



LPSCU Joins 2017



On Friday, January 27, 2017, the 44th annual March for Life rally was held in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. The March for Life, a peaceful demonstration in support of the unborn, is the largest pro-life event in the world, with this year's attendance estimate in the hundreds of thousands. It is truly amazing, to the point of making one speechless, to see that many people in one place at one time, all supporting the same cause. People of all races, creeds, and heritages, from newborns to those using walkers or in wheelchairs, came together to support those who do not have an opportunity to speak for themselves - the unborn.

This year, LPSCU Branch 213, together with Assembly 59, Wreath 7 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, helped sponsor a bus to the event from Northeast Pennsylvania. Also attending were members of the National Slovak Society, Sister Madonna Figura, SS.C.M., and parishioners of St. André Bessette and Our Lady of Hope parishes.



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Calendar of Events

MARCH

- 6** — WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program, “Egg Decorating Eggstravaganza,” at 7:00 p.m., Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public.
- 10-11** — Branch Seminars, Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania. *See page 10.*
- 15** — Deadline for LPSCU members living in Ohio to apply for a 2017 Ohio Fraternal Alliance Scholarship.
- 20** — **Deadline to submit articles for May/June Zornicka.**
- 29-30** — LPSCU Internal Audit
- 31-4/1** — LPSCU Annual Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, 242 Highland Park Blvd., Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. on Friday.

APRIL

- 1** — Deadline to nominate a member as our 2017 Fraternalist of the Year. *See page 13.*
- 3** — WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program, “Slovak Wedding Customs and Cookies,” at 7:00 p.m., Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public.
- 3-4** — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
- 3-5** — American Fraternal Alliance Meeting, W. Chicago, Illinois
- 7-8** — Branch Seminars, Illinois/Indiana. *See page 10.*
- 12** — Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania Seminar
- 14** — Home Office closed for Good Friday.
- 23** — Rev. Dianiska District Meeting at North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branch 214 will host. Please call your Branch Secretary to make a reservation to attend.
- 24** — Msgr. Beeda District Meeting at Perkins Restaurant, Route 93, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Contact Anita Gregory (570-788-3263) by April 19 if you plan to attend.
- 30** — Deadline to apply for a 2017 LPSCU College Award. *See page 9 for details.*

MAY

- 1** — WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program, “Authentic Slovak Bryndzove Halusky,” at 7:00 p.m., Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 8.*
- 6** — Join Hands Day. *See page 12 for details.*
- 6** — WPSCA Slovak Language Camp for Children begins at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 or email jtsenko@aol.com for more information.

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OFFICE HOURS AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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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 Message from Our National Spiritual Advisor

Recently, I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the SEEK Conference 2017 sponsored by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students). FOCUS is a Catholic collegiate outreach whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the gospel to college and university students. Trained in Church teaching, prayer, sacred scripture, evangelization, and discipleship, FOCUS missionaries encounter students in friendship where they are, inviting them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and accompanying them as they pursue lives of virtue and excellence. Through Bible studies, outreach events, mission trips, and one-on-one discipleship, missionaries inspire and build up students in the faith, sending them out to spread the good news and to live out the Great Commission: *Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations* (Mt. 28:19).



Rev. Robert L. Seeman

The SEEK Conference, which was held from January 3-7 in San Antonio, Texas, was an awesome experience. Over 13,000 college-age students, 380+ priests, more than a dozen bishops, and numerous staff and campus ministers gathered to encounter God through prayer, Eucharist, adoration, and spiritual enrichment. Dynamic Catholic speakers spoke to the hearts of all with a blend of humor and with a deep faith in Jesus Christ. Everyone in attendance at this conference was challenged to embrace the call of Jesus to share the gospel with others.

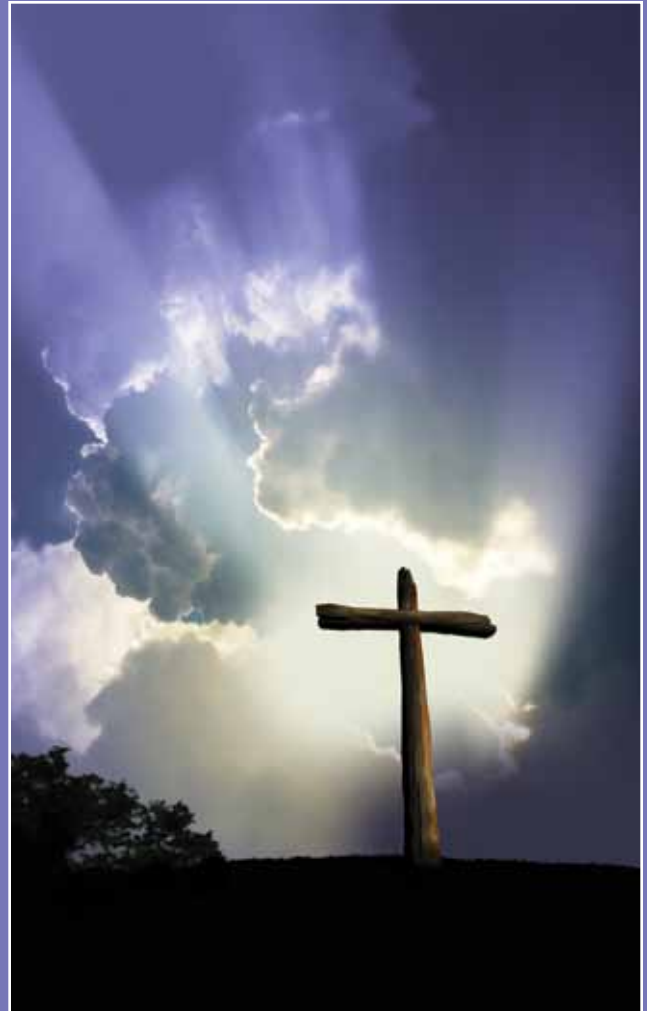
FOCUS truly sets out to inspire and equip Catholic college students for a lifetime of Christ-centered evangelization, discipleship, and friendship. FOCUS has over 550 student-trained missionaries on 125 college campuses. Here in Pennsylvania, FOCUS missionaries serve campus ministry programs at three college campuses: Carnegie Mellon University, Temple University, and the University of Pittsburgh. And soon, FOCUS missionaries will be at a 4th Pennsylvania site, the Catholic Campus Ministry program at Slippery Rock University. The application has been processed and has received the blessing of the Bishop. If everything goes as planned, two FOCUS missionaries will become a part of our ministry team in the Fall.

In the words of Pope Francis, "For if we received love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that with others?"

Blessings,
Father Bob

WPSCA Schedules Language Camp for Children

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will hold its second Language Camp for Children beginning May 6, 2017, at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. For more information, contact Joe Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or call 412-956-6000.



*The National Officers
of the
Ladies Pennsylvania
Slovak Catholic Union
extend a most
Blessed and Happy Easter
to all!*

*Veselá veľká noc
Radostne Aleluja*

*Šventu Velyku
Linkėjimai*

MSGR. BEEDA DISTRICT

On Friday, December 9, 2016, the Msgr. Beeda District held its Christmas celebration at Booty's Restaurant, Route 309, in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Twenty-six members and five guests spent an enjoyable evening together.

District President Anita Gregory welcomed the group and offered a Christmas prayer and a toast wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. A delicious meal was served by Booty's staff.

Following the dinner, LPSCU President Theresa Kluchinski spoke briefly to the group about the training seminars which will be held at Genetti's in Hazleton for anyone interested in selling insurance for the organization. She then wished all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

The officers, family members, and friends of the District donated prizes to be raffled off at the party. Everyone purchased chances and nine lucky winners went home with their beautiful prizes. District officer Jonathan Gregory donated Hershey's chocolate Santa's, placing one at each setting as a favor for each attendee. A fun evening was had by all.



