



**LPSCU Life**

Security, Peace of Mind

# Morning Star

ZORNIČKA

Vol. 80, No. 877  
March-April 2021

## CONGRATULATIONS to Our 2020-2024 Board of Directors & National Officers



**REV. ROBERT SEEMAN**  
National Spiritual Advisor



**THERESA A. KLUCHINSKI**  
National President



**ANITA GREGORY**  
National Vice President



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National Trustee



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National Trustee



**JOAN T. HLADEK**  
National Trustee

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## Calendar of Events

*Because of the coronavirus pandemic, many events have been postponed, cancelled, or rescheduled. At the time Morning Star went to press, the events listed on this calendar and in this issue were correct to the best of our knowledge. We recommend that members check the LPSCU's website ([www.LPSCU.org](http://www.LPSCU.org)) or Facebook page (LPSCU Life) or contact their Branch representative closer to each event in case any changes or cancellations had to be made.*

### MARCH

- 10** – Msgr. Beeda District Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Vesuvio's Restaurant, Butler Drive, Drums, Pennsylvania. Anyone planning to attend should call Anita Gregory at 570-788-3263 by March 1.
- 20** – **Deadline to submit articles for May/June 2021 Morning Star.**
- 24-25** – LPSCU Internal Audit
- 26** – LPSCU Annual Meeting (conference call meeting)

### APRIL

- 1** – Deadline to nominate a member as our 2021 Fraternalist of the Year. *See page 7 for details.*
- 20** – Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Independence, Ohio
- 30** – Deadline to apply for a 2021 LPSCU College Award. *See page 6 for details.*

### MAY

- TBD** – American Fraternal Alliance Spring Symposium, Indianapolis, Indiana
- 20** – **Deadline to submit articles for July/August 2021 Morning Star.**

### JUNE

- 1** – Deadline to nominate a young member for our 2021 Youth Achievement Award. *See page 14 for details.*
- 19** – LPSCU Mid-Year Meeting (conference call meeting)
- 30** – Deadline to apply for the 2021 Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award. *See page 15 for details.*
- 30** – Deadline to apply for the 2021 LPSCU Catholic Grade School Award. *See page 20 for details.*
- 30** – Deadline to apply for the 2021 LPSCU Catholic High School Award. *See page 17 for details.*

### JULY

- 1** – Deadline to apply for the 2021 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award. *See page 9 for details.*
- 20** – **Deadline to submit articles for September/October 2021 Morning Star.**

### SEPTEMBER

- TBD** – American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit

*continued on page 9*

LADIES PENNSYLVANIA  
SLOVAK CATHOLIC UNION

*Morning Star* ZORNICKA



(USPS 699-520)

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#### OFFICE HOURS AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

**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.**  
**Phone: 570/823-3513**  
**Toll Free 888/834-6614**  
**Fax: 570/823-4464**  
**E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org)**  
**Website: [www.lpescu.org](http://www.lpescu.org)**

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Joan T. Hladek, 2138 Waterbury Lane E., Sycamore, IL 60178; 815/895-0431; [jthladek@gmail.com](mailto:jthladek@gmail.com)



# A Message from Our National Spiritual Protector

## THE TRADITIONS OF EASTER

One of the most beautiful traditions of those of Eastern European ancestry is the custom of bringing a neatly arranged basket of Easter foods to church on Holy Saturday to be blessed. The food is placed in the basket and covered with an embroidered cloth with decorative symbols of the Resurrection, highlighted by a candle in the basket. It is a wonderful opportunity to engage the whole family in the blessing of food that is to be shared at the first meal of Easter. It is a welcomed custom and embraced by many families. The children also bring along with them a small version of an Easter basket filled with candy treats for blessing.



**Rev. Robert L. Seeman**

One of the treasures of the Easter basket is paska, the special sweet bread of Easter. The Easter bread reminds us of Jesus, the bread of life, the risen Christ, who in the Eucharist is the food for our journey and the bread of eternal life.

I remember my grandmother baking the paska when I was a child. The sweet fragrance in her kitchen on Holy Saturday was amazing from all the baking and food preparations for the Easter celebration.

Once all the preparations are completed, the basket is prepared and ready to go to be taken to the church for the blessing.

Sadly, last year we were not able to celebrate this custom due to the coronavirus, or even go to Mass for Holy Week and Easter. I pray that during this coming Lenten season and Holy Week/Easter, we will once again be celebrating our faith and customs in person at church.

### Prayer of Blessing

*God of glory, the eyes of all turn to you as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. Bless us and this food of our first Easter meal. May we who gather at the Lord's Table continue to celebrate the joy of his resurrection and be admitted finally to his heavenly banquet. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



*Christ is risen! Truly indeed He is risen, Alleluia!*

May your pathway through the Lenten season to the glory of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday bring to you and your family many blessings.

A Blessed Lent and Joyous Easter,

*Father Bob*

### DO YOU KNOW ONE?

### *"Families of the LPSCU"*

The LPSCU recently launched a new feature called *Families of the LPSCU* that will continue in future issues of *Morning Star*. Anyone who is a family member or who knows an LPSCU family can submit information to be published in the magazine. The submitter would write about why they have chosen to highlight the family as an "LPSCU Family." (Including a photo or two would be great as well!) All families submitted will be featured at some point. There are no boundaries as to why a family can be highlighted. It could be because of how many are members or how many generations are members; how they dealt with a challenge; because of a common thread in their chosen profession, etc. Send your story to Public Relations Director Deborah McKinley at [dmckinley@lpscu.org](mailto:dmckinley@lpscu.org) or to [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org). We hope to hear from you soon!

