

ZORNICKA

Ladies
Pennsylvania
Slovak
Catholic
Union



MORNING STAR

Vol. 75, No. 851

November-December 2016

Your LPSCU Board of Directors



LPSCU Board members re-elected at our National Convention in June 2016 are, seated L-R: James Yocum, trustee; Margaret Jollimore, trustee; Joan T. Hladek, trustee; and Dolores M. Evanko, trustee. Standing L-R: Mary Ann Ewasko, chairperson of trustees; Mary Jo Savidge, secretary-treasurer; Theresa Kluchinski, president; and Anita Gregory, vice president.

In This Issue

A Reflection on Humility and Christmas	3	Letters.....	14
New Insurance Issued.....	3	Beeda District Wraps Up Matching Fund Event	14
Holiday Greeting from the Board and Staff.....	4	Rachel Bowman Graduates.....	14
Welcome Our New Spiritual Advisor	4	2016 Post-Graduate Award Recipients	15
Branch and Okres News.....	5	SS.C.M. Fall Appeal Update.....	15
Branch 39 Holds Mass for Members	5	LPSCU 15 Payment Life Plan	16
Branch 42 Volunteers at Slovak Day.....	5	Convention Candids	17
Notice of Vacancy: Fraternal Activities Director	5	St. Cyril's Holds Mother-Daughter Tea.....	18
Patricia Stearney Receives LPSCU FOTY Plaque....	5	SS.C.M. Sisters Offering Christmas <i>Oplatky</i>	18
Rachel Bowman is Confirmed	6	The LPSCU Cookbook	18
Branch 39 Holds Matching Fund Event.....	6	In Memoriam.....	19
LPSCU Privacy Statement	7	John Ferri Celebrates 90th Birthday.....	19
Branch 213 Concludes Matching Fund Project	7	Lehigh Valley to Hold Matching Fund Event.....	19
Slovak Day at Kenneywood Park	8-9	SS.C.M. Sisters Install New Leadership.....	20
Sister M. Mercedes Voytko, SS.C.M. Obituary.....	10	Malcolm Bowman Helps Win Championship.....	20
Lehigh Valley Hosts Members to Ball Game.....	10	The Importance of Life Insurance.....	20
JET Plan \$1.00 First Year Premium Extended.....	11	Member Supports Breast Cancer Cause.....	21
Pittsburgh Slovaks Release Christmas CD	11	44th Annual March for Life	21
Msgr. Beeda District to Hold Matching Fund Event. 11		Slovak Catholic Federation Holds Fall Meeting.....	21
United Slovak Societies to Host Dinner.....	11	Cooking Corner	21
Bethany Kaylor Graduates from U. of Oregon.....	12	Junior Branch Journal.....	22-23
Elizabeth Nace Receives Anne Cichy Award.....	12	Msgr. Beeda District Holds Mass and Breakfast	24
Rev. Evanko Marks 25 Years in Priesthood.....	13	Branch 213 Holding Christmas Fundraiser.....	24
Notice of Vacancy: Public Relations Director	13		

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- 24-25 & 12-13** — Msgr. Beeda District's Matching Fund 50-50 Raffle benefitting Divine Providence, a Catholic Social Services Homeless Shelter. Raffle tickets will be sold after all Masses on these dates at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish at the Church of St. Joseph, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, with the winning ticket to be drawn after the last Mass on November 13.
- 7** — Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association's Autumn Slovak Heritage Program – "Show-n-Tell" – at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.
- 20** — **Deadline to submit articles for January/February 2017 Zornicka.**
- 24-25** — Home Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday. *continued on page 6*

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Monday through Friday:

November 1 — April 30
7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

May 1 — October 31
7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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A Reflection on Humility and Christmas

By Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB
Spiritual Protector, LPSCU

Have you ever been in a room full of people when all of a sudden someone enters the room and immediately people stopped what they were doing, turned around and took notice of that person? It was as if all those in the room could sense their presence above everyone and everything else going on at the time. An aura radiated forth from that guest and you knew that this was someone special.

I had such an experience back in the late 1970's while I was attending John Carroll University. The University was bestowing an honorary degree on Mother (now St.) Teresa of Calcutta and the public was invited to attend a talk which she was to present in Kulas Auditorium. Hearing of all that Mother Teresa and her sisters had done for the poor throughout the world and knowing of her holiness and her appreciation of the simple things in life, I decided to attend her talk. Besides, I figured that one day she would become a saint and I could tell people that I actually was in the presence of a saint! And on Sunday, September 4, 2016, at a special Mass, Pope Francis elevated Mother Teresa to the status of Saint!

Getting back to my story, the crowd at John Carroll University rose from their seats as Mother Teresa and a handful of sisters from her religious order, The Missionaries of Charity, entered the auditorium. Though I was standing far from the middle aisle, and could not see her due to the crowd in front of me, I truly felt her humility as she walked up the aisle to the stage. Compared to those with her, Mother Teresa was smaller in stature but she was a giant in holiness. While I still remember her talk to this day, what struck me the most was how Mother Teresa embodied the Gospel message of love, humility, and peace which radiated forth from the very core of her being. Being in her presence was truly a moving experience for me which I will never forget.

What is humility? Humility means that one is "not proud or haughty."¹ In chapter 7, 1-3, of St. Benedict's Rule we read: "Brothers, divine Scripture calls to us saying: *Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled, and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted* (Luke 14:11; 18:14). In saying this, therefore, it shows us that every exaltation is a kind of pride, which the Prophet indicates he has shunned, saying: *Lord, my heart is not exalted; my eyes are not lifted up and I have not walked in the ways of the great nor gone after marvels beyond me* (Ps 130/131). Humility is a state of being. It is a state in which one recognizes the greatness of God in their own life and the insignificance of one's being without God. Humility is to recognize the dwelling of Christ in others as well as in oneself.

Reflecting upon the Christmas message of God's great love for us in which He chose to become one of us through the Incarnation of His only Son, Jesus Christ, I couldn't help but see the depths of humility. Jesus is the Son of God, He is the King of Kings, He is the Savior of the world, yet he wasn't born in a palace or a castle. As St. Luke reminds us in his Gospel, "While they were there [Bethlehem] the time came for her [Mary]



to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."² Jesus was born in a stable – a barn – and laid in a manger or "a container from which cattle or horses feed"³ Talk about humility!!! Not a glamorous place at all to be born!!

Jesus chose to be born in such squalid conditions in order that He may reach all peoples, even the lowest and the poorest. Jesus chose to be born in such conditions in order give hope to all. Jesus chose to be born in such conditions in order to grace our status as human beings and elevate us to the status as Children of God. Jesus meets us where we are and invites us to deepen in our relationship with God. Through His birth, we are called to live in humility and to see Christ in each other. As St. Benedict reminds us in Chapter 53, vs. 1, "All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed like Christ, for He himself will say, *I was a stranger and you welcomed me* (Matt. 25:35)."

St. Teresa humbly embodied the love of God shown us at Christmas as she saw and welcomed all people as Christ in her life. Truly Mother Teresa was Christ to others. This Christmas is a time to recall the great act of love in which Our Lord Jesus Christ humbled himself and became human; he became one of us. We are called to embody God's love in our lives by seeing and welcoming all people as Christ. Truly we are called to be Christ to others.

It is my prayer that you and your families will see the Face of God this Christmas. May you have a blessed and joyous Christmas!

Peace,

Abbot Gary, OSB

All quotations from the Rule of St. Benedict are from *RB 1980*, Timothy Fry, ed., The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN.

¹ Merriam-Webster on-line Dictionary ©2005

² Ch 2, 6 & 7 New American Bible, 2002 Copyright © United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

³ Merriam-Webster on-line Dictionary ©2005

New Insurance Issued

Branch	Branch Representative	JULY/AUGUST 2016	Year-to-Date Total
7	Margaret Jollimore	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
64	Elva Silay	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
76	Celeste Palcsey	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
130	Margaret Ferri	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
197*	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
213	Mary Jo Savidge	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 49,000.00
213	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
		\$ 111,000.00	\$ 124,000.00

*Sold through Home Office, not included in Campaign

The National Officers and Staff
of the LPSCU
Wish You and Yours
a Very Happy Thanksgiving,
a Blessed and Merry Christmas,
and a New Year Filled
with Health and Happiness!