Members and guests of the Msgr. Beeda District enjoy their Christmas celebration.

LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES

The Lehigh Valley Okres held its annual Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, December 4, 2016, at the Lehigh Room of the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. A punch reception commenced at noon, followed by the luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Thirty-eight adults and three children attended this festive event.

Jean Kosalko, president of the Lehigh Valley Okres, extended a warm welcome to all present. Msgr. Robert F. Kozel, pastor emeritus of St. John the Baptist Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania, offered a special prayer as all partook of *oplatky* distributed before the meal. Members donated twenty themed gift baskets as a Matching Fund Raffle to benefit the Carmelite Monastery in Lanark, Pennsylvania.

At the conclusion of the buffet luncheon, President Kosalko introduced the Okres officers and spoke about the various educational benefits and programs that the LPSCU offers to its members. She also recited a poem, "The Night Before Christmas in a Slovak Home."

President Kosalko next called the children to the podium and asked them to sing some Christmas songs. As the children were singing "Jingle Bells," Santa Claus entered

the dining hall ringing his own bells. The children were very excited to see him. Santa called the children by name and spoke with each of them. He then presented them with gifts and a Christmas stocking filled with candies. To Santa's surprise, the children in turn presented him with a gift. Santa also gave gifts to the Okres officers and our honored guests, Msgr. Kozel, Sister Francine, OSF, and Sister Roseann, OSF.

Each attendee received a bayberry candle as a favor from the Okres. Door prizes provided by the Home Office were distributed to lucky winners. As a gift from the Okres, each woman present received a poinsettia plant and each man received a bottle of wine.

Special prizes in the annual holiday raffle were won by Irene Macus, J. Wenner, Bill Drost, Anne Kurtz, Jean Kosalko, Paul and Rita Marie Knecht, George Gress, Graycee Michalyira, Michael Stephan, and Marie Egan.

President Kosalko thanked everyone for attending the annual Holiday Luncheon and wished them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The festivities concluded with a prayer. A delightful time was had by all.



Okres President Jean Kosalko (left) and Vice President Elaine Molchany help Santa distribute gifts.



From left, Kira, Cole and Chase Geiger with Santa.

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Reverend Dianiska District held its annual Christmas Party on Sunday December 4, 2016, at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Members of Branches 7, 58, and 94 hosted.

Margaret Jollimore welcomed members and guests on behalf of the hosting branches and read a Christmas prayer, "Let's Give a Little Christmas." District President Mary Ann Ewasko thanked all members for their cooperation throughout the year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. National President Theresa Kluchinski welcomed everyone on behalf of the LPSCU. President Ewasko then read an *oplatky* prayer and everyone exchanged Christmas wishes by sharing their wafers.

A delicious buffet dinner, along with a dessert table and beverages, was enjoyed by all.

President Ewasko announced the District's LPSCU 2016 College Scholarship recipients, Ryan Kinney of Branch 6, and Jesse Macko and Taylor Smigelski of Branch 213. Taylor's parents, Sara and Tony Smigelski, attended to accept the award on behalf of their daughter.

Members and guests joined in the Matching Fund Special Raffle to benefit the Commission on Economic Opportunity of Wyoming County. A check was presented to CEO Director Donna Kleskow. The District's yearly canned goods collection was also donated to the organization.

Santa Claus stopped by the celebration for a visit and presented the children with gifts. He visited members at their tables, assisted by junior members David and Abigail Worth, and gave each a candy gift and Christmas wishes.

The District would like to thank all the junior members in attendance who helped during the party.

President Kluchinski installed the following District officers for the next two-year term: Mary Ann Ewasko, president; Margaret Jollimore, vice president; Debbie Adamchak, treasurer; Susan Worth, secretary; and Betsy Craig, financial secretary.

Members of the Reverend Dianiska District exchanged Christmas greetings with one another and wished everyone at the LPSCU a happy and healthy New Year!

Susan Worth



Canned goods donated by District members to the Commission on Economic Opportunity.



CEO Director Donna Kleskow accepts the proceeds from the District's Matching Fund Special Raffle.



Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Smigelski accept the 2016 LPSCU College Scholarship award on behalf of their daughter, Taylor. At left is District President Mary Ann Ewasko. LPSCU Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge and President Theresa Kluchinski are at right.



Newly installed officers of the Rev. Dianiska District.



Junior members surround Santa at the party.



REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT (cont. from page 5)



PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

On Sunday, October 23, 2016, the Pittsburgh District held its Annual Card Party at St. Maximilian Kolbe Church in Homestead, Pennsylvania. Forty members and guests enjoyed the Halloween-themed event. To open the party, District President Dolores Sakal greeted everyone and led the group in saying Grace before lunch. At each table, one attendee won a beautiful holiday-themed dish towel vase with flowers made by Branch 42 member Janet Lawrence. Door prizes and Chinese auction baskets were also raffled. Every person in attendance went home with at least one prize. A fun time was had by all, as the photos below attest.



PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

On Sunday, November 27, 2016, members of the Pittsburgh District gathered together to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season at a luncheon held at Banquets Unlimited in Wilmerding, Pennsylvania. Approximately fifty members and guests enjoyed the delicious meal.

During the party, District President Dolores Sakal recognized the 2016 LPSCU scholarship recipients from the Pittsburgh area, Josephine Manns from Branch 65, who attends the University of Pittsburgh, and Leah Silay from Branch 64 who attends Community College of Allegheny County. They were recognized for their accomplishments and presented with a token from the District.

Entertainment was provided by Michael Columbus, an accomplished accordionist. He played during the meal and then led the group in a sing-along of Christmas favorites and Slovak songs. Canned food items were collected to be donated to a local food bank.

A wonderful afternoon of fellowship was had by all who attended.



District President Dolores Sakal (left) introduces two Pittsburgh area winners of 2016 LPSCU scholarships, Josephine Manns (center) and Leah Silay (right).



BRANCH 52, NORTH BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of LPSCU Branch 52 attended their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 4, 2016, at the Grandview Golf Club of North Braddock in western Pennsylvania. The festive event was again held in the club's spacious Kennywood Room. Although the day was rather cold, there was no precipitation to keep party-goers away as a crowd of nearly 40 members and their families attended.

As always, a tasty buffet was served, with sufficient variety to satisfy everyone's palate. All of the children and adults present received gifts from the Branch and numerous door prizes were awarded.

Again this year, another generous donation of groceries was collected from attendees and delivered to a local food pantry the following week.

Everyone enjoyed a memorable time and Branch members are looking forward with anticipation to another great LPSCU year for 2017.



Young members who attended Branch 52's Christmas party at Grandview Golf Club.

New Insurance Issued

Branch	Branch Representative	Nov./Dec. 2016	Year-to-Date Total
52	James Tomasic	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
64	Elva Silay	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
130	Margaret Ferri	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
213*	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
		\$ 33,000.00	\$ 73,000.00

**Sold through Home Office, not included in Campaign*



Members and guests of the Pittsburgh District gather for a photo at their annual Christmas party.

A Reflection on Lent and Easter

Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB
LPSCU Spiritual Protector

About six years ago or so, I started my own Good Friday evening tradition of watching Mel Gibson's movie, "The Passion of the Christ." The purpose of watching this movie was to help me focus more fully on the sufferings Jesus experienced for me. One aspect of His sufferings that stood out for me was Christ's loss of blood. Jesus began His journey to the cross with perspiring drops of blood in His agony in the Garden. Through each moment of His horrific scourging at the pillar, the crowning of thorns, carrying the heavy cross, being nailed to the cross and breathing His final breath, Jesus' blood was oozing out of Him. We see with the thrust of the guard's lance into Jesus' side, blood and water flowed out, which indicated that Jesus actually lost all of His blood along the journey. How was it possible for Jesus to continue that agonizing journey as His blood was dripping out of Him?