## Home Office Closings for 2021

- Friday, January 1 ..... New Year's Holiday
- Monday, February 15 ..... Presidents' Day
- Friday, April 2 ..... Good Friday
- Monday, May 31 ..... Memorial Day
- Monday, July 5 ..... Day after Independence Day
- Monday, September 6 ..... Labor Day
- Monday, October 11 ..... Columbus Day
- Thursday, November 25 ..... Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, November 26 ..... Day after Thanksgiving
- Thursday, December 23 ..... Christmas Holiday
- Friday, December 24 ..... Christmas Holiday
- Friday, December 31 ..... New Year's Eve Holiday (½ day)
- Saturday, January 1, 2022 ..... New Year (floating day to be taken by January 31st)

## An Easter Message from Our Spiritual Protector

*He is Risen! Alleluia!*

Have you ever experienced the unexplainable? An event that shouldn't have happened, yet it did? Some just say that it was a coincidence, others are left speechless, and still others say that it was a miracle. I cannot imagine what went on in the minds of the Apostles and the followers of Jesus when He was crucified. The fear, the anxiety, perhaps even hopelessness about their own futures surfaced. Then an angel appeared to the women at His tomb and told them that Jesus is alive! Wow! How did they grasp the unexplainable, the unimaginable?

When the women ran back from the tomb to the Upper Room and shared the marvelous news that Jesus is alive, the Apostles didn't even believe the testimony of the first witness's words. John and Peter had to run to the tomb to find out themselves, to confirm for themselves that what they were told was true. It was just too amazing and phenomenal that Jesus had Risen! Then they saw... the empty tomb and His burial clothes folded up, but He was not there – a beginning of faith. Jesus confirmed their wonder and questioning then by appearing to His Mother and the Apostles and followers in the Upper Room.

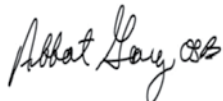
We all need to be like the spring flower, the crocus. It is the hardy little flower that blooms even when the snow is falling, and the air is cold. They continue their life cycle even though the weather is against them, and although sometimes they become a little damaged, they find a way to thrive. Each year, they push their way up from the soil. We all know that spring is here when that happens. They are truly a miracle and gift from God.



We need to be that like that flower in our relationship with Jesus. Jesus is the soil we grow from and the nutrients we need for strength. We will need Jesus to push our way out into the world. He gives us a stable place to set roots. The stableness of Jesus allows us to weather the storms and fight our way through the world to spring up. Jesus gives each of us a unique beauty. He gives us the strength of to defy the odds so we to can be a miracle and a gift from God.

When you see the little crocus in the snow, remember that you, too, can push through and make the world a beautiful place.

Peace,



**Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB**  
LPSCU Spiritual Protector



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

*Veseli Vel'ku noc  
Radostne Aleluja*

*Sventu Velyku  
Linkejimai*





### PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

On Sunday, November 29, 2020, the Pittsburgh District held its annual Christmas party. Due to the pandemic, extra precautions were in place to keep everyone safe. The tables were spaced at least six feet apart and masks were worn except while eating and drinking (and picture opportunities, of course). The party was held at Banquets Unlimited in Wilmerding, Pennsylvania, as it has been in the past few years.

District President Dolores Sakal welcomed everyone to the party. Margaret Joschak of Branch 42, the most senior member in attendance, led the gathering in grace before the meal. Entertainment was again provided by Mikey D of McKeesport, Pennsylvania. He played both Slovak and traditional Christmas songs on his accordion. The members and guests in attendance sang along and a few even danced to the polka music. Each Branch donated a gift basket for the Chinese auction and everyone received a door prize.

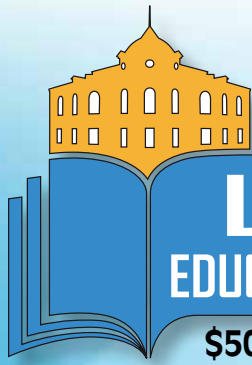
After all these months of quarantine, it was great to gather and fraternize to celebrate the season of Christ's birth.

Some of the party attendees are pictured on this page.



## LPSCU Board of Directors Annual Meeting Notice

This announcement is made to all members of the LPSCU that the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will convene on Friday, March 26, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. via telephone conference call or virtually.



# 2021 COLLEGE AWARD

## LPSCU EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT

### \$500 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is offering a \$500, one-time College Award to our members who will be attending college during the 2021-2022 academic year. A total of up to 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 2021-2022 academic year and must submit proof of acceptance for the Fall 2021 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, *Morning Star*.

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2021. Submit applications to:

LADIES PENNSYLVANIA SLOVAK CATHOLIC UNION

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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) ♦ Website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)



# LPSCU Convention Delegates

The following members served as delegates to the 42nd National Convention of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union on November 21, 2020. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the convention, originally scheduled to take place in Washington, Pennsylvania, was successfully held via videoconference for the first time ever. Fifty-four delegates participated.

**Branch 6  
Wilkes-Barre, PA**  
Diane K. Jason  
Paul J. Jason

Janice Mathews  
Christopher McGowan  
Patricia McGowan

**Branch 7  
Exeter, PA**  
Andrea Crook  
Judy Brzostek  
Brian P. Jollimore  
Thomas J. Pesta  
Charles Simalchik  
Kevin D. Jollimore

**Branch 76  
White Oak, PA**  
Celeste A. Palcsey  
David A. Palcsey, Sr.

**Branch 79  
Whiting, IN**  
Carol M. Burgan

**Branch 39  
Hazle Township, PA**  
Agnella Yocum

**Branch 83  
Bethlehem, PA**  
Helen Bobeck  
Daniel A. Bobeck

**Branch 42  
Pittsburgh, PA**  
Cynthia Schlebusch  
Stephanie Schlebusch  
Annette Williams  
Margaret D. Joschak  
Donna Powell  
Dolores Sakal  
Christina Ricupero