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Radosne Vianoene sviatky
a Bohom pozehnany Novy Rok!
Linkiu jums geru Sv. Kalėdu
ir miėlu bei laimingu Naujuju Metu!

Welcome Our New Spiritual Advisor

REV. ROBERT L. SEEMAN

The LPSCU is pleased to announce that Father Robert L. Seeman, a priest in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has been named our new Spiritual Advisor, effective October 1, 2016. We know our members will welcome "Father Bob" and make him feel at home.



Robert Lawrence Seeman was born on July 17, 1953, the son of the late Lawrence and Irene (Ragan) Seeman. The oldest of five children, he attended St. Joseph School in Duquesne, Pennsylvania, and Serra Catholic High School in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. He earned an undergraduate degree in Sociology from St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania, and a Master of Divinity degree from St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

Father Seeman was ordained to the priesthood on September 29, 1979, by Bishop Vincent Leonard at St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood. He served as parochial vicar of St. Mary of the Mount in Pittsburgh's Mount Washington neighborhood, St. Louise de Marillac in Upper St. Clair, Immaculate Conception in Washington, Pennsylvania, as well as chaplain to the students at Washington and Jefferson College. He also served as Director of the Newman Center at Slippery Rock University, in addition to serving as the Diocesan Director of Campus Ministry. He was pastor of St. Thomas A' Becket Parish from July 5, 1999 to July 1, 2014, after which he took part in a 6-month sabbatical which included a sabbatical program at the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate's School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas, from August 12 through December 8, 2014. Father Seeman also served as the administrator of St. Margaret Mary Parish, Moon Township, Pennsylvania, from March until August 15, 2014.

Father Seeman was appointed pastor of St. Mary of Mercy Parish, Downtown Pittsburgh, and as Campus Minister at Point Park University and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, effective August 15, 2014. He was recently appointed as administrator of St. Peter Parish in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, and as the Director of Campus Ministry at Slippery Rock Newman Center, effective September 12, 2016.

Father Seeman was a visiting Spiritual Director at St. Paul Seminary (1985-1990) and a member of the Priest Council (1986-1990).

He has three brothers, Michael, Larry, and David, and a sister, Cheryl, as well as five nieces, two great-nephews, and one great-niece.

ILLIANA DISTRICT

The Illiana District's Holiday Social will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016, at Aqua Viva Restaurant on Route 38 in Maple Park, Illinois, at 2:00 p.m. LPSCU members living in the area are invited. LPSCU members who live in DeKalb County, Illinois, are welcome to join the Indiana/Illinois District in their holiday social. Members of the Hammond, East Chicago, and Whiting, Indiana, and Chicago, Pana, and Joliet, Illinois, branches are already in the Illiana Okres. However, any LPSCU member in the region is welcome to attend. For more information or to make a reservation, call Joan Hladek at 815-895-0431. **Reservation deadline is November 20.**

Branch 39 Holds Mass for Members

A Mass for the living and deceased members of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, LPSCU Branch 39, was celebrated at the Church of St. Joseph at Saint Cyril and Methodius Parish in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, May 1, at 8:15 a.m. Following the Liturgy, members of Branch 39 and guests enjoyed a breakfast buffet at Genetti's Catering on Route 309 in Hazle Township, Pennsylvania.



Pictured are some of the members of Branch 39 and their guests enjoying breakfast.

Branch 42 Volunteers at Slovak Day



Branch 42 members once again volunteered their time and talent in preparing food to be served at Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, this past July. The "kucharki" pictured with ceregi are, from left, Mary Heckel, Sylvia Goda, Duane Hovanek, Marge Joschak, Dolores Sakal, Helen Lorinc, and Gerry Kallay.

**NOTICE OF VACANCY
LPSCU Fraternal
Activities Director**

Fraternal Activities Director is a hired position of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union (LPSCU). This position is part-time with an estimated 10 to 20 hours per week. Duties include, but are not limited to the following:

- Abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the LPSCU.
- Represent the LPSCU at functions as requested (e.g., seminars, local socials, meetings, etc.)
- Responsible for the publication of the Junior Section in the official publication of the LPSCU.
- Responsible for all fraternal activities/programs (new/existing) of the LPSCU.
- Work with Branches/Districts regarding activities/programs and the reporting of activities/programs.
- Responsible for providing reports to the Board of Directors.
- Responsible for the development/maintenance of Fraternal Activities Manual.
- Coordinate reimbursement of LPSCU Branch/District functions.

REQUIREMENTS: Background in communications helpful, especially various forms of social media. Use of Microsoft Office programs, such as Word, Excel and Power Point, as well as excellent organizational and writing/communication skills. Travel is required.

A written resume shall be submitted which states qualifications, personal background and history, as well as past experience.

Any member wishing to be considered for this position should send a resume to the attention of the LPSCU President, P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032.

Patricia Stearney Receives LPSCU FOTY Plaque

An Illiana Okres luncheon was held September 24, 2016, at Al's Steakhouse in Joliet, Illinois, to present Patricia Stearney with her LPSCU 2016 Fraternalist of the Year award plaque. The luncheon was hosted by Chicago Branch 158. Illness prevented Patricia from attending the LPSCU Convention held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in June 2016 where she would have received her plaque.

Branch 158 officers Maryann and George Siska were present at the luncheon as well as two of Patricia's daughters, Lisa Nicolai and Laura Smith. LPSCU National Trustee Joan Hladek was pleased to present Pat with her award.

Patricia has asked that the award's monetary gift be sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital in Tennessee.

26 — The Illiana District will hold its Holiday Social at Aqua Viva Restaurant on Route 38 in Maple Park, Illinois, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Illiana District members and all LPSCU members living in the area are invited. For more information or to make a reservation, call Joan Hladek at 815-895-0431. Reservation deadline is November 20.

DECEMBER

- 4** — Reverend Dianiska District's annual Christmas party at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, at 1:00 p.m. Branches 7, 58, and 94 will host. Attendees are asked to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to a local food pantry. A Matching Fund Special Gifts Raffle will also be held. Call your Branch Secretary to make a reservation if you plan to attend.
- 4** — The Lehigh Valley Okres Holiday Luncheon and Matching Fund gift basket raffle in the Lehigh Room, Best Western Conference Center of the Lehigh Valley, Routes

22 and 512, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Punch reception at noon; buffet at 12:30 p.m. Please bring along a Toys for Tots donation. Call Marge Ferri (610-866-8945) before November 25 to make a reservation.

- 4** — LPSCU Branch 52 will hold its Christmas Party at the Grandview Golf Club in North Braddock, Pennsylvania, beginning at noon. Contact Branch Secretary Jim Tomasic (412-824-0390) for more details and to make a reservation.
- 4** — United Slovak Societies will host a traditional Vilija Dinner at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, Ohio. Cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Tickets (\$20) by advance sale only. Contact Len Zilko at 440-988-3236. *More details on page 11.*
- 5** — Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association's Autumn Slovak Heritage Program – "Slovak Christmas Customs" – at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The program is free and open to the public.
- 9** — The Msgr. Beeda District's Christmas party at Booty's Restaurant, Route 309, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Contact Anita Gregory (570-788-3263) by November 25 to make a reservation.
- 23-26** — Home Office closed for Christmas holiday.
- 30** — Home Office closing at noon for New Year's Eve holiday.

Rachel Bowman is Confirmed

Rachel Marie Bowman received the sacrament of Confirmation on June 4, 2016, at Holy Wisdom Parish with the Most Reverend William J. Watersheid, STD, presiding. Rachel chose the name Helen for her confirmation name because her great-aunt, Helen Lorinc, is one of her favorite aunts. Rachel's grandmother, Mary Ann Kaylor, was her sponsor. A combination Confirmation and 8th grade graduation party was held for Rachel a week later.



Rachel Bowman (left) with her great-aunt, Helen Lorenc.

Rachel is the daughter of Mary Ann Bowman and sister of Malcolm Bowman.

The Bowman and Kaylor families all belong to LPSCU Branch 64, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



L-R: Malcolm Bowman, Thomas Kaylor, Rachel Bowman, Earl Kalchthaler, Most Reverend William J. Watersheid, Mary Ann Bowman, and Mary Ann Kaylor.