Three years ago, while I was team building with a group of retreat leaders, I slipped on the ice and crushed my wrist. The doctor had to insert 4 plates and 8 screws in my left wrist to assist in the healing process. During one of the homilies I gave at Mass, I shared that when I fell, I lost consciousness for a short period of time and the EMTs were called and took me to the hospital. I didn't and still don't recall hitting the ground. After Mass, a medical personnel came up to me and shared that the body goes into a natural preservation mode by shutting down – losing consciousness – when a person is in great pain.

Shortly after that fall, I was watching "The Passion of the Christ" on Good Friday. As I meditated on His loss of blood, I questioned myself. If my body went into self-preservation mode by briefly losing consciousness due to the pain I was in, then why didn't Christ's body shut down by going into self-preservation mode of unconsciousness? After all, Christ's pain was far greater than any and all of the pain we have ever endured. Then it hit me! It was only through His love for us that He endured all this agony. It was His love for us that drove Him to embrace His excruciating suffering when any other person would have collapsed and passed out.

And through His love, Jesus would do the unimaginable – He would rise from the dead, something that was never done before. He would rise from the dead and ascend into Heaven. Through Jesus, we have a new life, a new beginning. Yes, Lent leads us to His suffering, and God's love leads us through His suffering to the Resurrection. Let us take this season of Lent to help us embrace the sufferings of Christ and through His love, live in the Spirit of the Resurrected Christ.

Peace,
Abbot Gary

WPSCA Announces Spring Slovak Heritage Programs

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will continue to present Slovak Heritage Programs on the first Monday evening of May and June, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The programs are free and open to the public. The agenda is as follows:

May 1, 2017 – "Authentic Slovak Bryndzove Halusky." Otolia Golis will be back again sharing and demonstrating her own recipe for this popular Slovak meal.

June 5, 2017 – "Eastern Slovak Village Culture and Traditions." Emma Moser, president of the Slovak Pitt Club, will share her first-hand experience of the culture, traditions, and language of Eastern Slovakia while living in Kosice.

Rev. Dianiska District Announces 2017 Meetings

The Rev. Dianiska District will hold meetings on April 23 (hosted by Branch 214) and October 15 (hosted by Branch 6). Both meetings will be held at the North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

At the October meeting, "Make a Difference Day" will be observed by members bringing cleaning supplies to be donated to The Catherine McCauley House in Plymouth, Pennsylvania.

The District's annual Christmas party will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 3, at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Market Street, Wilkes-Barre. Branch 214 will host.

Please call your Branch Secretary to make a reservation if you plan to attend any of the above.

Susan Worth, District Secretary

Can You Help Us?

We are looking for relatives for the following names, most of whom are members of the former Lithuanian Catholic Alliance (LCA):

William Anderson – Burlington, New Jersey

Raymond J. Gush – Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Adele Gustas – Cape May, New Jersey

Jerome Kuzmick – Forest City, Pennsylvania

If you have any information regarding relatives of the above-listed names, please contact Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge as soon as possible at 570-823-3513 or toll free 888-834-6614 or via email at lpescu@lpescu.org.

LPSCU EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT 2017 COLLEGE AWARD

\$500 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is offering a \$500, one-time College Award to our members who will be attending college during the 2017-2018 academic year. A total of 25 College Awards will be granted.

These are the guidelines for those applying for this award:

- Applicants must be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with at least a \$2,000 permanent reserve life insurance plan (excludes term insurance).
- Applicants must be a high school senior or college freshman, sophomore, or junior.
- High school seniors must provide a letter of recommendation from a school representative (ex: teacher, guidance counselor, or principal).
- High school applicants must submit an official transcript from their school that includes test scores; College students must submit documentation indicating latest overall GPA.
- Applicants must provide a detailed list of extracurricular activities, honors, and awards.
- Applicants must provide a detailed list of church, community, volunteer, and work activities including honors and awards, with reference(s) included.
- Applicants must be attending an accredited college/university on a full time basis for the 2017-2018 academic year and must submit proof of acceptance for the Fall 2017 semester.
- Applicants must submit a brief essay (no more than 200 words) on the topic "Why is life insurance important?"
- Applicants must provide a wallet-size color photo.

In order for an applicant to be eligible, all criteria outlined above must be met and all requested data provided. Applications with incomplete data or missing requirements will not be considered. All submitted materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. The LPSCU reserves the right to publish the applicant's entire essay or excerpts thereof, at its own discretion, in its official publication, *Zornicka*.

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. **Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2017.** Submit applications to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee
P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ Toll free: 888-834-6614

❖ Fax - 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org ❖ Website: www.lpscu.org

Branch 213's Matching Fund Project Benefits St. Andrew's Parish

Late last fall, LPSCU Branch 213 held a Matching Funds Project to benefit St. Andrew's Parish in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The Branch held a wreath sale over the weekend of December 3rd and 4th, 2016. Total proceeds, including the matching funds collected, were \$405.00.



LPSCU National President and Branch 213 Secretary-Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski (right) presents a check to Rev. James McGahagan, pastor of St. Andrew's Parish.

Cooking Corner

SCALLOPS AND SHRIMP AU GRATIN

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Tbsp. butter | ¼ cup chopped onion |
| ¼ cup flour | 1 tsp. grated lemon peel |
| 1 cup milk | ⅛ tsp. garlic powder |
| 1½ lbs. scallops | 1 cup shredded cheese |
| ¼ lb. shrimp | 2 Tbsp. bread crumbs |
| 1 can sliced mushrooms | Paprika |

In a skillet, melt butter. Blend in flour. Cook over medium heat until smooth. Remove from heat. Stir in milk. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil one minute. Add scallops and shrimp, mushrooms with liquid, onion, lemon peel, and garlic powder. Turn into 1 quart buttered casserole. Combine cheese and crumbs and sprinkle on top. Garnish with paprika. Bake at 325 degrees for 20 minutes or until bubbly.



LPSCU TRAINING SEMINARS

Updated Schedules and Locations

Throughout 2017, the LPSCU will be conducting Training Seminars for existing Branch Officers and our Agents/Recommenders. We would also like to encourage anyone interested in becoming a Branch Officer and/or Agent/Recommender to attend. The seminars will be 4½ hours in length and will include a light meal. We will offer seminars in each area where we have a District. These include: Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (held in January), Hazleton (held in February), the Lehigh Valley, Pittsburgh, Ohio (Cleveland and Youngstown), and the Chicago area. Specific locations, dates and times for the remaining 2017 seminars are listed below. Reservations are required and seating is limited for each session.

We encourage those attending to bring an individual (or two) who may be interested in becoming involved with the LPSCU, whether it is in the capacity of serving as a Branch Officer or selling our products. We will license individuals interested in selling for the LPSCU.

Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania

Friday, March 10, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. OR 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, March 11, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Best Western Lehigh Valley
300 Gateway Drive
Bethlehem, PA 18017

RSVP by February 24, 2017

Chicago, Illinois Area

Friday, April 7, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. OR 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Double Tree Hotel
5000 West 127th Streer
Alsip, IL 60803

RSVP by March 24, 2017

Saturday, April 8, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Staybridge Suites
8415 Louisiana Street
Merrillville, IN 46410

RSVP by March 24, 2017

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Friday, June 2, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. OR 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 3, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hampton Inn & Suites
Pittsburgh/Waterfront – West Homestead
301 West Waterfront Drive
Homestead, PA 15120

RSVP by May 15, 2017

Cleveland, Ohio

To be announced

Youngstown, Ohio

Friday, September 15, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. OR 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, September 16, 2017
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Holiday Inn Boardman
7410 South Avenue
Youngstown, OH 44512

RSVP by August 30, 2017

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.

