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THE CRY OF REASSURANCE

The Most Rev.
Anthony M. Pilla, Bishop
Diocese of Cleveland

This Christmas 2001, with ears and hearts of faith, we can hear the Word crying in a manger. Unlike the too familiar tears of terror-struck Americans, this infant's cry is one of reassurance. Like the anticipated first burst of tears at every birth, this cry affirms that life succeeds.

But this year, in these times, we find a deeper consolation in this cry we hear; a necessary reassurance that God lives. For this is the cry of Jesus, one whose name means "God saves" and whose mission means that death gives way to life and darkness cannot conquer daylight.

With the reassurance of that cry of Christ present among us I extend Christmas greetings to all the faithful.

We need the reassuring murmur of the infant Jesus in these disturbing times in America. The din of this world's noise, however, demands that we listen prayerfully in order to catch the comforting sounds of Emmanuel, God-with-us. A deeper, more frequent, listening-prayer, more than any other remedy to our fears, concerns, and discord,

will serve to open our hearts to hear the promised presence that can save us, Jesus the Christ. Without this turn to prayer, the doubt and anger that is born from hollow, fear-driven, self-absorbed busyness will deafen us to the reassuring cry from the manger. And we need that reassurance.

Our need for that reassurance is made obvious by our receptiveness to the many and varied voices promising us security here at home, military success abroad, an improving economy, and a reclaimed sense of family, country, and God. But the more desperate indicators of our need for reassurance is the 40% increase in visits to psychological professionals, the 20% increase in domestic violence, the aggravated racial tensions, and contentious negotiations between management and labor.

We are sorely in need of authentic reassurance from the only one who can save us, Jesus Christ. And the celebration of His birth is just such assurance. His cry from the manger, however, is not only drowned out by the din of life in this world, it is simply too contrary to our worldly expectations. Who would think that a child unable to lift His own head could be the messiah who "would save His people from their sins?" From the

moment His birth was announced by the angel, this unsettling disguise of God has troubled human beings of all stripes.

But those with discernment, with hearts and minds of faith, even today can hear that infant cry from the manger and find there boundless joy and unending reassurance.

More than ever we need a persuasive reassurance that God lives, that God saves, and that God has made our lives meaningful by dwelling among us. This is especially true for those who are defending our country on the battlefield, those who will experience their absence due to this service, and particularly those grieving a loved one lost in the attacks of September 11th and in the fight against terror. Our prayers and blessings go out to them as they gather at tables with empty places this year.

May our prayer, especially the Eucharist we cherish, tune our ears to listen through the darkness of night, the challenge of grief, the hatred of terror, and the clamor of battle for that reassuring cry. Having heard Him and paid Him homage may our joy be complete and His gift to us be peace.

May God bless all those who seek Him in this holy season with sincere hearts.

MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS

by RUDY FLIS

To each of you I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

This is my favorite time of year and has many memories for me.

A vivid memory of a special Christmas I have is because of my mom.

During basic training, we were told "If you put out and do well, you'll be home for Christmas." -- it didn't happen.

Christmas in Dixie was our lot. Not only that, but we were told 120 of our company was going to Korea during the war there.

When my mom found out, she decided to use my dad's railroad pass and go to Alabama for Christmas. She didn't come alone, either. She asked my girlfriend if she would like to go along.

Not being experienced travelers, they almost missed getting off the train in Montgomery. As I stood in the train station waiting, wondering where they were, I finally saw them heading toward me. They were laughing and enjoying themselves as they walked right past me.

I let out a good yell and they stopped, turned, and

finally recognized me in my Army uniform.

After midnight Mass, I walked my mom and Therese to their room at the guest house. I was so pleased that they were with me. I could have stayed up with them all night. But my mom said she was tired and told me to go back to camp so they could get some sleep. I couldn't believe it; they threw me out!

On Christmas Day our cooks outdid themselves. What a meal. After eating, many soldiers went to the day room for relaxation.

Therese and I hadn't seen each other for four months, an eternity for teenagers. As we sat and talked, I couldn't help noticing my mom in a chair, surrounded by homesick soldiers. My mom had many sons that day and was in her element as she talked and listened to many, some of whom did not return from Korea.

I have not received a gift on any Christmas to compare with that Christmas at Camp Rucker in 1952. What a gift from my mom. And from somebody above, a gift for my mom and Therese and me. When my orders came, I was sent to Germany, not Korea.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS by John Mercina

CHRISTMAS 2001 !