LPSCU Branch 39 Holds Matching Fund Event

LPSCU Branch 39 sponsored a team in the American Cancer Society's Relay-for-Life event which was held on Friday, June 3, and Saturday, June 4, 2016 at the Track at Cougar Park, 1515 W. 23rd Street in Hazle Township, Pennsylvania. The Branch 39 team raised \$200 which was donated to the American Cancer Society. An additional \$100 was also raised through the LPSCU Matching Fund Program for a total of \$300.



Members of Branch 39 present a check at the American Cancer Society's office in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Pictured, L-R, are Gina Yocum, Branch 39 fraternal activities director; Makenzie Milot and Zeke Milot, members of Branch 39; James Yocum Branch 39 secretary-treasurer; and Stephanie Wojciechowsky, accepting the donation on behalf of the American Cancer Society.

LPSCU PRIVACY STATEMENT

Our Privacy Commitment

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union (LPSCU), a fraternal life insurance society, shares your concern about privacy. We believe in protecting the confidentiality and security of the information we collect. This notice describes our privacy policy and how we treat the information we receive about you.

Why we collect and how we use information

We use the information we collected about you for business purposes with respect to our insurance and fraternal relationship with you. The business purposes include evaluating a request for our products, services or benefits; evaluating benefit claims; administering our products, services or benefits; and processing transactions requested by you. We may also use the information to contact you about other products and services we provide.

How we collect information

Much of the personal information that we have comes directly from you. The information you give us when you apply for our products or services generally provides the information we need. If we need to verify information or need additional information, we may obtain this information from third parties such as health care providers. Information collected may relate to your employment, finances, health, avocations, or other personal characteristics.

How we protect information

We treat the information we collect about you in a confidential manner. Our employees are required to protect the confidentiality of this information. Your personal information is available only to our employees who may need to see it to fulfill and service your needs. We maintain safeguards to protect the information and our employees are required to comply with our established policies. Should your relationship with us end, your personal information will remain protected in accordance with our privacy practices as outlined in this notice.

What we do with personal information we collect

We do not disclose your personal information to companies or organizations not affiliated with us that would use the information we have provided them to contact you about their own products and services. We may disclose information about you in order for us to conduct our business, or where law requires disclosure. For example, information may be disclosed to others to enable them to provide business services for us, such as performing general administrative activities. We may use your personal information for marketing purposes or to help with your overall insurance program. Information may also be disclosed for audit or research purposes, or to law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

Further Information

As required by law, we will notify you of our privacy policy annually.

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E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org

Branch 213 Concludes Matching Fund Project

On August 13, 2016, a group of LPSCU members and non-members attended a Branch 213 Matching Fund activity at Mountaintop Gift Gallery in Mountaintop, Pennsylvania. This fund-raising event was sponsored by LPSCU Branch 213 to benefit the Laurel Run Volunteer Fire Department in an effort to help the all-volunteer department fulfill their mission of service to the Laurel Run community. Participants got together for an evening of painting and fun and at the same time raised a total of \$430, which includes a matching donation of \$100 from the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Home Office.

LPSCU National President and Branch 213 Secretary-Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski presented the check to Jason Correll, president of Laurel Run Volunteer Fire Department, who was on hand to participate in the event, along with the mayor of Laurel Run Borough, Justin Correll.



The group is pictured with their artwork.



Branch 213 Secretary-Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski (front row, left) presented a check to Laurel Run Volunteer Fire Department President Jason Correll (standing, right). They are pictured with Laurel Run Borough Mayor Justin Correll (standing, left), LRFD volunteer Krista Jerr (front row, center), and Branch 213 Vice President Mary Landmesser (front row, right).

Another Successful Slovak

The 93rd Slovak American Day was held at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, July 21, 2016. There was something for everyone back in the Kennywood pavilions. The Slovak Kitchen served delicious stuffed cabbage dinners which included halushki, kielbasa, and cherigi, all handmade by volunteers. Games were provided for all of the children in attendance along with a special visit from Kenny Kangaroo, the mascot of Kennywood Park.

LPSCU Pittsburgh District President Dolores Sakal kicked off the ceremonies with a welcome speech. Pittsburgh Honorary Consul for the Slovak Republic and LPSCU member Joe Senko welcomed the honored guests, Michael Lanik from the Embassy of the Slovak Republic and Andrew E. Massich, Ph.D., president and CEO of the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh. Entertainment was provided by the Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks, PAS Junior Dance Ensemble, and the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

A Slovak Eucharistic Celebration was held in the main pavilion with principal celebrant, Rev. Vincent Velas, pastor of St. Patrick Church in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, along with concelebrants from the Pittsburgh, Greensburg, and Altoona-Johnstown dioceses and Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy. After the service, a Slovak sing-along was held led by Robert Ponchak, cantor, and Leonard Potemra, organist.

Special thanks to LPSCU Pittsburgh Branch members Sylvia Goda, Celeste Palcsey, and Jim Tomasic for the colorful and informative table display of the benefits that the LPSCU has to offer, along with some useful giveaways. Sylvia also had authentic Slovak articles of clothing on display as well as some needlework. Extra special thanks to all of the Slovak American Day committee members led by Dolores Sakal and Sue Ondrejco, co-chairs of the event, and all of the many volunteers who helped to make this yet another very successful Slovak Day at Kennywood!

DONNA POWELL, *Publicity Chair, Pittsburgh District*



Day at



In Memoriam

Sister M. Mercedes Voytko SS.C.M.

Sister M. Mercedes, SS.C.M. (Victoria Voytko), 85, died on September 8, 2016, at Emmanuel Center, Danville, Pennsylvania. Born on June 2, 1931, in Humboldt, Pennsylvania, she was the youngest child of the late Michael and Anna (Vantuch) Voytko. She attended local schools and completed her elementary education at St. Joseph School, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. She graduated from St. Cyril Academy, Danville.



Sister Mercedes entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius on October 3, 1949, and was received as a novice on August 10, 1950. She made her first profession of vows on August 13, 1952. Sister Mercedes received her B.A. and M.A. from Marywood University, Scranton, Pennsylvania, and was later selected for membership in Phi Alpha Theta (Iota Sigma Chapter) international honor fraternity in history. She also continued her education at Fordham, Scranton, Bloomsburg, and LaSalle universities.

Sister Mercedes taught in parish schools in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. She also taught at the following Pennsylvania schools: Bishop O'Reilly, Kingstons; Bishop O'Hara, Dunmore; and Sacred Heart Clinic, Wilkes-Barre. She served as principal at St. Joseph School, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.

During her 13 years at St. Joseph's in Danville, Sister Mercedes served in a variety of capacities. She taught eighth grade and was high school religious education coordinator for three years. She also served as pastoral assistant, special Eucharistic Minister, and Director of Religious Education. She acted as secretary of the Danville-Riverside Area Ministerial Association (DRAMA) and belonged to the following organizations: the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the Parish Board of Education, the Parish Council, and the Council of Catholic Women. Sister Mercedes was engaged in pastoral ministry part-time at the Danville State Hospital for seven years.

Well-known and active in Slovak circles, Sister Mercedes was director of the Jankola Library at Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, for 15 years. She was also a member of the Slovak League of America, Slovak World Congress, and the Slovak Catholic Federation.

In addition to her parents, Sister Mercedes was preceded in death five brothers and three sisters. She is survived by many nieces and nephews and their families.

The transferal and recitation of the Rosary took place on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. at Maria Hall, Danville, followed by a Wake Service at 11:00 a.m. and Mass of Christian Burial at 1:30 p.m. at Maria Hall, with burial in the Sisters' cemetery.

Donations in memory of Sister Mercedes can be made to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821.

Lehigh Valley Hosts Members to Baseball Game

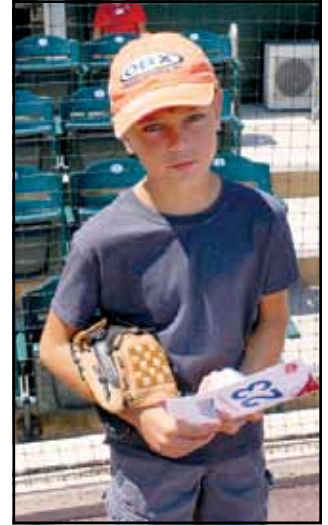
On Sunday, August 7, 2016, the Lehigh Valley Okres hosted a group of 19 LPSCU youth and 31 adults at the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Baseball Game at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown, Pennsylvania. The Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs, an affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies, played the Rochester Red Wings at 1:35 in the afternoon.