**Branch 94  
Larksville, PA**  
Kendra Jollimore

**Branch 109  
Hammond, IN**  
David Nay  
Victoria Lyn Nay

**Branch 52  
North Braddock, PA**  
Ramona Shaffer  
Nicole Reininger  
Angela M. Skiffen  
Jennifer Skiffen

**Branch 124  
Hazleton, PA**  
Rev. Joseph J. Evanko  
Joanne Stahura  
Margaret Stahura

**Branch 60  
W. Hazleton, PA**  
Jonathan Gregory  
Mary Ann Litchock

**Branch 197  
Wilkes-Barre, PA**  
Deborah McKinley

**Branch 64  
Pittsburgh, PA**  
Mary Ann Kaylor  
Cynthia Smetanka  
Susan M. Ondrejco  
Susan Ondrejco  
Anna Ondrejco  
Rudy Ondrejco

**Branch 213  
Dallas, PA**  
Mary Landmesser

**Branch 65  
Munhall, PA**  
Geraldine Kallay

**LPSCU  
Board of Directors**  
Rev. Robert Seeman  
Theresa Kluchinski  
Anita Gregory  
Mary Jo Savidge  
Mary Ann Ewasko  
Dolores M. Evanko  
James Yocum  
Margaret Jollimore  
Joan T. Hladek



## LPSCU Convention Committees

The following members served on committees for the 42nd National Convention of the LPSCU held on November 21, 2020.

### **NOMINATING**

Mary Ann Ewasko, Chair – Br. 6  
Angela M. Skiffen – Br. 52  
Carol Burgan – Br. 79  
Dolores Sakal – Br. 42  
Joanne Stahura – Br. 124

### **CONSTITUTION**

Margaret Jollimore, Chair – Br. 58  
Donna Powell – Br. 42  
Janice Mathews – Br. 65  
Mary Jo Savidge – Br. 213  
Theresa Kluchinski – Br. 213

### **SALARY**

James Yocum, Chair – Br. 39  
Charles Simalchik – Br. 7  
David Palcsey – Br. 76  
Helen Bobeck – Br. 83

### **PLANNING**

Theresa Kluchinski, Chair – Br. 213  
Mary Jo Savidge – Br. 213  
Anita Gregory – Br. 60  
Mary Ann Ewasko – Br. 6

## Letters

Dear Ms. Kluchinski,

Thank you so much for the monetary gift for having been a member of LPSCU for 50 years. It was an unexpected, pleasant surprise and comes at a wonderful time of year.

I have many policies with LPSCU and I believe in investing in insurance protection.

Your gift is greatly appreciated. Wishing you and your staff a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2021!

Sincerely,  
**Jean Fetcho**  
Branch 7  
Exeter, PA

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union:

I would like to thank you for awarding me as one of the 2020 Catholic High School recipients. Thank you for the assistance to continue my Catholic school education.

**Kelci Charlee Kuren**  
Branch 6  
Wilkes-Barre, PA

We're  
looking  
for a  
shining star

in the LPSCU to be our

## 2021 Fraternalist of the Year

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

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 the 2021 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year.

### **Nomination Guidelines**

- ★ Nominee must be an active member of the LPSCU.
- ★ Board of Directors and Home Office staff are not eligible.
- ★ Prior honorees are prohibited from entering.
- ★ Head and shoulder color photograph must accompany nomination form.
- ★ Decisions of the LPSCU are final.

The honoree will be presented with an award and their name may be submitted to State Fraternal Alliances having a similar award.

Nomination forms are available from the Home Office. They may be returned by mail, fax (with photo mailed), or email (with photo digitally supplied). All material sent becomes the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned.

**Nominations must be submitted to the LPSCU with a postmark no later than April 1, 2021.**

Nomination form, photograph, and any accompanying material are to be sent to:

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union**  
Fraternalist of the Year Award  
71 South Washington Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

Phone: 570-823-3513 ★ Toll free: 888-834-6614  
E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org) ★ Fax: 570-823-4464

# CAN YOU HELP US LOCATE THESE MEMBERS?

We are looking for the following members. Their last known place of residence is listed below.