Sr. Pamela Smith Receives 'Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice' Medal

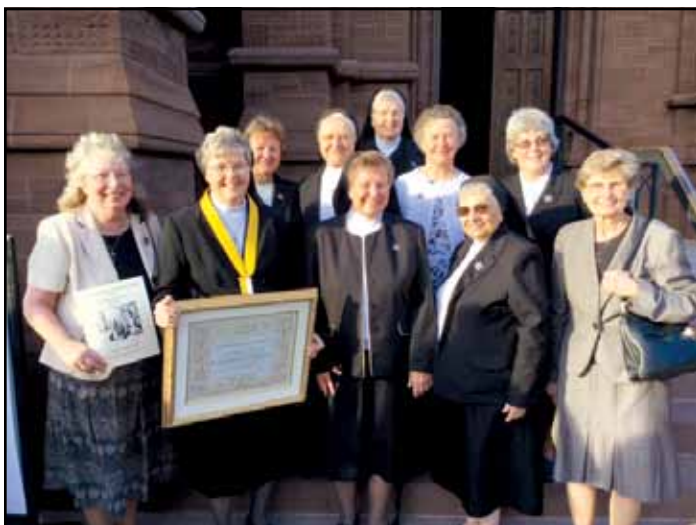
Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M., was awarded the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" (For the Church and the Pontiff) Medal on January 15, 2017, at Vesper Services in the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Charleston, South Carolina. The award was bestowed by Bishop Robert Guglielmo, bishop of Charleston, in the name of Pope Francis. The award is given for distinguished service to the Church. It is the highest honor that the Holy Father bestows on the laity.

Sister Pamela was recognized for her work as Charleston Diocesan Director of Education and Faith Formation, overseeing Catholic schools, parish religious education, youth ministry, and campus ministry across the state; for her work in education and administration in numerous dioceses: Harrisburg, Scranton, and Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania; Gary, Indiana; Detroit, Michigan; and Charleston, South Carolina; for the more than 100 articles and poems which have been published in literary, theological, and spiritual journals; and for her 12 books dealing with spirituality, morality, and Sacred Scripture.

The Leadership Team of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius attended the ceremony, as well as other SS.C.M. Sisters and SS.C.M. associates.



Bishop Robert Guglielmo, bishop of Charleston, and Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M.



Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M., is surrounded by other Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius at the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" Award Ceremony.

LVO Completes Matching Fund Project

On December 15, 2016, Margaret A. Ferri, treasurer of the Lehigh Valley Okres, mailed a check for \$200 to the Mother Superior of the Carmelite Monastery located at 3551 Lanark Road, Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. The funds were derived from a themed gift basket raffle held by the Okres at its Holiday Luncheon at Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on December 4. The raffle was an LPSCU Matching Fund Project for the benefit of the Carmelite Monastery. The LPSCU Home Office will match those funds by mailing a \$200 check to the Monastery.

LPSCU 2017 CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AWARD \$300 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is offering a Catholic High School Award Benefit, which is a \$300 one-time award to our members who are attending a Catholic High School during the 2017-2018 academic year. Members may only receive this award one time.



The following are the Guidelines for applying for the Catholic High School Award:

- Must be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 permanent reserve life insurance certificate (excludes term insurance).
- Must be a Catholic high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior in the fall of 2017.
- Must provide a wallet-size color photo.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated above to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. All materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. **Applications must be postmarked by June 30, 2017.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed applications to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee
P.O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ Toll free: 888-834-6614

❖ Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org ❖ Website: www.lpscu.org

JOIN HANDS DAY is Saturday, May 6

JOIN HANDS DAY is a national day of volunteering that brings young people and adults together to begin a year-round process of relationship building and to make great contributions to their community. Youths and adults work together on an equal basis to plan, organize, and implement the day's activities.

The LPSCU encourages our young and adult Branch and District members to partner with other volunteer groups in their community to organize JOIN HANDS DAY projects to be undertaken on Saturday, May 6, 2017. There are many reasons to participate, and lots of resources to help you plan your own project! These can include such varied activities as conducting a food drive for a homeless shelter, picking up litter in a community playground or park, visiting the residents in a nursing home, or cleaning up gardens and planting flowers for an elderly neighbor.

We look forward to hearing from you about your group's JOIN HANDS DAY activity. Write a short article and send it, along with a group photo or two, to the LPSCU Public Relations Director so it can be shared with our members in the *Zornicka*.

After the big day: You are invited to share your accomplishments and photos from the day on the American Fraternal Alliance's Facebook page.

12th Consular Tour of Slovakia Set

JULY 29 - AUGUST 11, 2017

Slovak Honorary Consul Joe Senko and his Slovak-born wife, Albina, have assembled a deluxe tour of Slovakia which includes the history-rich cities of Bratislava, Sastin, Skalica, Trencin, Bojnice, Rajecke, Teplice, Cicmany, Levoca, Kezmarok, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kocise, Bardejov, Jedlinka, and Presov, as well as the High Tatras. As you travel through the various regions of Slovakia, arrangements can be made for you to visit relatives or ancestral towns and villages for an additional cost. These are just some of the highlights of the tour. What makes this trip unique is that it includes a tour of two castles, a mock wedding, two wine tastings, rafting between Slovakia and Poland, and a welcome reception with the Mayor of Presov.

At no extra cost, Joe and Albina have also included a tour of some highlights of Vienna and Poland. While in Poland, we will visit the famous shrine of Czestochowa, and the cities of Zakopane and Krakow, as well as Auschwitz and the Wieliczka salt mine.

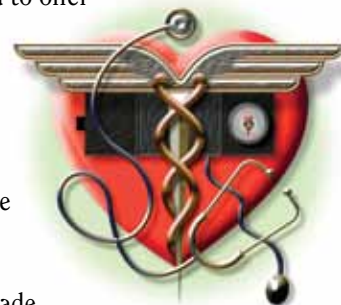
The total price for the complete tour is just \$3,798 per person (double occupancy). The trip includes airfare from Pittsburgh or Newark, two delicious meals daily, four-star hotels, an air-conditioned bus, a professional guide, and more. For a copy of the detailed daily itinerary, contact Joe Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or 412-956-6000.

An LPSCU Educational Benefit

THE 2017 ANNE (SHINAL) CICHY MEMORIAL AWARD

\$500 Award

The LPSCU is proud to offer the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award for students in the health-care field. This award, instituted in 2006, is given in memory of Anne (Shinal) Cichy, the first LPSCU public relations director. The award is made possible through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Shinal.



Those applying for the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award must meet the following criteria:

- Must have a life insurance certificate with the LPSCU.
- Must attend an accredited college/university in the **fall of 2017** on a full time basis, pursuing a degree in the healthcare field. Proof of acceptance/attendance must be provided.
- Must provide a wallet-size color photo.

The recipient of the 2017 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award will receive \$500.

The recipient of this award shall be selected by a random drawing from among all the qualified applicants. No individual shall be eligible to receive this award more than two times.

Applicants must meet all criteria outlined above and provide data indicated on the application form to be eligible. Those applications with incomplete data or missing requirements will not be considered. All submitted materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned.

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. **Applications must be postmarked by July 1, 2017.** Submit application to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ Toll free: 888-834-6614

Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org

Website: www.lpscu.org



UTILIZATION REPORT

	For December 2016	Year-to-Date 2016
Prescriptions Filled:	2	49
Normal Retail Pricing:	\$ 209.78	\$ 2,423.19
Discount Program Pricing:	\$ 140.32	\$ 1,318.67
Total Dollars Saved		
by LPSCU Cardholders:	\$ 69.46	\$ 1,104.52
Average Saved per		
Discounted Prescription:	\$ 34.73	\$ 26.94
Overall LPSCU Discounted Prescription Savings:	33.11%	46.82%

December 2016 was another good savings month for our ScriptSave® card members. Our group's discounted prescription savings for December 2016 amounted to 33.11%. With our group's 2016 discounted prescription savings averaging 46.82%, or \$26.94 per discounted prescription, it's easy to see how our members benefit from the program every day. During these tough economic times, a ScriptSave® card will provide savings to you on your prescriptions.