The Lehigh Valley Okres provided each young member with a complimentary entrance ticket to the game and a stipend toward their food purchase. Upon entering the ball park, each youth under 14 received a complimentary Lehigh Valley Bacon Cap.

Bethlehem Branch 130 member Aiden Malone, son of Gary and Nicole Malone, threw out the first pitch. He got to keep the Iron Pigs baseball that he threw. Aiden's two brothers and many cousins also belong to Branch 130.

When the "Lehigh Valley Okres of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union" was announced on the large screen at the ball park, our group cheered loudly.

Although the weather was hot for a baseball game, everyone stayed to watch the Iron Pigs win by a final score of 10 to 1.



Aiden Malone holds the baseball he threw out as the first pitch at the game.



Members of the Lehigh Valley Okres enjoy an afternoon at the ballpark.

The LPSCU is saddened at the loss of Sister Mercedes Voytko, SS.C.M. We extend our sincere sympathy to her family and to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. May she rest in peace.

JET Plan \$1.00 First Year Premium Extended

The LPSCU Board of Directors announces that the \$1.00 first year annual premium on the Juvenile Estate Term (Term-to-25) plan of insurance has been extended for the year 2017. **This offer is limited to certificates with an issue date in the year 2017.**

After the first year, premiums will be billed at the rate of \$16.00 for \$10,000 of term life insurance and \$9.50 for \$5,000 of term life insurance.

The LPSCU's Juvenile Estate Term (JET) Plan, commonly referred to as Term-to-25, is an ideal insurance solution for students and is available to anyone less than 22 years of age. The plan provides full life insurance protection from date of issue to age 25.

A medical exam is not required to apply; however, the LPSCU reserves the right to require a medical exam on any applicant should it be deemed necessary.

Once the JET insurance certificate is issued, coverage remains in full force and effect through the maturity date of the certificate, provided premium payments are current. This plan matures when the insured's certificate reaches the anniversary of issue date closest to his/her 25th birthday. **When the certificate expires, the insured will be given an option to convert his/her current coverage amount to a legal reserve plan (permanent insurance) with no evidence of insurability being required. This is a guaranteed provision within the JET contract.**

In the event of the death of the insured prior to reaching 25 years of age, the face amount of the policy is paid to the named beneficiary/ies.

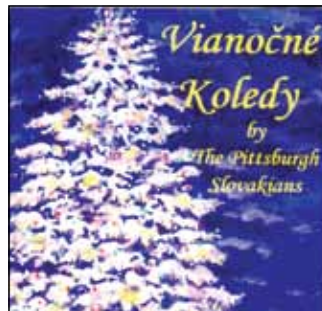
The new legal reserve certificate may provide a death benefit equal to or less than the face amount of the expired JET policy. The policy date of issue will be the expiry date of the JET policy. The policy premium on the new certificate will be based on the member's age on the date of exchange and on the Society's premium rates then in effect. The first premium on the new certificate must be paid prior to the expiry date of the JET policy. Written request for exchange will be required.

JET Term-to-25 is an excellent, affordable plan providing protection for your children from infancy on through their school years, including college. Now the JET Term-to-25 is even more affordable with the first year's premium costing just \$1.00. This offer is good for certificates with an issue date in the year 2017.

Call your Branch Secretary today for an application for this economical term insurance plan for the young, or contact the LPSCU Home Office at 888/834-6614 or 570-823-3513. You can also e-mail the Home Office at lpscu@lpscu.org. Visit our website: www.lpscu.org.

Pittsburgh Slovaks Release New Christmas CD

The Pittsburgh Slovaks have announced the availability of their new recording, "Vianočné Koledy," which is the result of several decades during which the Slovak folk song and dance troupe has spread the Slovak Christmas spirit through their holiday season performances. The carols on the CD are priceless treasures that will re-awaken cherished traditions and memories. The CD includes such favorites as: Do Hory do lesa valasi, Povedzte nám paserovia, Plesajte všetci ľudia, Narodil sa Kristus v Betleme, Dnešny del' sa radujme, Tichá Noc, and more! Each CD costs \$15 which includes postage. Make checks payable to Pittsburgh Slovaks and mail to: Pittsburgh Slovaks, 234 Ilion Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15207.



Msgr. Beeda District to Hold Matching Fund Project

Members of the Msgr. Beeda District are planning to hold their final project for 2016, a 50-50 raffle, in conjunction with the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union's Matching Fund program. Proceeds from this raffle will be donated to Divine Providence, a Catholic Social Services Homeless Shelter located at 81 N. Laurel Street, Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Tickets will be on sale at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish at the Church of St. Joseph, Hazleton, after all the Masses on the weekends of November 5-6 and November 12-13, 2016. The winner will be drawn on Sunday, November 13, after the final Mass.

With the winter months approaching, no one should be left out in the cold weather and everyone deserves a hot meal. We need your support in order for this project to be a success. We appreciate your generosity and kindness. Thank you.

United Slovak Societies to Host Vilija Dinner

The United Slovak Societies will host a traditional *Vilija* dinner on Sunday, December 4, 2016, at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, Ohio, with cocktails at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00. Entertainment will be provided by Johnny "Squeeze" Pastirik. The event is open to the public.

The *Vilija* dinner will consist of the Ladies Auxiliary perch, bobalki, pierohi, sauerkraut soup, kolacki, and oplatky, and begin with a wine toast. A cash bar, including *Zlaty Bazant*, will be available.

Tickets (\$20 per person) are available by advance sale only. Contact Len Zilko at 440-988-3236.

The United Slovak Societies is comprised of members of the following lodges: Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, National Slovak Society Assembly 160, First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 228, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch 114, and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Branch 77.

Bethany Ellon Kaylor Graduates from University of Oregon

Bethany Ellon Kaylor graduated Cum Laude from the University of Oregon in June 2016 with a degree from the Department of Comparative Literature. She is currently working part-time as a writer for an artist studio at Rogue Mark in Berkeley, California.

While attending college, Bethany also excelled at playing Ultimate Frisbee for the University. She and her teammates made the national championship game four times, winning in 2013 and 2015. Bethany also played for the U.S. team at the World Games in 2010 (Germany), 2013 (Toronto), and 2015 (London), winning Bronze, Gold and Silver, respectively. One of her catches was featured on ESPN's Sports Center Top 10 in early August.

Bethany is the daughter of Michael and Deborah Kaylor and granddaughter of Tom and Mary Ann Kaylor, members of LPSCU Branch 64, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

In addition to her parents and paternal grandparents, some of her aunts and uncles made the trip for Bethany's graduation ceremony and party, and spent a couple of the preceding days visiting and exploring Eugene, Oregon.

The extended Kaylor Family is very proud of Bethany for her scholastic and athletic accomplishments.



Bethany Kaylor is pictured with her parents, Michael and Deborah Kaylor.



L-R: Martin and Lisa Kaylor, Mary Ann Kaylor, Deborah, Bethany, and Michael Kaylor, Stephen Kaylor and Tom Kaylor. Martin and Stephen are Bethany's uncles.

Elizabeth Nace Receives 2016 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Award

The LPSCU is pleased to announce that Elizabeth Nace of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2016 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship. Elizabeth graduated from Camp Hill High School in 2011. She received a B.S. in Biology with a concentration in Mathematics and Chemistry from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Her activities at college included Women's Club Rugby, Intramural Soccer, Dance Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Campus Activities Board, Pre-Health Professions Club, and she was a tutor at Lincoln Elementary-El-Centro. Throughout college, she worked as a waitress for Red Lobster to help cover expenses and save for graduate school.