- Ann G. Alkas – Tampa, FL  
Kenneth Amreihn – Essexville, MI  
John Anthonson – Youngstown, OH  
Bethany Baluh – Mt. Pleasant, PA  
or Latrobe, PA  
Dana Bardoczi – Hammond, IN  
Christopher Blastick – Chugiak, AK  
or Anchorage, AK  
Lori Brittingham – Willow Grove, PA  
or Orlando, FL  
Andrius R. Bridzius – El Paso, TX  
or San Antonio, TX  
Donald Cabay – Lees Summit, MO  
or Lawrence, KS  
Dolores Callahan – Lowell, IN  
Scott Campbell – Pittsburgh, PA  
Keri L. Cavenas – Mahanoy City, PA  
Christopher Chapman – Greer, SC  
or Greenville, SC  
Beverly Cole – Lansing, IL  
Kristie Daku – Catasauqua, PA  
Kimberly Danko – Pittsburgh, PA  
Bernadette Davies, South Abington  
Township, PA  
Joseph DeLorenzo – Pennington, NJ  
Robert J. Domanic – Joliet, IL  
John Drescher – Kildeer, IL  
or Long Grove, IL  
Conor Ferry – Emmaus, PA  
or Easton, PA  
Kelly Ferry – Emmaus, PA  
or Sellersville, PA  
Carly Fink – Reading, PA  
Thomas Fink – Coopersburg, PA  
Alyson Fisher – Hazleton, PA  
or Drums, PA  
Cynthia Fuss – Plymouth, PA  
Melissa Gennetta – Pueblo, CO  
or Maricopa, AZ  
Mark Giacobbe – Coplay, PA  
Raeleen Golby – Johnstown, PA  
Richard Hatalski – Glen Lyon, PA  
or Wapwallopen, PA  
Tiffany Higgins – Hunker, PA  
Jilan Hochlinski – Jacksonville, FL  
Michael Hodge – N. Catasauqua, PA  
Lindsay Horvath – Shavertown, PA  
Katherine Jakub – Coraopolis, PA
- Jeffrey Jones – Youngstown, OH  
or Struthers, OH  
Karen Kadish – West Mifflin, PA  
Ann Marie Kinsey – Taylor, PA  
Joseph Kraus – Schererville, IN  
or Crown Point, IN  
Christopher Langs – Palatine, IL  
or Mount Prospect, IL  
Melissa Latshaw – Danielsville, PA  
Samuel Lazur – Colchester, VT  
Deborah Lowrie – Dalton, PA  
Russell Mackiewicz – Riverside, CA  
Nicholas J. Maloof – Hoover, AL  
Karen Markel – Whitehall, PA  
Rachael Masterson – Moncks  
Corner, SC  
Brenda Maxwell – Evans City, PA  
Gary McKenzie – Hazleton, PA  
Arianna McMahon – Duryea, PA  
Kelsey McRae – Kingston, NY  
Robert McTague – Scranton, PA  
Angela Mikulaj – Lake Station, IN  
Brian M. Mikulaj – Lafayette, IN  
Linda Miller – Parkton, MD  
or Sparks Glencoe, MD  
Richard Miller – Luta, FL  
Deborah Mitrakos – Naperville, IL  
or Aurora, IL  
Irena Morrison – Greensboro, NC  
Justin Moskal – St. Charles, IL  
Stanley Murzyn – Flint Hill, VA  
or Front Royal, VA  
Allison Parisi – Seminole, FL  
Barbara Pekala – Windber, PA  
or Roanoke, VA  
Richard Petak – Johnstown, PA  
Robert Petak – Johnstown, PA  
Helen Pirillo – West Wyoming, PA  
or North Port, FL  
Christine Popa – Campbell, OH  
Janet Popovich – Donora, PA  
or Monessen, PA  
Paula Rager – Edgewater, FL  
John M. Rebarchak – Exton, PA  
Joshua S. Richard – Pittsburgh, PA  
Aaron Root – Scranton, PA  
or Clarks Summit, PA  
Scott Roth – Harborcreek, PA
- Gaile Rudaitis – Hot Springs  
National Park, AR  
Daniel Ruthrauff – Bethlehem, PA  
Timothy Sands – Vail, AZ  
or Tucson, AZ  
Roxanne Sharrow – Youngstown,  
OH  
Amanda Silay – Avalon, PA  
or Glenshaw, PA  
Cynthia Skopelja – Unionville, IN  
or Valparaiso, IN  
Philip Sorrentino – Philadelphia, PA  
or Wallingford, PA  
Judy Stinavage – Binghamton, NY  
Jon Stelzer – Mahanoy City, PA  
Christine Streisel – Tamaqua, PA  
Maria Streisel – Tamaqua, PA  
Kelly Stumpf – Blandon, PA  
Mary Suchy – Chicago, IL  
Lynn Sudik – Langhorne, PA  
James Susoreny – Richardson, TX  
Cathy Talianek – Allentown, PA  
Terri Tomanio – Port Charlotte, FL  
Anastasia Totin – San Leandro, CA  
Brandon Ulincy – Canonsburg, PA  
Joan Usavage – Mountaintop, PA  
or Exeter, PA  
Austin Vasko – Philadelphia, PA  
Daniel Vizza – Chicago, IL  
Gregory Votral – Springfield, MA  
Susan Vrabel – Orlando, FL  
Sarah Weinreich – Shenandoah, PA  
Robert Weldner – Orefield, PA  
Silvia Wenta – Mountain Home, AR  
or Western Spring, IL  
Kimberly Whitaker – Emmaus, PA  
Edward Wisniewski – Waymart, PA  
or Rockaway, NJ  
Helen Wojna – Bridgeport, CT  
Christopher Wooditch – Dallas, PA  
or Hanover Twp., PA  
Sara Zander – Vermilion, OH  
Chad Zavalick – Morrisville, PA  
or Horsham, PA  
Megan Zewe – Cary, NC

If you have any information regarding any of these members or their relatives, please contact Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge as soon as possible at 570-823-3513, toll free at 888-834-6614, or via email at [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org). Your assistance is greatly appreciated.



## Olivia Jones Receives Youth Volunteer Award



Olivia Jones, a member of Branch 124, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, was recently named as a recipient of the 2020 New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance Youth Volunteer Award.

All throughout her high school career, Olivia was involved with One Spirit, a non-profit service organization dedicated to raising awareness and financially supporting the Native Americans on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

During her senior year at Pascack High School in Hillsdale, New Jersey, Olivia served as co-president of her school's branch of One Spirit and traveled to the reservation to volunteer. The focus of the school's branch that year was to raise funds to build a laundry center at the Allen Youth Center on the reservation. Running water and washing machines were a scarce commodity for the school age children. School attendance was low due to shame and embarrassment from a lack of clean clothes and problems with lice. Olivia's school's initiative provided the children access to fresh, clean clothes.

The award includes a monetary component of \$500. In keeping with Olivia's giving nature, she will be donating \$100 of her award to One Spirit so they can continue the work that is so important to her.

Olivia was also the recipient of the LPSCU's 2020 Youth Achievement Award. She is presently attending Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where she is majoring in astrophysics and math with a minor in Spanish.

