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, almonds, mint, and basil. Gently stir. Drizzle citrus honey dressing over the salad and gently stir again. Serve.

**Note:** if you can't find red quinoa, you can use regular quinoa. Cook the quinoa according to package instructions. The quinoa can be made in advance. Make sure it is cool before making the salad. The salad is best the day it is made.



PERIODICAL

9/15

## **The FCSLA Mission Statement**

We provide financial security to our members  
while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions.

## **The FCSLA Vision is to:**

Be a Premier Fraternal Benefit Society  
that offers quality financial products and benefits.