This year, we Americans need the celebration of Christmas more than any other Christmas in the history of this nation. The 911 attack on our homeland was a wake-up call for all of us. As tragic as the event was, it was a miracle that less than 4,000 people died out of the 50,000 that would normally work in the two towers in New York and at the Pentagon, as well as at least 10,000 visitors to the towers on a normal day. The deaths of the innocent civilians awakened in most of us the pride of being Americans. The events forever changed the way we approach life and what we took for granted in the past. The actions of the evil doers united us and made us realize that we need greater love for our fellow man. We heard more patriotic songs and mentions of our Creator. We heard more stories about people helping other people and at least for a moment forgot what divided us. We filled the churches and showed genuine concern for the victims. We became more caring and humble.

As we gather with friends and family, let us extend the good will to those outside of our circle. Let the spirit of Christmas carry on for the rest of our lives.

Genealogy Meets

Weather permitting, the Ohio Chapter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International will meet in January as follows:

West Side - Monday, Jan 7 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Parma Regional Library, 7335 Ridge Road.

East Side - Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Euclid Public Library, 631 E. 222nd St., Euclid.

The program for both meetings will be devoted to an in-depth examination of how to access records at the Archbishopric Archives of Ljubljana.

Discussion will include valuable information for (1) those who plan to travel to Slovenia in the future to do their own research at the Archives; (2) those who plan to write to the Archives; and (3) those who are looking for someone to do the research for them.

If weather is questionable, please call Rose Marie Jisa at (440) 230-2960.

Christmas donation

Thanks to John Dejak of Gates Mills, Ohio who sent in a beautiful Christmas card with a \$100 check inside as a donation to the Ameriška Domovina. The card reads, "May this be a Merry Christmas, a time of gladness and cheer... May the joys of today be with you to stay tomorrow, and all throughout the year."

Christmas tree ornament

Legend of the Compassionate Robin

Robins have been associated with Christmas for ages, for it was on this occasion years ago that it acquired its red breast.

According to legend, the robin's heart ached when it saw the Christ Child shivering as the fire in the stable began to die. The bird flew close to the embers and began fanning them with its wings. The flames grew and the fire soon burned brightly. The heat had turned the

compassionate robin's breast red.

The turn-of-the-century Christmas cards frequently depicted the colorful robin's image, often surrounded by sprigs of holly and other holiday greenery. Today, the robin Christmas tree ornament is traditionally clipped to a prominent bough of the tree to remind us of its selfless compassion and to commemorate its important role in the Christmas celebration.

A bit of fragrance always clings to the hand that gives roses

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Escape from Communism

PART II

by ANTON ZAKELJ
edited by JOHN ZAKELJ

(Continued from last week)

Wednesday, May 9, 1945

We had hoped that Slovenia would be occupied by the Americans or British, but it's becoming clearer that it will be controlled by the communists. Two of my friends arrived yesterday and wanted me to go north with them. I asked them to stay for the night, since I had not yet made up my mind to leave.

I talked with my fiancée, Cilka. We had planned to get married before the war began, but we delayed our marriage for many years because of the war. Today she said, "If you're thinking about leaving, we'd better go now!" I was surprised she said that, because I had not expected that she would be willing to go with me when we didn't even know where we would go. I loved her, but I didn't think I could ask her to go with me under such dangerous and uncertain circumstances. I had thought more about the practical difficulties and not how I felt about her. (Many years later, I am still grateful to her for saying that sentence.)

I had always wanted to be married by my brother Stanko, a Lazarist priest. But he was mobilized as military kurat to Niš (a city in Serbia). A couple of days later he was taken by Germans as a prisoner of war and transferred through Bulgaria, Romania and Poland to Bruck (city) (Slesia). There only his French brothers saved him from death of starvation.

After half a year he was transferred to war prisoners camp in Italy where he received a new uniform, cap-

tain's pay, and every week fresh underwear (in Germany he never got it).

Six more months he was transferred again - now to Croatia where he was interned to Svetice Monastery near Karlovac. There they remained alive by eating plums. Everything else was stolen by the partisans.

When the Russian Army occupied Belgrade I wrote to him to come home (we expected to be occupied by Anglo Americans). He responded that he doesn't want to come again under German command and that Bishop Stepinac advised all priests to stay where they were.

And so Cilka and I decided to leave. About 10 of our co-workers and friends (all men) decided to go with us. Some of the others think we will return in 14 days. But I remember how my father said the same thing when he was drafted to fight in World War I. He didn't return for more than four years.

Cilka and I stuffed some clothes in a suitcase and a briefcase, put some cans and other food in a mesh bag and hung it all on my bike. I went to the cooperative one last time and borrowed 500 Reich marks. At 11 a.m., we joined the river of refugees.

We left what some people were calling the beginning of freedom for Slovenian - the promised workers' paradise - and headed for the unknown.

The bike was too loaded to ride on, so we walked alongside it, with me pushing from behind and Cilka steering the front.

After three hours we were tired and hungry. We sat down in the grass by the road and opened a can of sauerkraut. Sauerkraut had never tasted so good!