## Calendar of Events

*continued from page 2*

**17-18** – LPSCU Semi-Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**20** – **Deadline to submit articles for November/December 2021 Morning Star.**

**26-28** – Slovak Catholic Federation Convention, Danville, Pennsylvania. *See page 11 for announcement.*

### OCTOBER

**6-8** – New Jersey/New York Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Atlantic City, New Jersey

**24-26** – Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### NOVEMBER

**20** – **Deadline to submit articles for January/February 2022 Morning Star.**

### DECEMBER

**4** – LPSCU Board Meeting (conference call meeting)

MARCH/APRIL 2021

## *An LPSCU Educational Benefit*

## 2021 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 2021** 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 2021 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 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, 2021.** Submit application to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union  
ATTN: Anne (Shinal) Cichy Award  
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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)

Website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)

# Traditional Slovak Easter Foods

One of the oldest Slovak traditions is taking a basket of specially prepared Easter foods to be blessed. The basket usually contains a ham, kielbasa, eggs, and other items which will be eaten after the basket is blessed. Those things are found readily in stores. But traditional Easter cheese (*syrek* or *hrutka*) and bread (*paska*) is something that you must make. It is not found in any store. Some of the recipes included here, and many others, can be found in the LPSCU's *The Art of Cooking* cookbook which is available for purchase. See page 20 for information on how to order your copy.

## Blessed Easter Appetizer or Cold Soup

6 to 8 hard-boiled eggs, chopped  
1½ c. baked smoked Polish sausage, sliced  
1½ c. baked ham, cubed  
1½ qt. regular buttermilk  
1 pt. regular sour cream  
½ jar hot or regular horseradish (or more to taste)  
6 chopped green onions  
1 tsp. garlic powder  
1 Tbsp. white vinegar

Mix together well buttermilk, sour cream, horseradish, garlic powder, and vinegar in a large bowl. Add eggs, ham, sausage, and green onions. Mix well again. Refrigerate until ready to eat. Serve with chunks of rye bread.

## Fresh Horseradish ~ Chren

1 c. horseradish root (peeled)  
2 Tbsp. sugar  
¼ tsp. salt  
¼ c. white vinegar  
Canned beets (optional)

Peel horseradish root and cut into slices. Place all ingredients into a blender. Cover and blend in the Chop mode. If necessary, pulse until all ingredients are finely ground. Several canned beets may be added at this time if red beets and horseradish are desired. Blend until beets are ground fine. Place horseradish in a jar and refrigerate.

If creamed horseradish is desired, place a spoon or two of sour cream into the white ground horseradish. Refrigerate after mixing.

## Easter Bread ~ Paska

1 c. scalded milk  
¼ c. sugar  
1 Tbsp. salt  
½ lb. butter, melted  
1 packet dry yeast  
4 c. flour  
2 eggs, beaten

Heat milk. Stir in salt, sugar, and melted butter. Let cool to lukewarm temperature. In a separate bowl, dissolve yeast in ¼ cup warm water. Stir the yeast mixture and let rise until bubbly. Add the cool milk mixture to the yeast mixture. Set aside 1 tablespoon beaten egg, then add the rest of the eggs and flour (2 cups at a time) to the milk/yeast mixture. Mix together well.

Knead the dough on a floured board for 15 minutes. If the dough is too sticky, add a little flour. Place dough in a greased bowl. Cover the bowl with a cloth and let rise in a warm place until double in size (about 1½ hours). Punch dough down in center and let rise a second time for 45 minutes.

After the second rising, shape dough into two balls.

Place into two greased, round bread pans and let rise. Brush the tops of dough with 1 tablespoon beaten egg.

Paska means Easter. You may also reserve some dough and shape it into braids in the form of a cross to lay over the top of the bread.

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. Remove from pans onto a wire rack to cool.

## Rosky Cookies ~ Kolacky

16 oz. cream cheese, softened  
¼ lb. (1 stick) butter, softened  
1 c. flour  
1 egg yolk  
1 tsp. baking powder (optional)  
1 c. confectioners' sugar  
½ c. flour

Mix the first 5 ingredients together and knead until all ingredients are well mixed. Divide dough in half. Refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours or overnight.

Mix together confectioners' sugar and ½ cup flour. Sprinkle flour mixture on rolling surface. Roll out dough and cut into 2-inch squares. Spread filling (see below) on center of dough. Roll from one corner into a crescent shape. Place onto cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees until tan in color (15 to 20 minutes).

## Rosky Filling

2 c. ground walnuts  
½ c. sugar  
½ c. milk  
1 Tbsp. butter

Heat milk. Add walnuts and stir. Add sugar and butter. Cool before spreading on dough.

## Easter Cheese ~ Hrutka

1 dozen eggs  
1 qt. milk  
1 Tbsp. sugar  
1 tsp. salt  
Dash of allspice (optional)

Combine all ingredients in a non-stick pot. Cook over medium to low heat, *stirring constantly*, until mixture curdles. Pour the mixture into a colander that is lined with cheesecloth (a flour sack towel also works well).

Once the mixture is drained, pick up mixture inside the cheesecloth and shape it into a ball by twisting the top part of the cloth. Tightly tie the open end with string, placing the string very close to the top of the ball. *Be very careful when doing so as this will be very hot.*

Hang over the sink or from a cabinet (put a bowl underneath) until all the liquid has drained. Remove the cloth when cool. Wrap the cheese and refrigerate. Slice to serve.



# Take Time to Stop and Smell the Flowers

Nature is a powerful force, as the whole world now knows as it painfully deals with the COVID-19 pandemic. But nature also has the power to inspire and heal.