The ScriptSave® Prescription Savings Program is available at **NO COST** to you. There are **no monthly or ongoing fees, no limits on usage, and no income or age restrictions**. Your entire household can use the card to receive instant savings on brand name and generic prescriptions at over 62,000 participating pharmacies nationwide.

If you do not have health insurance coverage, use the ScriptSave® card for any brand name or generic prescription you or a family member pays for out-of-pocket. If you have health insurance coverage, use the ScriptSave® card for everyone in your household who is not insured and for any prescriptions that are excluded by Medicare Part D law or drugs not covered by your health insurance. In addition to prescription savings, the ScriptSave® card also provides savings on vision and Lasik, hearing, diabetic supplies, lab testing, chiropractic, X-ray/imaging, fitness, safety, and medical supplies, and gym memberships.

If you do not have a ScriptSave® card, you may enroll online by visiting www.scriptsaves.com and log-in with Group #S1000. On that web site, you can also find a participating pharmacy near you, look up drug pricing, and view the Preferred Medications List, health information, and more. Any LPSCU member (including the membership of LCA) can receive a ScriptSave® card at no cost. If you do not have access to a computer to apply for a card, call the Home Office and they will apply for a ScriptSave® card for you.

Discounts are available exclusively through participating pharmacies. The range of the discounts will vary depending on the type of provider and services rendered. This program does not make payments directly to providers. Members are required to pay for all health care services. You may cancel your registration at any time or file a complaint by contacting Customer Care. This program is administered by Medical Security Card Company, LLC (MSC) of Tucson, AZ.

We're looking for a Shining Star in the LPSCU to be our

2017 Fraternalist of the Year



Patricia R. Stearney
2016 Fraternalist of the Year



Who will be this year's winner?

Do you know a member who, through example and accomplishment, provides outstanding volunteer services?

Do you know a member who should be recognized for outstanding fraternal and volunteer efforts?

If you can answer "Yes" to the above, then you have a "Shining Star" member to be nominated to be our

2017 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year!

To receive a Nomination Form, contact the Home Office at: 570-823-3513

or toll free 888-834-6614

e-mail lpscu@lpscu.org

or visit our website

www.lpscu.org.

HURRY!

The deadline for nominations is

April 1, 2017

Where Are They Now?

This is another in our series of follow-up articles on members who received an LPSCU College Scholarship Grant, Post Graduate Award, or Memorial/Religious Award and what they've been up to since. We invite all our past awardees (or their parents or other relatives) to fill us in on what's been going on in their lives in the years since they received their LPSCU award. Whether it be furthering their education, marriage, starting a family, embarking on a career, travel, or any other "adventure" they've had, we'd like to hear about it. Please feel free to share your success with our readers through a brief story and a photo or two. Send your information to Margaret Ferri, 428 E. Frankford Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or mfluvbaskets@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

David Schafer and Jesse Schafer

My two sons, David Schafer, AIA, and Dr. Jesse Schafer, were both recipients of LPSCU scholarships.

David graduated from the University of Arizona, Tucson, in 1991 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. He received LPSCU scholarship money throughout his college years. He is now a Partner at OZ Architecture in Denver, Colorado. Some of David's projects include the Boulder Community Foothills Hospital, Boulder, Colorado, the first LEED certified hospital in the world; The Westin Riverfront Resort and Spa at Beaver Creek, Colorado, named the #1 U.S. Ski Hotel multiple times by Conde Nast Traveler; and the Museum of Discovery in Ft. Collins, Colorado. David has also done extensive work for the University of Colorado in Boulder, including the Visual Arts Complex on that campus. He serves as the chairman of the City of Boulder's Board of Zoning Adjustments.

David lives in Boulder, with his wife, Dr. Jacqueline Schafer, DDS, and his two sons, Luke, 13, and Jude, 11. He enjoys racing bicycles and skiing. The whole family enjoys the outdoor life that Colorado offers.

Dr. Jesse Schafer is a board-certified physician in Emergency Medicine. He graduated from the University of Colorado, Denver, in 2005 and from the University of Colorado Medical School in 2011. He did a residency in emergency medicine at Boston Medical Center and then a fellowship in emergency ultrasound at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Throughout his years of schooling, he received LPSCU college awards, a postgraduate award, and the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award.

Jesse continues to work at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center as the Assistant Fellowship Director for the Emergency Ultrasound Fellowship, a clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School, and an attending emergency physician.

Jesse is engaged to Dr. Maya Ilowite, a board-certified physician in Pediatrics who is a Fellow in Pediatric Oncology at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Jesse enjoys sailing, surfing, and attending/presenting at medical conferences.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update on past award recipients.

Sincerely,
Helen Schafer
(David and Jesse's mom)



The Schafer Family poses for a family portrait with the beautiful Colorado mountains in the background.

Calendar of Events continued from page 2

20 — **Deadline to submit articles for July/August Zornicka.**

23-25 — American Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Chicago, Illinois

29 — Home Office closed for Memorial Day.

JUNE

1 — Deadline to nominate a young member for the 2017 Youth Achievement Award. *See page 19 for details.*

2-3 — Branch Seminars, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. *See page 10.*

5 — WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program, "Eastern Slovak Village Culture and Traditions," at 7:00 p.m., Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 8.*

10 — LPSCU Mid-Year Telephone Conference Meeting

23 — LPSCU Strategic Planning Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio

24 — Branch Seminars, Cleveland, Ohio. *See page 10.*

30 — Deadline to apply for the 2017 Catholic Grade School Award. *See page 24.*

30 — Deadline to apply for the 2017 Catholic High School Award. *See page 11.*

30 — Deadline to apply for the 2017 Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award. *See page 21.*

JULY

1 — Deadline to apply for the 2017 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award. *See page 12.*

4 — Home Office closed for Independence Day.

20 — **Deadline to submit articles for September/October Zornicka.**

29-8/1 — 12th Consular Tour of Slovakia and Its Neighbors arranged by Slovak Honorary Consul Joseph Senko and his wife, Albina. *See page 12 for details.*

In Memoriam

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.
— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
Agnes Lagoey	1	Hazleton, PA
Johanna N. Snyder	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Jean Lewis	40	Allentown, PA
Joseph R. Sabol	42	Pittsburgh, PA
Dolores M. Horner	90	Johnstown, PA
Irene Fedoruk	132	Campbell, OH
Olga Mickunas	153	Perth Amboy, NJ
Eleanore Kelsch	158	Chicago, IL
Anthony Siska*	158	Chicago, IL
Glenn A. Weaver*	158	Chicago, IL
Robert Lenart	172	Pittsburgh, PA
Pauline Kuc	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Romas Sakadolskis	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA

*Multiple certificates

MARCH/APRIL 2017

AUGUST

28 — Msgr. Beeda District Meeting at Perkins Restaurant, Route 93, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Contact Anita Gregory (570-788-3263) by August 23 if you plan to attend.

SEPTEMBER

4 — Home Office closed for Labor Day.

7-9 — American Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona

8-17 — Slovakia Heritage Tour, a 10-day tour celebrating the fall harvest and culture, history, and countryside of the Slovak Republic. *See page 24 for details.*

15-16 — Branch Seminars, Youngstown, Ohio. *See page 10.*

17-19 — Slovak Catholic Federation Convention, Youngstown, Ohio. *See Announcement on page 24.*

20 — **Deadline to submit articles for November/December Zornicka.**

29 — LPSCU Semi-Annual Meeting, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

OCTOBER

15 — Rev. Dianiska District Meeting at North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Letters

Dear faithful friends of Carmel,

Our heartfelt "God bless and reward you" for your kindness to send the Greeting and generous gift of \$200. Your gracious charity is a wonderful help to us in our daily needs.