Currently, Elizabeth is a third-year grad student at Salus University, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, where she is enrolled in a dual degree program studying for a Doctor of Optometry (OD) in the Pennsylvania College of Optometry and a Master's in Public Health (MPH) in the College of Health Sciences. She has an expected graduation date of June 2018 for both programs. Additionally, she has recently enrolled in the Anterior Segment Advanced Studies Program at Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

While at Salus University, Elizabeth has taken an active role in the community. She served as the Salus Christian Fellowship Treasurer, Sports Vision First Year Representative, and Campus Activities Co-chair during previous school years. Currently, she serves as the Executive Student Council President, is on the Institutional Review Board, is a 1st year mentor, Clinical Skills TA and a tutor. She participated in vision screenings with the Special Olympics and for the local area in North Philadelphia. She also participates in many professional organizations as a student and makes time to attend conferences where she can network and further continue her education. Such conferences include the Congressional Advocacy Committee Meeting in Washington, D.C., each April, AOA's Optometry Meeting held in Boston this past June, and the American Academy of Optometry to be held in Anaheim, California, this November. She worked summer internships with Hampton Optical (2010), Penn State Hershey (2012), and Family Eye Care Vision Therapy (2012), and a winter internship and clerkship with Armesto Eye Associates (January 2014 and Summer 2015).

Elizabeth recently returned from a one-week humanitarian trip to Haiti with Student Optometric Services to Humanity (SOSH) where the group gave eye exams to approximately 1,200 patients in need of proper eye care and glasses.

Upon graduation from Salus University, Elizabeth intends to complete a residency in Pediatrics or Primary Care.

Elizabeth is a member of LPSCU Branch 7, Exeter, Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of Gloria and Daryl Nace.

The LPSCU is proud of Elizabeth's outstanding achievements and accomplishments. Congratulations, Elizabeth! We wish you continued success as you complete your graduate work.

Rev. Joseph Evanko Celebrates 25th Anniversary of Ordination

Rev. Joseph J. Evanko celebrated the 25th Anniversary of his ordination on Sunday, July 10, 2016, with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Master of Ceremonies was Rev. Jeffrey Tudgay, assistant pastor of St. Jude Church in Mountain Top, Pennsylvania. Principal celebrant of the Mass was Father Evanko, with many priest friends as concelebrants. Deacons of the Word and Eucharist were Deacon James Atherton and Deacon Eugene Kovatch. Dolores M. Evanko, sister of Father Joe, as he is called, served as lector.



Fr. Joe offered an inspirational homily, after which he gave special recognition to Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, who was present in the Sanctuary. Msgr. Beeda was Fr. Joe's mentor and is now pastor emeritus of St. Joseph Church.

Giftbearers were Mary, Andrew, and Richard Kish, who are Fr. Joe's aunt, uncle and cousin, respectively. Serving as cantor was Alyssa Golden of Mountain Top.

Beautiful liturgical music and singing was provided by the combined choirs from the churches of Good Shepherd, Drums, Pennsylvania; St. John Bosco, Conyngham, Pennsylvania; St. Joseph, Hazleton; St. Jude, Mountain Top; and St. Mary, Dorrance, Pennsylvania. The service was accompanied by the sounds of trumpets, a flute, and stringed instruments. Joseph Dubinski was organist and choir director.

The church altars were beautifully adorned with flowers and the church was filled to a standing room only capacity crowd – a tribute to Father Joe.

The Mass of Thanksgiving will carry lasting memories as a most beautiful and joyful occasion for all who attended. Words cannot describe the fulfillment one received from this special event.

Following the liturgy, a reception was held at Genetti's Best Western in Hazleton. Approximately 600 people attended, including relatives and friends of Father Joe, priests, nuns, parishioners of parishes served by Father Joe, and officers and members of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

Father Evanko is a 1981 graduate of Bishop Hafey High School, Hazleton. He completed undergraduate studies in liberal arts at the University of Scranton and St. Pius X Seminary, Dalton, Pennsylvania. He holds a Master of Arts in counseling from Marywood College of Scranton and a Master of Arts in theology from the Theological College, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Joseph Evanko was ordained a priest by the Most Rev. James C. Timlin, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania, on June 29, 1991, in the Cathedral of Saint Peter in

NOTICE OF VACANCY LPSCU Public Relations Director

Public Relations Director is a hired position of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union (LPSCU). This position is part-time with an estimated 10 to 20 hours per week. Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the LPSCU.
- Represent the LPSCU at functions as requested (e.g., seminars, local socials, meetings, etc.)
- Shall portray, project and promote the public image and interests of the LPSCU through the media.
- Shall prepare and publicize activities and meetings of the LPSCU and its affiliates.
- Shall prepare, edit and coordinate the publication of articles/photographs received from members, Branches, Districts, etc. for publication in the official publication.
- Maintain/coordinate the publication with printing firm/company.
- Monitor and maintain LPSCU Website.
- Develop/monitor and maintain social media avenues, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Responsible for providing reports to the Board of Directors.
- Coordinate reimbursement of LPSCU Branch/District functions.

REQUIREMENTS: Background in communications helpful, especially various forms of social media. Use of Microsoft Office programs, such as Word, Excel and Power Point, as well as excellent organizational and writing/communication skills.

A written resume shall be submitted which states qualifications, personal background and history, as well as past experience.

Any member wishing to be considered for this position should send a resume to the attention of the LPSCU President, P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032.

Scranton. From 1991-1998, he served as assistant pastor at St. Jude Church, Mountain Top; from 1998-2001, he was campus minister and educator at Marywood University in Scranton; from 2001-2009, he was pastor at St. John Bosco Church in Conyngham; from 2005-2009, he was pastor of Good Shepherd Church, Drums; and from 2009 to the present, he is pastor of St. Jude Church in Mountain Top and also St. Mary Church in Dorrance. He is currently involved in the process of building a new St. Jude Church with a expected completion date of August 2017.

Father Evanko is the son of the late John P. and Theresa Kowalchick Evanko of Hazleton, and has a sister, Dolores Evanko, of Hazleton. He is a member of LPSCU Branch 124 in Hazleton.

The LPSCU is proud of Father Joe and extends congratulations and best wishes to him on his 25th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

Letters

Dear LPSCU,

Thank you so much for sending the \$300 check to my school. The tuition is very expensive and the money will be a big help to my mother. I just started my first week at Oakland Catholic High School and really love it. Thank you again and I also enjoy going to the Branch 64 meetings with my mother, Mary Ann Bowman, grandmother, Mary Ann Kaylor, and aunt, Helen Lorinc.

Rachel Bowman
Branch 64, Pittsburgh, PA

Msgr. Beeda District Concludes Summer Matching Fund Project

Members of the Msgr. Beeda District concluded their Matching Fund Project in conjunction with the LPSCU's Matching Fund program on September 16, 2016, when they held a 50/50 raffle drawing. The proceeds from the raffle enabled District officers to present a \$200 check to Ester Medina, executive assistant at Brandon's Forever Home in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Brandon's Forever Home is a non-profit charitable organization created to raise awareness about children in foster care and their need for permanent, loving homes. Its founding members, State Representative Tara Toohil and Attorney Lorine Ogurkis, recognized the need in their community and decided to start the foundation to assist children in need.

Ms. Medina explained that the home is a place where foster children and their families feel welcomed and appreciated. It is a support center for those who have been touched by the foster care system. Families can come to the home for food, clothing, toiletries and other necessities, at no cost to them.

The Msgr. Beeda District was happy to support such a worthwhile cause and Ester and Brandon's Forever Home were very grateful for the donation. A special thank you to all who supported this project. We always appreciate your kindness and generosity. Without your continued support, we would not be able to give back to the many people in our community who need help.



From left, District officers Dolores Evanko and Anita Gregory, Ester Medina from Brandon's Forever Home, and Mary Ann Litchock.

"Ladies,"

God's spirit shines through in people like you.

Thank you for selecting me as a scholarship recipient!

Thanks,

Randy Czankner, Jr.
Branch 197, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Dear LPSCU Members and Officers,

It is an honor to have been chosen for the LPSCU High School Scholarship. The scholarship will be a help towards my tuition at Holy Redeemer High School.

Sincerely,

Marissa Jason
Branch 6, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Dear LPSCU,

I thank the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union for granting me the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award. It really meant a lot to me. I work very hard to maintain good academic standing in two degree programs and remain active in student life on campus, so it is nice to be recognized.

Elizabeth Nace
Branch 7, Exeter, PA

Rachel Bowman Graduates

This past spring, Rachel Marie Bowman graduated from the 8th grade at Northside Catholic School located in the Brighton Heights area of Northside Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Rachel graduated with academic honors, receiving the Presidential Award for her grades. This fall she began attending Oakland Catholic High School.

Rachel continues to serve as altar server for Saint Cyril of Alexandria Parish and during summer months she volunteers at Little Sisters of the Poor. She is a member of Pittsburgh Branch 64 and is the daughter of Mary Ann Bowman, granddaughter of Tom and Mary Ann Kaylor, and great-niece of Helen Lorinc, all of whom are also members of Branch 64.