Thankfully, some public venues are still able to be safely opened to the public with social distancing and other precautions in place. One such location is the incredibly designed Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. One of the conservatory's buildings is totally off the grid, sourcing all of its power and water needs from the building design and the property itself.

Helen Lorinc, a member of Pittsburgh Branch 64, has volunteered at Phipps for many years. She and a friend were recently able to visit the gardens. Since the number of visitors at any one time was strictly regulated, Helen and her friend were able to take as much time as desired to simply pause and absorb the peace and beauty of the flowers, as well as all of the whimsical displays throughout the many rooms.



**Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh.**



**Helen Lorinc, surrounded by flowers in Phipps Conservatory.**

Opportunities like this are a real godsend for so many people during these scary and uncertain times. Hopefully, anyone who is able will take advantage of whatever outdoor beauty, or venues like Phipps, are available to them. This surely helps to ground and soothe an aching heart.

**Helen Lorinc, Branch 64**



**One of the displays in the conservatory.**



**A greenhouse full of lovely blooms.**

## Slovak Catholic Federation Announces 60th Convention

As the National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I, Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, V.F., hereby issue the call for the 60th 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 26, to Tuesday, September 28, 2021 in Danville, Pennsylvania. 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, September 26, at the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. 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 a location still to be determined. Working sessions for the Convention will be on Monday, September 27 and Tuesday, September 28, until all business is completed.

## New Insurance Issued

Branch	Branch Representative	Sept./Oct. 2020	Year-to-Date Total
7	Margaret Jollimore	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 41,000.00
213	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 64,000.00

# 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 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 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



## Oh, Yes, You Do!

Everyone – and by everyone, I mean *EVERYONE* – should have life insurance. People can come up with all kinds of excuses: “I’m young. I don’t have to worry about that!” “I’ve got plenty of time to get life insurance.” “Why should I spend money on that?” “That’s for old people (and I’m not old!)” “I’ve got good genes. My \_\_\_\_ (fill in the relative) lived to x age.” You get the idea.

Everyone can find an excuse, but prolonging purchasing life insurance only adds to its cost. If you don’t believe me, just look at any of the cost charts included in every issue of *Morning Star*. The older you are, the more expensive it becomes. And taking the attitude of “I’ll get it when I need it” may prove to be too late. Once you are diagnosed with a terminal illness, you have pretty much lost your window of opportunity for purchasing life insurance.

Anyone who has had the unfortunate task of dealing with the death of a loved one knows that dying is not cheap. In addition to funeral costs, factor in lost earnings and any outstanding debts the deceased may have, and the end result could have beyond catastrophic effects for those left behind. In the current turbulent times brought on by COVID-19, I’ve lost count of how many notifications I’ve seen on Facebook setting up GoFundMe pages for someone who has passed and the family needs money to assist with final arrangements.

They don’t call it “insurance” for nothing. Better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it. For more information, or to learn more about the different insurance options available, please contact your branch representative or call the Home Office at 888-834-6614, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Deborah A. McKinley**  
Public Relations Director

## It’s Not Too Late!

Last issue I asked members to let us know how they celebrated the holidays differently and how they are surviving the pandemic. Unfortunately, due to delays in the postal system, many members did not receive their issue of *Morning Star* until early February. As such, I haven’t heard from anyone. Since “snail mail” is definitely taking longer than usual, please know that it’s not too late to submit information for upcoming issues. If we can’t fit it into the issue we’re working on, we’ll save it for a future issue. We want to hear from YOU, our members. This publication is *for* members and *about* members. As I said previously, what you are doing to stay sane and cope in these turbulent times could very well help someone else. We’re all in this together and together we will get through it. You can either e-mail me at [dmckinley@lpescu.org](mailto:dmckinley@lpescu.org) or call/text me at 610-704-7288. Looking forward to hearing from you.

**Deborah McKinley**, Public Relations Director

## Branch 213 Concludes Matching Fund Project

Over the holidays, LPSCU Branch 213 held a Matching Funds Project to benefit St. Andrew Parish in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The Branch held a wreath sale on the weekend of December 6-7, 2020. Total proceeds, including the matching funds collected, were \$365.



**LPSCU National President and Branch 213 Secretary-Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski (right) presents a check to Deacon William F. Behm, parish life coordinator of St. Andrew’s Parish.**

### Our Scholarship Recipients Explain

## The Importance of Life Insurance

Nothing is more precious than a life. People then pay for life insurance in case of an unfortunate event. Life insurance is a way to make sure what the departed left behind is covered and taken care of. There is no question of “How are we going to pay for this?” This way any family can use the money for bills and funeral costs. Any debts left behind can also be paid off with the money given by the insurer. Things like debt, funeral costs, car payments, mortgages, and bills could have an effect on the family of the deceased. This way the stress of money will not be burden to them. Being proactive in case of an emergency prevents any risks. If someone has dependents such as young children or spouses, they can leave money behind for them so they keep living comfortably. The loss of an income could cause hardship in the family, especially if the other parent is unemployed. If the children do not have another parent, they can use the money while they find a legal guardian. This could prevent them from continuing education or other normal activities for kids. It gives people protection and a sense of comfort in case something unexpected happens to them. With life insurance, the weight of worry of what will happen to their loved ones is lifted off their shoulders.