Please be assured of the continued daily prayers of our cloistered Community for your health and intentions.

We take this occasion to acknowledge with grateful hearts all that you have done and continue to do for the Little Sisters of Carmel here in St. Therese's Valley.

We never forget you and your members, living and deceased, in daily Prayer.

Ever most grateful in Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
Mother Mary Gertrude, O.Carm. and Sisters
Carmelite Nuns of Allentown

This letter is in response to the recent Matching Fund donation made by the Lehigh Valley Okres.

Dear Members,

On behalf of Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your most generous contribution to our Divine Providence Shelter of \$200 (Ck. # 35246).

Your thoughtfulness and contribution will help to make a positive impact for the many individuals we serve.

Thank you for your considerate support of those individuals who are in need of shelter. It does make a difference.

Sincerely,

Neil F. Oberto, MS, LPC

Executive Director

This letter is in response to the recent Matching Fund donation made by the Msgr. Beeda District.

Member Makes First Holy Communion

Alexandria Kosalko of Emmaus, Pennsylvania, made her First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 7, 2016, at St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church in Emmaus.

Alexandria is in the 4th grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Emmaus. She participates in dancing and cheerleading. She is an avid reader and loves art.

Alexandria is the daughter of Eric and Tiffany Kosalko and she has a brother, Benjamin. All are members of LPSCU Branch 196, Hellertown, Pennsylvania. Her grandmother, Jean Kosalko, and uncle, Jeffrey Kosalko of Hellertown, are also members of LPSCU Branch 196. Jean is secretary of Branch 196 and president of the Lehigh Valley Okres.



Alexandria Kosalko

SIGN UP A
NEW MEMBER
TODAY!

Do you need a very special gift?

Purchasing a LEAF or STONE from the TREE OF LIFE Program makes a unique and perpetual gift.

TREE OF LIFE

RESERVATION FORM

Your inscription may be personalized to recognize a loved one or special event with "In honor of ...", "In memory of ...", or "In celebration of ...". Or you may also choose to simply have your name, the family name, or business name inscribed on a Leaf or Stone. Restrictions as to space and number of characters are listed below, based on whether you choose a fraternal Leaf (\$100) or larger Stone (\$500).

Your contribution can be paid in one installment or several. However, we will not bill you for any remaining portion. It is your responsibility to monitor your payments.

Please complete the Reservation Form below (a photocopy is also acceptable) and return it, along with your check, payable to LPSCU, to:

LPSCU
P.O. Box 32,
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032

All proceeds received
fund our
Scholarship Program.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Enclosed is (please check one):

- My first donation toward my "Tree of Life," entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Leaf Fraternal Stone (Please check one) when fully paid. **(Minimum of \$20 per payment.)**
- My \$100 check as payment in full, entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Leaf
- My \$500 check as payment in full, entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Stone

LEAF INSCRIPTION

Maximum of 4 lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces.

STONE INSCRIPTION

Maximum of 6 lines with 40 characters per line, including spaces.

PLEASE ENGRAVE MY FRATERNAL LEAF OR STONE AS FOLLOWS:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

LPSCU 5 Payment Life Plan

The LPSCU has an economical and beneficial 5 Payment Life Insurance Plan for anyone from age 0 through 80. Under this plan, there is a minimum purchase of life insurance. For ages 0-70, the minimum purchase is \$5,000; for ages 71-80, the minimum purchase is \$2,000. Premiums are payable for five (5) years from issue date. If the insured dies within the 5-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 up at the end of five (5) 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 5 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 5 Payment Life Plan is perfect for both youth and adults – especially anyone who prefers to have their life insurance paid within five (5) years.

During these unstable economic times, the 5 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 5 Payment Life Insurance Plan. The premiums listed are based on \$1,000 of life insurance coverage. Semi-annual and quarterly premium rates are also available by contacting your Branch Secretary or the Home Office.

5 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	19.36	16.79	\$ 1.74	1.51
1	19.88	17.29	1.79	1.56
2	20.48	17.83	1.84	1.60
3	21.13	18.40	1.90	1.66
4	21.82	18.72	1.96	1.68
5	22.54	19.63	2.03	1.77
6	23.28	20.28	2.10	1.83
7	24.05	20.95	2.16	1.89
8	24.85	21.64	2.24	1.95
9	25.68	22.36	2.31	2.01
10	26.53	23.09	2.39	2.08
11	27.42	23.71	2.47	2.13
12	28.33	24.65	2.55	2.22
13	29.26	25.46	2.63	2.29
14	30.22	26.21	2.72	2.36
15	31.18	27.14	2.81	2.44
16	32.15	28.02	2.89	2.52
17	33.13	28.93	2.98	2.60
18	34.12	29.86	3.07	2.69
19	35.14	30.82	3.16	2.77
20	36.18	31.81	3.26	2.86
21	37.26	32.83	3.35	2.95
22	38.38	33.70	3.45	3.03
23	39.53	34.94	3.56	3.14
24	40.72	36.11	3.66	3.25
25	41.96	37.27	3.78	3.35
26	43.23	38.48	3.89	3.46
27	44.53	39.72	4.01	3.57
28	45.88	41.00	4.13	3.69
29	47.28	42.32	4.26	3.81
30	48.73	43.68	4.39	3.93
31	50.23	44.93	4.52	4.04
32	51.80	46.53	4.66	4.19
33	53.42	48.03	4.81	4.32
34	55.10	49.30	4.96	4.44
35	56.83	51.15	5.11	4.60
36	58.62	52.42	5.28	4.72
37	60.47	54.29	5.44	4.89
38	62.38	56.16	5.61	5.05
39	64.34	57.93	5.79	5.21
40	66.36	59.28	5.97	5.34

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
41	68.44	61.15	6.16	5.50
42	70.58	63.59	6.35	5.72
43	72.78	65.52	6.55	5.90
44	75.02	67.39	6.75	6.07
45	77.32	69.26	6.96	6.23
46	79.66	71.76	7.17	6.46
47	82.05	73.63	7.38	6.63
48	84.50	76.13	7.61	6.85
49	87.04	78.00	7.83	7.02
50	89.66	80.50	8.07	7.25
51	92.37	82.99	8.31	7.47
52	95.15	85.49	8.56	7.69
53	98.01	87.98	8.82	7.92
54	100.94	90.48	9.08	8.14
55	103.92	92.98	9.35	8.37
56	106.94	95.47	9.62	8.59
57	110.01	97.97	9.90	8.82
58	113.16	101.09	10.18	9.10
59	116.41	103.58	10.48	9.32
60	119.70	106.70	10.77	9.60
61	122.85	109.20	11.06	9.83
62	126.00	112.32	11.34	10.11
63	129.78	115.44	11.68	10.39
64	132.93	118.56	11.96	10.67
65	136.71	121.06	12.30	10.90
66	139.86	124.80	12.59	11.23
67	143.64	127.92	12.93	11.51
68	146.79	131.04	13.21	11.79
69	150.57	134.16	13.55	12.07
70	154.35	137.90	13.89	12.41
71	158.13	141.02	14.23	12.69
72	162.54	144.77	14.63	13.03
73	166.32	148.51	14.97	13.37
74	170.73	152.26	15.37	13.70
75	175.14	156.00	15.76	14.04
76	179.55	159.74	16.16	14.38
77	184.59	163.49	16.61	14.71
78	189.00	167.86	17.01	15.11
79	194.67	172.22	17.52	15.50
80	199.71	176.59	17.97	15.89

Slovak Catholic Federation Launches 2017 SS.C.M. Appeal

Thank you to all who made a donation to the 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. For many years, the Appeal relied upon contributions received from collections in Slovak parishes and individual donations. For the 2015 Appeal, this was supplemented by a direct mailing to clergy of Slovak heritage. This approach was so successful that the direct mailing was expanded for the 2016 Appeal to include fraternal branch presidents, and individuals and member bodies of the Federation. As a result, **the 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal increased 44.2% over the previous year to \$51,385.** Thank you again for your generosity.