Rachel Bowman (center) at her 8th grade graduation with (from left) grandparents Tom and Maryann Kaylor, great-aunt Helen Lorinc, and mother Mary Ann Bowman.

Congratulations to Our 2016 Post-Graduate Award Recipients



LAUREN ADAMCHAK
Wyoming, PA
Master of Science Nursing
Misericordia University
Dallas, PA
Branch 19, Swoyersville, PA



LAURA BIGLEY
West Chester, PA
Educational Leadership –
Master of Arts
Immaculata University
Immaculata, PA
Branch 153, Perth Amboy, NJ



SHERYL COSME
Arlington, VA
Doctorate of Nursing Practice
Sacred Heart University
Fairfield, CT
Branch 6, Wilkes-Barre, PA



LAUREN DONAHOE
Jeannette, PA
Master of Health Administration
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA
Branch 42, Pittsburgh, PA



BRITTANY MAKOSKY
Campbell, OH
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH
Branch 132, Campbell, OH

SS.C.M. Appeal Fall Update

Thank you to all who have already made a donation to the 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal, either through your local parish or directly to the Slovak Catholic Federation. **As of September 14, the 2016 Appeal has raised \$35,397** from parish collections, as well as from the direct mailing to clergy of Slovak heritage, fraternal branch presidents, and individuals and member bodies of the Federation. This year's Appeal is well on its way to surpassing the \$35,650 raised in 2015!

As many of you know, most of the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome to assist with its day to day operations. The College is 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. Communities of men and women Religious which have a counterpart in the United States represented on the Conference of Slovak Religious are also beneficiaries of the Appeal.

If you have not made your donation to the 38th Annual Appeal, 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. 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, Pennsylvania. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak fraternal organizations for cultural, religious, and educational needs. Serving as moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F., 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, Pennsylvania, serves as first vice president of the Federation and is the Appeal coordinator.

38th 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

LPSCU 15 Payment Life Plan

The LPSCU offers an economical and beneficial 15 Payment Life Insurance Plan for anyone from age 0 through 70. Under this plan, there is a minimum purchase amount of \$5,000 of life insurance. Premiums are payable for fifteen (15) years from issue date. If the insured dies within the 15-year period following the issue date, no additional premiums are due and payable, and the face amount of the certificate is paid to the named beneficiary/ies, except as provided within the contract regarding Suicide and Contestability.

The plan allows for premium payments to be made monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually. The certificate becomes fully paid at the end of fifteen (15) years, and coverage remains in full force and effect for the entire life of the insured without any additional premium payments required. Upon the death of the insured, the face amount of the certificate is paid to the insured's named beneficiary/ies.

A member with a 15 Payment Life Plan is entitled to

all fraternal benefits of the LPSCU including educational awards, youth and adult activities, newborn benefits, prescription discount card, official publication, and discount car rental.

The 15 Payment Life Plan is perfect for both youth and adults – especially anyone who prefers to have their life insurance paid within fifteen (15) years.

During these unstable economic times, the 15 Payment Life Plan offered by the LPSCU is economical and beneficial for estate planning and can especially help with the high cost of funeral expenses.

To apply for this specific plan, or any other insurance plan offered by the LPSCU, contact your Branch Secretary or the LPSCU Home Office.

Listed below are the Annual and Monthly Premium Schedules for the 15 Payment Life Insurance Plan. The premiums listed are based on \$1,000 of life insurance coverage. Semiannual and quarterly premium rates are also available. Contact your Branch Secretary or the Home Office for more information.

15 PAYMENT LIFE ANNUAL AND MONTHLY PREMIUM RATES PER \$1,000 Based on 2001 CSO Male and Female Mortality Tables — Based on Age at Last Birthday

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	\$ 8.97	\$ 8.29	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.75
1	9.13	8.44	0.82	0.76
2	9.31	8.60	0.84	0.77
3	9.50	8.77	0.86	0.79
4	9.69	8.89	0.87	0.80
5	9.89	9.12	0.89	0.82
6	10.10	9.31	0.91	0.84
7	10.32	9.50	0.93	0.86
8	10.53	9.70	0.95	0.87
9	10.76	9.90	0.97	0.89
10	10.99	10.11	0.99	0.91
11	11.24	10.29	1.01	0.93
12	11.46	10.54	1.03	0.95
13	11.84	10.76	1.07	0.97
14	12.23	10.98	1.10	0.99
15	12.62	11.23	1.14	1.01
16	13.02	11.47	1.17	1.03
17	13.41	11.71	1.21	1.05
18	13.81	12.04	1.24	1.08
19	14.23	12.43	1.28	1.12
20	14.61	12.79	1.31	1.15
21	15.04	13.19	1.35	1.19
22	15.49	13.58	1.39	1.22
23	15.96	14.05	1.44	1.26
24	16.43	14.52	1.48	1.31
25	16.93	14.98	1.52	1.35
26	17.44	15.46	1.57	1.39
27	17.97	15.97	1.62	1.44
28	18.51	16.48	1.67	1.48
29	19.08	17.01	1.72	1.53
30	19.67	17.56	1.77	1.58
31	20.28	18.10	1.83	1.63
32	20.91	18.72	1.88	1.68
33	21.57	19.32	1.94	1.74
34	22.26	19.89	2.00	1.79
35	22.97	20.58	2.07	1.85

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
36	23.72	21.18	2.13	1.91
37	24.48	21.90	2.20	1.97
38	25.27	22.64	2.27	2.04
39	26.09	23.37	2.35	2.10
40	26.95	24.05	2.43	2.16
41	27.82	24.83	2.50	2.23
42	28.72	25.73	2.58	2.32
43	29.66	26.56	2.67	2.39
44	30.62	27.40	2.76	2.47
45	31.61	28.25	2.84	2.54
46	32.63	29.24	2.94	2.63
47	33.68	30.13	3.03	2.71
48	34.77	31.16	3.13	2.80
49	35.90	32.11	3.23	2.89
50	37.09	33.17	3.34	2.99
51	38.35	34.26	3.45	3.08
52	39.67	35.39	3.57	3.19
53	41.05	36.55	3.69	3.29
54	42.48	37.74	3.82	3.40
55	43.97	38.97	3.96	3.51
56	45.51	40.25	4.10	3.62
57	47.12	41.56	4.24	3.74
58	48.81	42.91	4.39	3.86
59	50.60	44.32	4.55	3.99
60	52.49	45.78	4.72	4.12
61	54.47	47.28	4.90	4.26
62	56.54	48.85	5.09	4.40
63	58.70	50.50	5.28	4.55
64	60.99	52.24	5.49	4.70
65	63.40	54.08	5.71	4.87
66	65.96	56.02	5.94	5.04
67	68.71	58.07	6.18	5.23
68	71.69	60.27	6.45	5.42
69	74.92	62.62	6.74	5.64
70	78.44	65.13	7.06	5.86

Convention Candidids

Donna Powell from the Pittsburgh District was kind enough to send along some of the photos she snapped at our recent National Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, this past June.



St. Cyril's Holds Mother-Daughter Tea

Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten in Danville, Pennsylvania, hosted mothers and their daughters who attend the school to a Mothers' "High Tea" on September 18, 2016. Some of the attendees are pictured below.



Sister Donna Marie, principal of Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten, pours tea for the students and their mothers.



Girls sing for their mothers at the beginning of the annual Mothers' Tea.



From left, Isabel Helwig, Miranda Behm, Saumya Mehta, Victoria Want, Charlotte Mori and Adelena Mori enjoy the Mothers' Tea.

SS.C.M. Sisters Offering Christmas *Oplatky*

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 24 until December 16, 2016.

The *Oplatky*, five in one package, are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$5.00 per pack. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$6.00 and upward, depending upon the number of packs ordered and the cost of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library must be made before the wafers 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.

Introducing The LPSCU Cookbook *The Art of Cooking - Heart of Our Family*

Our brand new cookbook is chockfull of over 400 cherished family recipes submitted by our members, in addition to helpful tips, hints, and measurements to aid you while cooking and baking these delicious favorites.