**Melanie Lombardo**  
Branch 6, Wilkes-Barre, PA

## SS.C.M. Appeal Update

### *A report on how the 2020 Appeal ended and information on the new 2021 Appeal*

Thank you to everyone who supported last year's Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. It is my great pleasure to announce that 199 donors gave \$38,360.58 last year. Here is a breakdown of the number of donors and the amount given:

Parish collections (13) .....\$17,508.58  
Slovak fraternal organizations  
(including home office donations) (63)....\$10,375.00  
Clergy of Slovak heritage (30) .....\$ 2,685.00  
Donations by individuals (93) .....\$ 7,792.00

A direct mailing for the 2021 Appeal has been sent to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak fraternal organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and previous donors. Your support is needed each year because money collected in the Appeal goes to help pay for the operating costs of the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome, the residence of priests from Slovakia selected by their bishops to undertake graduate studies.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the 2021 Appeal but who did not receive a letter asking for a donation is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article. Mail it, along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation, to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2021, will be credited toward the 2022 Appeal.

Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

*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 Sacred Heart Parish, Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.*

### **43rd Annual SS.C.M. Appeal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

*Please make check payable to*

**Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta  
First Vice President, Slovak Catholic Federation  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
120 Jefferson Street, Swedesburg, PA 19405

# 2021

## Youth Achievement Award

LET AN  
OUTSTANDING  
YOUNG PERSON  
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 2021 Youth Achievement Award.

To receive a Nomination Form, contact the Home Office at 570-823-3513 or toll free at 888-834-6614; E-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) or visit our website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)

**THE POSTMARK DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS  
IS JUNE 1, 2021.**



# 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.
- Provide a Sponsor Eligibility Form from their parish to show they are active Catholics.
- 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, 2021.**

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

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

ATTN: Bishop Grutka Award

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ TF: 888-834-6614 ❖ Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org) ❖ Website: [www.lpescu.org](http://www.lpescu.org)

## Two Generations Celebrate Birthdays

Malcolm Bowman and his grandmother, Mary Ann Kaylor, recently celebrated birthdays. Malcolm had a milestone 21st birthday and Mary Ann observed her 78th birthday. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only a small gathering took place at Mary Ann Bowman's home (Malcolm's mom and Mary Ann's daughter).

Malcolm is a junior at Penn State University, having recently been accepted into the School of Civil Engineering. His cake was an ice cream cake, which is one of his favorites, made by his grandmother, Mary Ann.

Mary Ann, who is happily retired, got a cake from Carlo's Bakery in New Jersey. Carlo's now ships its legendary Rainbow Cake nationwide. The cake was a gift from Mary Ann's son Stephen and his wife Kristin who live in California. It was made with six layers of rainbow-colored vanilla cake piled high, filled with sweet vanilla icing, and covered with rainbow sprinkles.

All are members of Branch 64, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



**Malcolm Bowman (left) and Mary Ann Kaylor with their respective birthday cakes.**

## *In Memoriam*

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

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
William Tomaskovic	7	Exeter, PA
Kathleen M. Kuhar	19	Swoyersville, PA
Joanne Felix	24	Windber, PA
Maria Powers	24	Windber, PA
Joseph Surmick	39	Hazle Twp., PA
Anne Altavilla*	122	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Lillian C. Henderson*	172	Pittsburgh, PA
Gregory Baran	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
John B. Martin, Jr.	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA

\*Multiple certificates



# LADIES PENNSYLVANIA SLOVAK CATHOLIC UNION

## FLEXIBLE ANNUITY

Annual Interest Rate is 3%\*

\*EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

- ✦ 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 the

## LPSCU 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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) | [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)



## My Love Affair with QVC

My neighbors, a man and wife, are in their 90's. They keep pretty much to themselves and, as far as I can tell, they have no family nearby. In the past few months, however, I've noticed that the pandemic has gotten to them, judging by the increased number of Amazon Prime and FedEx delivery trucks dropping off packages on their stoop lately. I've also noticed that there's been a marked daily increase of Amazon trucks making a beaten path into my neighborhood (and I don't think that groceries are the only things being delivered).

But I should talk! I have placed a sign on my storm door asking the delivery person to ring the doorbell when delivering a package. Over the past two or three weeks, I have finally weaned myself from watching QVC and HSN. I do, however, miss the doorbell ringing since there have been no deliveries lately. Frankly, I'm surprised that QVC and HSN have not sent the police out to do a welfare check to see if I am okay. I do miss schmoozing with the delivery people and have noted that my favorite UPS driver must have retired since a much younger man has taken his place.

Thankfully, my mail carrier still makes package deliveries. I got tired of slipping and sliding on the icy driveway in the winter because I have to cross the street to get to my mailbox. So, for the past two winters, I've played the "old lady" card and had my doctor fax a request to the local post office asking that my mail be delivered to my door. I worry about my 90-year-old neighbor who still insists on walking out of his garage to get his mail. I fear that one day someone will find him plastered to the icy street or driveway. My friend berates me that I ask for this mail service. She lets her mail pile up for three days and then gets in her car to go to her mailbox, which is located directly across the street from her ranch condo. She came up with this solution after falling down while getting her mail. She had to scoot on her butt across the street, across her lawn, and down the driveway into her garage. Her condo is situated on the corner, so she did have quite a trek to make.

I could open a small department store with things I have bought. I think I have three of most everything. My passion, however, is handbags, purses, and luggage. (Thank heavens Joy Magano and Samantha Brown have taken a hiatus in their luggage lines!) I have three small cases of various colors and one large set from Samantha Brown, and at least three small cases of various colors from Joy Magano and two large cases, along with her duffle bags and three or four purse-like tote sets. I still have hopes of traveling the world.

My other passion is for flashlights and light bulbs (go figure). I am also a sucker for travel toiletry bags. I have two huge containers where I have some stored. I did discover something interesting from my last Amazon order a week ago. I recently read a magazine's consumer article on postage scales. It showed two identical scales each being sold by a different company. They were exactly the same, from the same manufacturer in China, but they were not being sold at the same price. The more expensive one was being sold under the name of a high-end dealer. Well, I ordered two travel toiletry bags from Amazon and found that though the covers and the dealers were

different, the bags were exactly the same, but with one being \$4 higher than the other. Caveat emptor!