As we sat by the side of the road, a squad of Cossack



The heavy line from Kranj to Vetrinje shows our journey - about 30 miles - all on foot, over the steep mountain pass into Austria. There were many other Slovenians for whom the journey was even longer or more difficult in other ways. Some families, such as the Rihtars, made the trip with babies and small children.

soldiers went by on their horses. They skillfully pulled the pins from their grenades and threw them high into the air, so they exploded just at their highest point. But one grenade must have exploded in a young Cossack's hands. When he rode by in a horse-drawn carriage, I heard his penetrating moans and I saw him holding up the bloody stumps of both arms. I felt sorry for him.

We met some people who had looted a factory and a warehouse. They had shoes, leather and food which they had taken. They encouraged us to do the same. I refused. I've never stolen anything and I'm not about to start now.

After our snack, we continued walking and soon caught up with other people we knew. Near Trzic (about 11 miles from Kranj) we met a woman who used to live in our home town of Ziri. She warned us to go back home. She said there was a large number of partisans up ahead, along the Drava river, and they were not allowing anyone to get across. But she

didn't scare us off.

(I learned later that the partisans wanted to capture the home guard troops and possibly prevent the civilian refugees from leaving. The partisans also hoped to extend Yugoslavia's borders to include the "Koroško" region of Austria, where there is a large Slovenian population).

As we walked on, we came closer to the Ljubelj mountain pass and the road became steeper and more difficult. Alongside the road, we saw more and more abandoned and broken bicycles, motorcycles and automobiles.

Just before night fell, we finally reached the Ljubelj pass and tunnel (about 17 miles from Kranj). There was a very large crowd of people waiting to go through the tunnel. Part of our group decided to go through the tunnel, but Cilka and I de-

cided to stay in a nearby barracks. We found some empty rooms with beds and even a clean kitchen in a part of the barracks that had been a hospital for workers who were building the tunnel. (Another part of the barracks had been used by the Germans for French prisoners of war.) On one of the rooms we found a sign that said, "Dr. Bauer." (Later I read in the newspaper that this doctor was tried for war crimes: he "treated" sick prisoners by injecting them with gasoline.)

Across the street from the barracks we found a bus full of coffee, tea, macaroni and other food. Nearby we found a large container of butter, and buried in the hillside we found huge quantities of potatoes. Now we have food and a place to sleep until we decide what to do next.

(To Be Continued)

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Dorothy Urbancich
Jim, Madeline and
James Debevec, and
John Urbancich Family

Christmas in America

In America, Christmas is both a religious and a secular holiday, filled with significance for both young and old. As we know it, Christmas is a time for family and friends. It is a time for giving thanks and opening presents. And it is a time of song and lights and joy.

And many of the ways in which Americans celebrate came from the early settlers, who brought European Christmas customs with them across the Atlantic.

But it hasn't always been such a festive occasion. For the Puritans of New England, Christmas was indeed NOT a time for parties. In fact, it was banned in Massachusetts from 1659 until 1681. During that time, a fine of five shillings was assessed against anyone who dared to observe the holiday.

Christmas was first declared a legal holiday in America in 1836 in Alabama.

Death Notices

ANNE LARKO

Anne Larko (nee Kolar), 99, wife of the late Emery; mother of Patricia (Donald) Mocnik, Barbara Roland (deceased), and Lucille (Robert) Armour; grandmother of 14; great-grandmother of 10; sister of the late Jennie Debevec, Mary, Michael, and Rose.

Died Dec. 15, 2001.

Mass of Christian Burial Tuesday, Dec. 18 at Villa Sancta Anna Nursing Home in Beachwood at 11 a.m. officiated by her grandson Rev. Fr. James Armour of Nashville. Family received friends from 10 to 11 a.m. prior to the Mass. Interment Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements by Brickman and Sons Funeral Home.

The one who does not have Christmas in his heart will not find it under the tree.

"What means this glory round our feet," The Magi mused, "more bright than morn!" And voices chanted clear and sweet, "Today the Prince of Peace is born." — James R. Lowell.

Icicle Ornaments

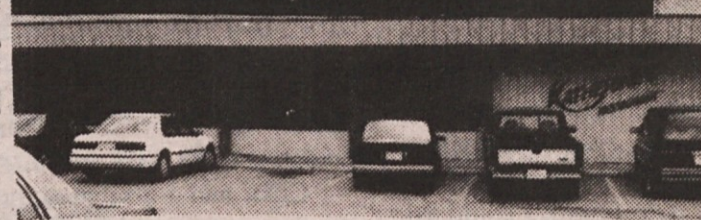
Icicles are a nostalgic reminder of a story which legend says took place on a cold December night long ago.

As a snowstorm raged throughout the forest, a little child seeking shelter crept under the thick, strong branches of a sturdy fir tree. He remained protected there until the storm had passed.