The spiral bound book is divided into sections which include:

- *Appetizers & Beverages*
- *Breads & Rolls*
- *Soups, Salads & Sauces*
- *Main Dishes*
- *Miscellaneous - Crock-Pot*
- *Ethnic Foods*
- *Vegetables*
- *Desserts*



The cost is just \$10.00, plus \$5.00 shipping and handling per copy. Send your check and order information to:

LPSCU Cookbook
P.O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-0032

Hurry before they're gone!

In Memoriam

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
Mary M. Bardick*	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Helen Novotka	7	Exeter, PA

Name	Branch	Location
Andrew G. Skuban	7	Exeter, PA
Pauline Smolko	19	Swoyersville, PA
Helen Cominsky*	24	Windber, PA
Helene R. Osteen	24	Windber, PA
Daniel J. Glahn*	39	Hazle Twp., PA
George Ryba	40	Allentown, PA
Anna G. Cannon*	64	Pittsburgh, PA
Pauline Wyzkoski	64	Pittsburgh, PA
Robert Lazur	65	Munhall, PA
Richard Lukesic	77	Lorain, OH
Frances Dulick*	132	Campbell, OH
Mary J. Michael	132	Campbell, OH
Mary A. Pavlina	132	Campbell, OH
Frances VanKulick	132	Campbell, OH
Agnes Rochford*	156	Coaldale, PA
Howard Williams	156	Coaldale, PA
Maria Heldak	158	Chicago, IL
George Knorovsky	158	Chicago, IL
Agnes Toth	180	Youngstown, OH
Lori J. Bolsar	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Martha A. Finn	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Sean M. Hamilton	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Linda M. Johns	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Barbara McCracken	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Aloysius R. Emerick*	204	Northampton, PA
Anne M. Peters	204	Northampton, PA
Denis Sheets	209	Cleveland, OH

*Multiple certificates

John Ferri Celebrates 90th Birthday with Family

On Sunday, August 14, 2016, John Ferri of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, reached a milestone – his 90th birthday. In honor of the occasion, John’s children – Jack of New Market, Maryland, David of New York, New York, and Patricia Kienzle of Malvern, Pennsylvania – hosted a beautiful brunch for 24 family members at the historic Hotel Bethlehem from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. John was elated to have his family celebrate his special day with him. The conversation piece at the party was a huge “90” balloon that bounced in the air over the chair in which John sat.

To John’s great surprise, he received framed congratulatory letters from U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr., U.S. Senator Pat Toomey, and U.S. Congressman Charles W. Dent. A few days later, at the request of Congressman Dent, John received in the mail a certificate and U.S. flag with a notation that the flag had flown over the U.S. Capitol on August 14, 2016, in celebration of John’s 90th birthday and to honor his service to the United States of America in World War II. The certificate was signed by Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA, LEED AP, the Architect of the Capitol. John was overwhelmed to receive these mementoes. He will cherish both and will proudly fly the flag on his front porch.

The Ferri and Kienzle families are members of LPSCU Branch 83 and Branch 130, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.



John Ferri enjoys himself at a birthday brunch hosted by his children in honor of his 90th birthday.

Lehigh Valley Okres to Hold Matching Fund Event

In conjunction with the LPSCU Matching Fund Program, members of the Lehigh Valley Okres will hold a themed gift basket raffle for the benefit of the Carmelite Monastery, 3551 Lanark Road, Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. Okres members will prepare themed gift baskets to be raffled off at their Holiday Luncheon, which will be held on Sunday, December 4, 2016, in the Lehigh Room of the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

We ask our Lehigh Valley area LPSCU members to support this worthwhile project by either donating a themed gift basket or by attending the Holiday Luncheon and purchasing raffle tickets towards a basket. For further information, call Marge Ferri at 610-866-8945.

Remember to notify the Home Office if your address changes!

SS. Cyril and Methodius Sisters Install New Leadership

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius installed new leadership at a Liturgy held on Sunday, August 14, 2016 in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania. New leaders of the congregation are: Sister Michael Ann Orlik, General Superior; and Sister Barbara Sable, Sister Deborah Marie Borneman, Sister Linda Marie Bolinski, and Sister Madonna Figura, Councilors.

The principal celebrant and homilist at the service was Rev. James Serowik from Endicott, New York. He was joined by concelebrant Rev. John Kemper, P.S.S., provincial superior of the Sulpician Fathers. Visiting clergy included Very Reverend Timothy Cremeens from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

The Installation Liturgy was followed by a reception and dinner.



Liturgy concelebrants, Rev. James Serowik (left) and Rev. John Kemper.



New leaders of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius are, L-R: Sister Barbara Sable, Sister Michael Ann Orlik, Sister Linda Marie Bolinski, Sister Deborah Marie Borneman, and Sister Madonna Figura.

Malcolm Bowman Helps Team Win Championship

Malcolm Bowman is the captain of "Team Pittsburgh Reapers," a deck hockey traveling team that recently visited Niagara Falls, Canada, to participate in the Maple Leaf Cup Tournament. During the series, Malcolm had six goals, two of which were scored during the championship game. Team Pittsburgh Reapers won the championship game against a Niagara Falls team by a score of 5-1.



Malcolm receives his trophy from his coach.

Malcolm is currently in his junior year at ShadySide Academy. He is a member of LPSCU Branch 64 and is the son of Mary Ann Bowman and grandson of Mary Ann and Thomas Kaylor, all members of Branch 64.



Malcolm, standing third from the left, is pictured with his team.

Our Scholarship Recipients Explain

The Importance of Life Insurance

The purpose of family is to have those who will help you through the hardest of times. Life insurance gives everyone the opportunity to do this for their loved ones even after they have joined God. It is hard to imagine struggling through the loss of a loved one while at the same time have to worry about funeral and their immediate expenses. No one wants to leave the people they care most about without peace of mind, which is why life insurance should never be thought as only an option.

Life insurance demonstrates its importance through the way it changes families' lives. While the event that gives access to the benefits of life insurance may be difficult to get through, it can secure a college education for a family's children, protect against the burden of paying expenses without the help of the lost member and, simply, bring peace of mind knowing that a family will be taken care of once their loved one is gone.

The absence of life insurance can cause so many families to be lost in a time of grieving and clouded mindedness. Life insurance will provide the light that everyone needs in moments of darkness.

Josephine Manns

Branch 65, Munhall, PA

ZORNICKA

Member Supports Breast Cancer Cause

Sylvia Goda, a member of LPSCU Branch 42, attends a Thanksgiving Mass following the 17th Annual Nancy G. Komen Race for the Cure held on Mother's Day in Schenley Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Sylvia never misses this emotional annual event which celebrates those who have survived breast cancer, as well as remembering those who have lost their lives to this dreaded disease. Over 2,000 survivors attended this year's race and were honored with the presence of over 20,000 supporters.

Sylvia never stops recommending self-examinations and mammograms to those she knows, as well as offering support to those who have been recently diagnosed. Her motto is: "I have survived, I do survive...I WILL survive." She asks, *Have YOU had your yearly mammogram?*



Sylvia is pictured with her pastor, Father Mike Harcarik (right) and Deacon Frank Szemanski (left) at Prince of Peace Parish, Pittsburgh.

44th Annual March for Life

Friday, January 27, 2017 ❖ Washington, D.C.

For many years, members of the LPSCU have been invited to participate in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. The LPSCU joins other Slovak/Catholic fraternal organizations (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, First Catholic Slovak Union, and the Slovak Catholic Sokol) in this peaceful demonstration showing our support of and respect for the unborn.

Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton Area

For the 2017 March, a bus will leave Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, at 7:00 a.m. from the Park-and-Ride located on Route 309 in Wilkes-Barre Township. A second pick-up will be at St. John's Bosco Church on Route 93 leaving Hazleton, Pennsylvania, at approximately 7:30 a.m. Local Branches and Districts may sponsor the cost of members who wish to attend. Anyone interested in attending can call Theresa Kluchinski at 888-834-6614 or 570-823-3515 or e-mail Theresa@lpscu.org for more information. The cost is \$55. This includes bus transportation, a snack on the bus, and a dinner buffet at the Mountain Gate Restaurant on the way home.

Slovak Catholic Federation Fall Meeting

The Slovak Catholic Federation Executive Board held its fall meeting at the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association in Beachwood, Ohio on September 13, 2016. SCF President Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic issued the official call to the SCF 2017 Convention. The Convention will be held in Boardman, Ohio, from September 17-19, 2017.