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.

Those who received a direct mailing for the 2016 Appeal should have received their letters for the 2017 Appeal by the end of January. The opportunity either to renew membership in the Slovak Catholic Federation or to become a member is also being provided in this year's letter.

Donations in any amount to the 2017 Appeal are deeply appreciated and can also be made 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.

Once again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Donations received before November 30, 2017, will be credited toward the 2017 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.

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.

39th 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

Who Will Receive Our

2017 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD?



2016 Winner
EVAN JONES

Let an outstanding youth know

You Are Appreciated!

We all know someone between the ages of 13 and 18 who deserves recognition for his or her scholastic, athletic, fraternal, volunteer, and/or other achievements.

Help the LPSCU show an outstanding young member that they are appreciated by nominating him or her for the

2017 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

To receive a Nomination Form, contact the Home Office at 570-823-3513 or toll free 888-834-6614; email: lpscu@lpscu.org or visit our website: www.lpscu.org.

The postmark deadline for nominations is June 1, 2017

In Memoriam

Sister M. Rosamund Dupak, SS.C.M.

Sister M. Rosamund, SS.C.M., born Helen C. Dupak, died at Emmanuel Center, Danville, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, January 14, 2017. Born on September 25, 1920, in Exeter, Pennsylvania, she was one of nine children of the late Joseph and Johanna (Fedorko) Dupak. She attended St. John the Baptist School, Pittston, Pennsylvania, and graduated from St. Cyril Academy in Danville. Sister received her B.A. from Marywood University, Scranton, Pennsylvania, and her M.A. in Drama from Villanova University, Villanova, Pennsylvania. On February 11, 1939, she entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville and was received as a novice on October 17, 1939. On that same day, Dennis Cardinal Dougherty of Philadelphia dedicated the newly-erected chapel (now the Basilica) of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Sister Rosamund was professed on August 18, 1941.



Sister M. Rosamund

Over the course of her Religious life, Sister Rosamund was involved in the ministry of education in parish schools in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Indiana. She was superior and principal at St. Columba School in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, from 1971 to 1979. In 1980 she was elected to the Leadership Team of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and served as assistant to the General Superior until 1984. That year she returned to St. Columba's where she taught fourth grade until 1988. Her next mission was to Holy Ghost Parish in Olyphant, Pennsylvania, where she visited the elderly parishioners and helped organize a Golden Age Club which benefited the elderly both educationally and spiritually. From 1991-1994, she helped direct the Religious Education program at Sacred Heart Church in Peckville, Pennsylvania, and was also involved with the RCIA program there. Sister Rosamund also taught on the secondary level at St. Cyril Academy from 1948-67 and at Andrean High School, Merrillville, Indiana, from 1967-70, where she taught French. She served as Administrator at Maria Hall, Danville, from 1994-98.

Sister Rosamund retired to Maria Hall in 2012, and was involved in the ministry of prayer and hospitality. She later became a resident of Emmanuel Center.

Sister Rosamund is survived by a sister, Mrs. Margaret Byrn at Emmanuel Center, Danville; a nephew, Thomas Luciano of Alameda, California; and nieces, Susan DiPaola of New Providence, New Jersey, Marion Chapman of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Joanne Chintala of Lauderhill, Florida.

On Friday, January 20, 2017, the transferal rite and recitation of the Rosary took place at Maria Hall, Danville, followed by a Wake Service. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by the Reverend Gerard Heintzelman at Maria Hall. Burial followed in the Sisters' cemetery.

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

FLEXIBLE ANNUITY

1st Year's Interest Rate is 3.5%



- ◆ The LPSCU Flexible Annuity is a flexible-premium, deferred annuity that accepts ongoing deposits of as little as \$100 per month.
- ◆ An annuity is a long-term investment where the interest earned is accumulated and compounded.
- ◆ Annuities are used to supplement retirement income, whereby at some point you stop paying into the annuity and start taking out.
- ◆ Upon maturity, LPSCU offers a number of distribution options, giving our members the convenience of selecting the one that is best suited for them.
- ◆ LPSCU's competitive interest rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors; however, your rate will never go below the guaranteed minimum rate established by the annuity contract.
- ◆ You can become a member of the LPSCU by purchasing an annuity and you can own an annuity regardless of your health status.
- ◆ Deposits can be made at your convenience!
- ◆ Minimum deposit is \$100.00.
- ◆ After the sixth year, there is no LPSCU penalty on annuity withdrawals.
- ◆ If the annuitant dies prior to settlement, funds on deposit are payable directly to the named beneficiary(ies).

- ◆ Settlement Options:
 - Payment of a specified amount.
 - Payments for a specified period.
 - Life Annuity.
- ◆ Payment options can be monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, depending upon your needs.
- ◆ Prior to settlement, annuitant may withdraw the Cash Surrender Value at any time; however, the minimum withdrawal amount is \$250.00.

NOTE: *Withdrawals taken prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10% Early Withdrawal Penalty by the Internal Revenue Service.*



◆ ◆ ◆
*For more information
about our
Flexible Annuity
contact the LPSCU Home Office
or your local Branch Secretary.*

71 South Washington Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

◆ ◆ ◆
Phone 888-834-6614
Fax 570-823-4464

◆ ◆ ◆
e-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org
www.lpscu.org

BISHOP ANDREW G. GRUTKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

\$1,000 AWARD

(Maximum of \$2,000 per member)

The LPSCU is proud to once again offer the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award for lay persons between the ages of 18 to 35. This award, implemented at the 37th National Convention held in Merrillville, Indiana, in August 2000, is given in memory of Bishop Andrew G. Grutka, an outstanding Slovak leader who was the founding Bishop of the Diocese of Gary, Indiana.

Those applying for the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with \$5,000 permanent reserve life insurance certificate (excludes term insurance).
- Be a lay person between 18-35 years of age.
- Be of the Catholic religion (Latin Rite or Byzantine).
- Be initiated fully into the Church (Baptized, Eucharist, and Confirmed) and continuing to be eligible to receive the sacraments of the Church.
- Be a member of a Catholic parish.
- Be active in parish/diocesan/campus ministry as a lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, adult altar server, catechist/aide, member of parish RCIA/C Team, youth minister, member of the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council, and/or other parish committees or organizations.
- Be active in an organization or activity that promotes awareness of our Slovak heritage, culture, and traditions.
- Be endorsed by his or her pastor and LPSCU Branch Secretary, with additional endorsement provided by campus minister, youth minister or pastoral associate.
- Attend (or will attend) an accredited college/university as a full time student.
- Provide a notice of acceptance or tuition receipt for the coming scholastic year.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated above to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. All materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. **Applications must be postmarked by June 30, 2017.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed application and supporting material to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ Toll free: 888-834-6614

❖ Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpescu@lpescu.org ❖ Website: www.lpescu.org

Msgr. Beeda District Concludes Matching Fund Project

Late last fall, the Msgr. Beeda District concluded a successful Matching Fund project held in conjunction with the LPSCU Matching Fund Program. The District held a 50/50 Raffle in November to raise money for the Divine Providence Homeless Shelter located at 81 North Laurel Street in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

On December 2, 2016, the District presented a check to Peter Demarco, facilities manager at the shelter, with the hope that the donation can in some small way help this worthwhile program. Especially around the holidays, we reflect upon all our blessings, hoping not to take for granted the fact that in today's troubled times we can all be in this same situation in the blink of an eye. A tour of the facility gave District members an even greater awareness and appreciation of the great program Divine Providence provides for those in need.

The District would like to thank Father Michael Piccola and the parishioners and friends from Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish for their constant support and generosity that allows us to undertake charitable projects such as this.