I will be moving in with my family in North Carolina this summer. The problem will be how to get all this stuff past my son-in-law when he moves me. I'm sure he will have an issue with all the stuff in my garage, but that's another story. My family is building a 600-1,000-foot addition for me and I need to find a way to store this stuff. Thankfully, I saw a wonderful closet at IKEA which might do the trick...

**Joan T. Hladek**, LPSCU Trustee



**LPSCU 2021**

## 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 2021-2022 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 2021.
- ✓ 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, 2021.**

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

**LADIES PENNSYLVANIA SLOVAK CATHOLIC UNION**

ATTN: Catholic High School Award

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ❖ TF: 888-834-6614 ❖ Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) ❖ Website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)



# Junior Branch Journal

## Announcing the winners of the 2020 LPSCU Coloring Contest

### Ages 4-6



Lillian Frankenfield - Br. 62  
Northampton, PA  
First Place



Daniel Zelman - Br. 64  
Woodbridge, VA  
Second Place



Morgan Reedy - Br. 197  
Exeter, PA  
Third Place

### Honorable Mention:

Diana Zelman	Lucy Jedlovec
Paige Myers	Rocco Saniatan
Ethan Meyer	Charlotte Sauers
Logan Hostether	Vada Lazaro
Emmette Semanek	Elijah Saniatan
Emily Landmesser	Hayden Abda
Logan Collins	Jack Gibbons
Garrett Powell	Luca San Severino
Juliet Jedlovec	

### Ages 7-9



Genevieve Baker - Br. 38  
Sterling Heights, MI  
First Place



Lillian Cerny - Br. 64  
Finleyville, PA  
Second Place



Emma Gregory - Br. 60  
Hummelstown, PA  
Third Place

### Honorable Mention:

Niko Barisic	Franklin Shinal
Gavin Sauers	Alexander Ward
Malanya Armstrong	Joscelin Jamison
Alexis Shipton	Cara Zelman
Savannah Myers	Max Jakob
Evangeline Willis	Adelynn Powell
Jenna Jakob	Alivia Kampe
Preston Gibbons	James Meyer
Carmella San Severino	Jax Cleary
Margaret Jollimore	Belle Foremny
Connor Derenick	Liam Andoga
Annalise Good	Tyler Frantz
Arianna McMahan	Ava Collins

### Ages 10-12



Anthony Willis - Br. 42  
Savannah, GA  
First Place



Hunter Ferrey - Br. 122  
Shickshinny, PA  
Second Place



John Roche - Br. 6  
Mechanicsville, MD  
Third Place

### Honorable Mention:

Cole Collins	Lucas Caris
Alayna Caris	Shaun Christ
Macie Kampe	Damian Lazaro
Abigail Myers	Lydia Schram
Gabriel Selena	Olivia Selena
Sienna Baker	Carter Schram
Annabella Gibbons	Grayson Adams





# Junior Branch Journal

## Easter Sunday ~ Veľkonočná Nedeľa

Major celebrations of Easter are held on Easter Sunday. On this day, Jesus came back to life; this rebirth of the Christ is the reason of the fun and festivity that is observed on this particular day. In Slovakia, Easter Sunday begins long before sunrise. The faithful gather outside the church dressed in their finest clothing and the service begins with a candlelight procession around the church. All of the candles are lit from the Paschal Candle. The procession makes its way to the empty tomb. With bells pealing and candles ablaze, small children accompany the procession tossing rose petals along the path. After Mass, all depart for their homes to partake of the traditional Easter meal. Because it is a Holy Day, no cooking is done on this day. All foods are prepared before Sunday.



Approximately 16 billion jelly beans are produced for Easter each year. As you enjoy your jelly beans this year, think about the Jelly Bean Prayer, which goes like this...

RED is for the blood He gave,  
GREEN is for the grass He made,  
YELLOW is for the sun so bright,  
ORANGE is for the edge of night,  
BLACK is for the sins we made,  
WHITE is for the grace He gave,  
PURPLE is for His hour of sorrow,  
PINK is for our new tomorrow.



## Easter Eggs ~ Kraslice



For Christians, Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, who died to forgive the sins of humankind. Before Jesus' time on Earth, eggs had long

served as a symbol of new life and were used in spring festivals by many different cultures. Due to their connection to new life, eggs remained a symbol of Easter for many Christians. Even Christian legends about coloring eggs developed. One legend says that an egg merchant, Simon of Cyrene, put down his basket of eggs in order to carry Jesus' cross. When he went back for his basket, all the eggs were colored. Another story suggests that eggs were originally dyed red to represent Jesus' blood. In Slovakia, a lot of work is put into decorating eggs. "Kraslice," as they are called, are sometimes dyed using wax to make the designs on the eggs. In some parts of Slovakia, they are also decorated with straws, yarn, and even wire.

## Did you know...

- ◆ As many as 91 million chocolate bunnies are sold annually for Easter in the US.
- ◆ As many as 59% of Americans eat the ears of their chocolate bunny first.
- ◆ The weight of the largest chocolate egg in history was 440 pounds.
- ◆ The largest chocolate bunny was 9,360 pounds. It was created in Brazil and took eight days to construct it.
- ◆ Over 1.5 billion Peeps in 24 flavors are consumed every Easter.
- ◆ 180 million eggs are purchased for Easter every year.



## PERIODICAL



### 2021 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 2021-2022 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 2021.
- 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, 2021.**

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

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union**

ATTN: Catholic Grade School Award

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ♦ TF: 888-834-6614

Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org) ♦ Website: [www.lpescu.org](http://www.lpescu.org)

*Still Available!*

## 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!*

**SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**