Attending the fall meeting from the LPSCU were President Theresa Kluchinski and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge. Pictured below, in the lobby of the FCSLA headquarters, are, from left: Dolores Evanko, SCF secretary-treasurer; Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic, SCF president; Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA national president; and Rev. Thomas Nasta, SCF first vice president.



Cooking Corner

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

9-inch pie shell	½ tsp. ground cinnamon
2 pkgs. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened	½ cup canned pumpkin
½ cup sugar	Dash ground cloves & nutmeg
2 eggs	½ tsp. vanilla

Mix cream cheese, pumpkin, sugar, vanilla, and spices at medium speed with electric mixer until well blended. Add eggs. Mix until blended. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes until center is almost set. Refrigerate 3 hours. Garnish with whipped cream.





Junior Branch Journal

Thanksgiving Fun Facts

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Minnesota is the top turkey-producing state in America, with a planned production total of 49 million in 2008. Just six states ~ Minnesota, North Carolina, Arkansas, Virginia, Missouri, and Indiana ~ will probably produce two-thirds of the estimated 271 million birds that will be raised in the U.S. this year.

In a survey conducted by the National Turkey Federation, nearly 88 percent of Americans said they eat turkey at Thanksgiving. The average weight of turkeys purchased for Thanksgiving is 15 pounds. Some 690 million pounds of turkey were consumed in the U.S. during Thanksgiving in 2007.

The cranberry is one of only three fruits ~ the others being the blueberry and the Concord grape ~ that are entirely native to North American soil, according to the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the largest pumpkin pie ever baked weighed 2,020 pounds and measured just over 12 feet long. It was baked on October 8, 2005, by the New Bremen Giant Pumpkin Growers in Ohio, and included 900 pounds of pumpkin, 62 gallons of evaporated milk, 155 dozen eggs, 300 pounds of sugar, 3.5 pounds of salt, 7 pounds of cinnamon, 2 pounds of pumpkin spice, and 250 pounds of crust.

Originally known as Macy's Christmas Parade ~ to signify the launch of the Christmas shopping season ~ the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade took place in New York City in 1924. It was launched by Macy's employees and featured animals from the Central Park Zoo. Today, some 3 million people attend the annual parade and another 44 million watch it on television.



Pilgrim-Speak

The English Colonists at Plymouth, Massachusetts, commonly known as "Pilgrims," talked a little differently than we do today. Here are a few examples of old English words, greetings, and phrases that might have been used back then. Practice them and you could talk like a Pilgrim too!

Instead of "Hi, how are you?" the Pilgrims might say:

"Good morrow"
"How now?"
"How do you fare?"
"What cheer?"

Instead of "Excuse me," the Pilgrims might say:
"Pray, pardon me."

Instead of "Congratulations!" the Pilgrims might say:
"Huzzah!"

Instead of "Goodbye," the Pilgrims might say:
"God bye to you"
"Fare thee well"
"Pray, remember me"

Some more "new" words from old English:
Instead of *fireplace*, say "hearth"
Instead of *cat*, say "mouser"
Instead of *stew or porridge*, say "pottage"
Instead of *pants*, say "breeches"
Instead of *skirt*, say "petticoat"
Instead of *backward*, say "arsy varsy"
Instead of *pillowcase*, say "pillowbere"



Junior Branch Journal



Sv. Mikuláš (St. Nicholas)

In the 6th century, the church set December 6 as St. Nicholas's Day. Nicholas was a bishop in Asia Minor in the 4th century. Because of his extraordinary self-sacrifice and sense of justice, he was well loved and very popular with the people.

There are far more legends about his miraculous good deeds than there are clear details about his life. Nicholas was quite young when his parents died of the plague, leaving him as the sole heir of their vast wealth. He was determined to devote his life to using his inheritance for works of charity.

Devotion to St. Nicholas is found in every European country. He became known for his holiness, enthusiasm, and 21 miracles. He is the patron saint of scholars, bankers, sailors, brewers, brides, and robbers, among others. Because of his love of and charity to the poor, as well as the many legends surrounding his good works, St. Nicholas is best known as the patron saint of children.

In Slovakia, on the evening before his feast day, Sv. Mikuláš travels the countryside on foot, accompanied by an ugly, chain-rattling devil and an angel. The angel and devil symbolize the dual forces in a man's nature. Sv. Mikuláš reminds the children that Christmas is a few short weeks away and they must behave themselves or the Baby Jesus will not bring them presents on Christmas Eve. All the children place their boots or shoes on the windowsill before going to bed on the night of Sv. Mikuláš's visit. In the morning, good little children find their shoes filled with candies, cookies, oranges, apples, nuts or other dried fruits. The naughty children will find a lump or two of coal or a potato left by the devil.

As we honor the memory of this 4th century bishop, let us remember he is best known for his charity and generosity.



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

Try saying this as your Christmas wish on Christmas Eve morning.

Aj ja vin-ču-jem ve-l'a Bo-žie-ho zdra-via pre gaz-du, gaz-din-u, a ce-lu ro-di-nu. Dob-re ra-no!

I wish God's Blessings for the man and lady of the household and for all your family. Good Morning!

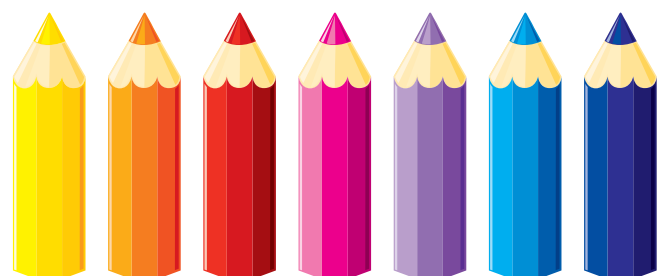
Remember: say every letter, all the j's sound like y's, the č sounds like the ch in cheese, and the ž sounds like the s in vision.



Hey Kids ~

Watch your mailbox for a special invitation to participate in the first LPSCU Christmas Coloring Contest!

Everyone's a winner (from first place to honorable mention), so send in your entries by December 31, 2016, to claim your prize!



PERIODICAL

Msgr. Beeda District Holds Mass and Breakfast

A Mass for the living and deceased members of the Msgr. Beeda District was celebrated by Father Michael Piccola at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish at the church of St. Joseph, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, on October 2, 2016. Following the service, thirteen members and four guests attended a breakfast held by the District at Genetti's on Route 309, Hazleton. Everyone enjoyed the breakfast and their time spent together.

District President Anita Gregory placed the names of all in attendance in a container and raffled off a door prize – a lighted Halloween pumpkin. The winner was Dolores Evanko.

Each member attending was asked to bring non-perishable food items to the breakfast as part of the District's "Make a Difference Day" project, which members participate in during the month of October. An estimated two hundred and fifty dollars' worth of food items were collected and later donated to the Divine Providence Homeless Shelter in Hazleton. The shelter is new to the area and is in the process of looking for a more permanent home. Currently they are located at 81 N. Laurel Street. The program director was very grateful for the food donation and gave a tour of the facility, explaining how their program works, when District members delivered the donated goods.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this worthwhile effort.



Pictured with food items collected for Msgr. Beeda's District's "Make a Difference Day" project are, L-R, Cecelia Nemeth, Mary Kish, Dolores Evanko, Anita Gregory, John Gregory, Mary Ann Litchock, Clare Sharp, and Joanne Stahura.

A Matching Funds Project

LPSCU Branch 213 Christmas Fundraiser

*All proceeds benefit St. Andrew's Parish
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*



- ❖ 24" Wreath - Douglas Fir with Boxwood Accents \$13.00
- ❖ Stand \$ 4.00

With Choice of Bow:

Red Velvet ❖ Burgundy Velvet ❖ Red & Green Plaid
Fundraiser is being held in conjunction with
Decker Florist, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Two Delivery Dates:

- ❖ December 3rd and 4th -
St. Andrew's Parish in Wilkes-Barre
- ❖ December 5th -
LPSCU Home Office in Wilkes-Barre

Delivery of items can be arranged
with LPSCU Branch 213 Secretary/Treasurer.

Anyone interested in ordering should contact
Branch 213 Secretary/Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski
at 570-829-5410 or 570-817-4657 (call or text).

Payment must accompany order.