Msgr. Beeda District officers present a check to Peter Demarco, who accepts on behalf of Divine Providence Homeless Shelter.

Our Scholarship Recipients Explain

The Importance of Life Insurance

Nothing is harder than the death of a loved one. Expected or unexpected, it's an emotional and sometimes financial struggle to get through the passing. It's hard enough to cope with the fact someone who you loved passed on, but it doesn't help when you realize all of the money that goes into the death of a family member. That's why life insurance is such an important thing to have. With funeral fees, bills, and other expenses, life insurance helps alleviate some of the stress caused by the finances of a passed away family member. It's important to have life insurance because if something does happen to you or a family member, it's relaxing to know that expenses will be able to be paid for and you won't have to go searching for cash. With the increasing costs of everything nowadays, life insurance is a necessity.

Jesse Macko, Branch 213, Dallas, PA



Junior Branch Journal

Announcing the Winners of the 2016 LPSCU Coloring Contest

Ages 4-6



(Photo not available)

Chase Geiger
Macungie, PA
First Place



Savannah Myers
East Berlin, PA
Second Place



Alayna Caris
Perrysburg, OH
Third Place

Honorable Mention

Emma Baer
Sophia Baer
Lillian Marie Cerny
Ava Collins
Cole Collins
Brianna Evans
Jackson Evans
Belle Foremny
Annalise Good
Alivia Kampe
Marcie Kampe
Kenzie Korchnak
Benjamin Kosalko

Damian Lazaro
Lane Linder
Grayson Line
Lily Lutheran
James Meyer
Carmella Sanseverino
Gavin Sauers
Taylor Shaffea
Alexis Shipton
Eva Willis
Drew Yannotti
Cara Zemelman
Daniel Zemelman

Ages 7-9



Melina Gregory
Drums, PA
First Place



(Photo not available)

Alyssa Porambo
Tamaqua, PA
Second Place



Hannah Yeager
Bethlehem, PA
Third Place

Honorable Mention

Rylee Baer
Lukas Balas
John Ross Bedard
Abby Billowitch
Lucas Caris
Antek Evan
Hunter Ferrey
Cole Geiger
Gabriel Green
Isabella Horvat
Jake Kelleher
Anthony Korchnak
Alexandria Kosalko

Addison Langs
Layla Linder
Abigail Myers
Carter Schram
Lydia Schram
Barbora Uher
Matus Uher
Giada Ward
Justin Wetterling
Allyson Wolfe
Abigail Worth
Julia Yannotti

Ages 10-12



Genevieve Quinlan
Youngstown, OH
First Place



Nathan Myers
Breinigsville, PA
Second Place



Laney Marie Schulz
Hanover Twp, PA
Third Place

Honorable Mention

Romen Costa
Sierra Ferrey
Cameron Gregory
Julia Kocis
Levi Linder
Teresa Lucchetti
Natalie Matthews
Niko Napkora
Eliana Parra
Alex Porambo
Connor Tomasic
Tyler Wolfe
Avagain Yerger



Junior Branch Journal



Bojnice Castle

Rising high above the town of the same name in Slovakia, Bojnice (BOY-nee-tse) castle was originally built in the 12th century. The castle underwent its greatest renovation at the end of the 19th century, when it was owned by Jan Palffy. Today Bojnice castle, with its fairy-tale beauty, is one of the most visited and its romantic exterior leads it to being used by foreign filmmakers. In fact, several films have been shot at the castle, and some even claim that the castle at California's Disneyland was modeled after it.



An interesting legend surrounds Bojnice castle. Long ago, the castle warden, Peter Poky, had an evil nature and was a well-known miser. He chased all the poor people away from the curative springs at the Bojnice spa and he collected extremely high fees from those who could pay to go there. Once, he allegedly entered the spa and found a poor old man bathing there, easing his painful joints in the hot water. The warden shouted at him and ordered him to pay up or to leave immediately. The old man begged for leniency, but the warden chased him out.

Shamed, the old man said before leaving: "Warden, you are cruel and greedy. I curse you and wish that all the ducats you have hidden in trunks in the castle be turned to stone just like your heart." The warden was frightened and ran back to the castle to see if his money was safe. But the old man's curse had worked, and when the warden opened his trunks, instead of coins he found ordinary stones. The warden went mad and began throwing handfuls of the stones from the castle tower. These stones can be found around the castle even today. People call them "Poky's Ducats." This legend is recounted to this day in Bojnice.

Another interesting fact about Bojnice is that the park around the castle contains the oldest linden tree in Slovakia.

Palm Sunday ~ Kvetná Nedeľa



Palm Sunday is the sixth and final Sunday in Lent and it marks the beginning of Holy Week. For Catholics, it is a day to commemorate Jesus as he entered into Jerusalem. His path was decorated with palm branches, which is a symbol of victory. Because true palm or olive branches were not available to Slovaks, the custom is observed by blessing blossoming branches of other trees, including evergreens, boxwood, and pussy willow branches. These are symbolic of life, hope, and victory.

After returning from church on Palm Sunday, people put the blessed branches behind pictures or behind holy pictures, statues, and crucifixes in their home.

In the past, trees and plants were considered to be mediators between the souls of the dead and those of the living and, at the same time, places where souls dwelled. These early people believed that the branches of certain trees possessed supernatural powers, warding off evil spirits and protecting homes, farms, and pasture lands from harm.

Once Slovaks emigrated to America, palm weaving became a tradition for the new immigrants. Palm weaving is a folk art form that consists of taking palms and weaving, folding, and braiding them to create various designs. These patterns originally resembled pussy willow buds, since pussy willow branches were blessed in Slovakia. Shapes are only limited by the creativity of the weaver.



PERIODICAL

Slovak Catholic Federation Announces 59th National Convention

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2017 ❖ YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

As the National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I, Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, V.F., hereby call for the 59th National Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation. All members and current National Officers are to note the following dates and location for the Convention.

The Convention dates will be Sunday, September 17 to Tuesday, September 19, 2017, in Youngstown, Ohio. The National Secretary, Dolores Evanko, will be your contact person for delegate registration and detail information for the Convention.

The Convention will officially open with Mass to be celebrated on Sunday, Sept. 17, at Saint Columba Cathedral, Youngstown, Ohio. The celebrant will be the Right Rev. Gary Hoover, OSB, abbot of Saint Andrew's Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio. Abbot Gary also serves as the Moderator of the Slovak Catholic Federation. The homily for the Mass will be given by Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, V.F., national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

Following the Mass, a Banquet will be held at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Youngstown. Working Sessions for the Convention will be on Monday, September 18 and Tuesday, September 19 until all business is completed.

2017 Slovakia Heritage Tour

Celebrate the fall harvest and the beautiful culture, history, and countryside of Slovakia up close and personal on the 10-day Slovakia Heritage small group tour. From September 8-17, 2017, we'll explore important cities, medieval towns, and historic sites, as well as folk-life museums, the Tatra Mountains, and picturesque villages. We'll also join in a few of the harvest and wine festivals that bring alive Slovakia's long music and craft traditions. Optional genealogical research and ancestral village and family visits are available.

For more information, visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144 or slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com.

Educational Benefit

2017 LPSCU CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL AWARD \$150 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is proud to announce that it is offering a Catholic Grade School Award Benefit, which is a \$150 one-time award to our members who are attending a Catholic Grade School during the 2017-2018 academic year. Members may only receive this award one time

The following are the Guidelines for applying for the Catholic Grade School Award:

- Must be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 permanent reserve life insurance certificate (excludes term insurance).
- Must be enrolled in a Catholic grade school in kindergarten, or in Grades 1 through 8 in the fall of 2017.
- Must provide a wallet-size color photo.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated above to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. All materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. **Applications must be postmarked by June 30, 2017.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed application and supporting materials to:

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Educational Benefit Committee

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Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org ❖ Website: www.lpscu.org