The next morning the grateful child thanked the fir tree.

After learning that it had been the Christ Child who had been kept safe under its branches, the fir tree wept with joy. The fir tree's tears froze upon its boughs as icicles, which glistened and shone in the bright winter sun.

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Reserve ½ cup flour. Blend flour and 1 cup buttermilk into butter mixture.

Have ready:

1 lb. orange slices, cut

6 oz. chopped dates

2 cups chopped nuts

2 cups flaked coconut

Add to batter and mix well. Pour into well greased and floured bundt pan. Bake at 300 degrees for 2 hours.

Glaze with:

2 cups powdered sugar 1 cup orange juice

Blend, pour slowly over hot cake. Leave in pan overnight. Remove from pan and slice. -- Can be frozen. ✕

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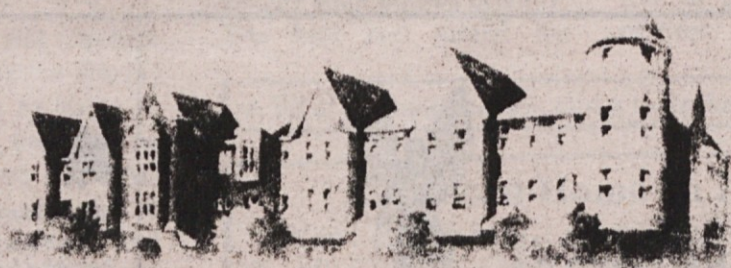
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Authentic Wine Cellar Shown at Martinovanje

CLEVELAND – On Saturday, October 27, Stajerski Klub of Greater Cleveland unveiled a life-size display of an authentic Stajerski wine cellar and wine press at the Slovenian National Home for *Martinovanje*, their annual event which celebrates the feast of St. Martin, and marks the moment during the year when the wine vintage has matured and is ready to taste.

Romano Vitulich and Charles Gliha of *Woodworking Craftsmen Inc.*, took painstaking detail to research, design and craft models that are one-third scale of the original proportions in order to educate attendees of the historical process of wine production. Vitulich, who currently serves as vice president of Stajerski Klub felt the annual celebration could be enhanced by visuals that serve as a reminder of beautiful Slovenian traditions.

The custom of celebrating Martinovanje originated in recognition of St. Martin of Tours, a principal apostle of France and one of the first bishops honored by the Church of the West. He died in 397 A.D., but continues to be honored throughout Europe on his feast day of November 11. Over time, it became customary to appreciate a fine vintage with tribute to St. Martin, and thus the tradition began.

On display was the *Hram* – a building which occupies a prime position in the Slovenian winery (Gor'ca). For it is here that the estate's principal product, wine, is stored under lock and key. Often 30-foot long and of substantial height, the windowless structure is built of heavy timbers, a wood-less floor, and, in the Stajerska region, a thatched roof. It is sometimes partitioned to provide a place for field workers to gather for lunch or to seek shelter from rain.

Also on display will be the *Presa* (Stiskalnica) that is one-third scale model of the machine in which wine is extracted from grapes. The tool typically stands as tall as a van and is made, in Stajer-

ska, of heavy wood timbers – although its design varies in different regions. It stands permanently in the open air next to the Hram, with a single roof to protect it from the weather.

Grapes are loaded into the central drum, and pressure is applied by turning the wood screw and its stone weight. Perforations in the wood drum allow the juice to escape into the pan and travel through the pipe into the waiting barrels.

This display is awe-inspiring and evoked nostalgia for all those who used

similar tools in their original Slovenian homes and environments. Vitulich and Gliha appreciate the rich history and are pleased to accentuate this annual event by providing a historical context. This

new display further enhanced the miniature wheel barrels containing real grapes they created last year as dramatic table centerpieces for every guest to enjoy. They hope that their artistic creations will continue to inspire celebration and a deepening respect for Slovenian custom.



The Christmas stable made every year by Louis Oblak. This was his pride and joy every Christmas. May he rest in peace with the angels up above.

Year End Musings

by JOHN R. TELICH,
CLU, ChFC
(216) 289-7729

Our country is now in the midst of the most horrific tragedies trying to determine who and where these terrorists are holding out so as to determine our most precise and expeditious manner to quell their actions.

Many folks are now looking to the certainty of the guarantees provided by annuities. The gyrations of the market do not seem to fulfill investment objectives. **Deferred Annuities** allow funds to accumulate without current taxes and **Immediate Annuities** are able to provide an income stream for one's lifetime. You cannot outlive an annuity income stream and many benefits may still be payable for the

remainder of the guaranteed period.

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*

My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He said to try to be in the first group because there was less competition there.

--Indira Gandhi

*

When you are making a success of something, it's not work. It's a way of life. You enjoy yourself because you are making your contributions to the world.

--Andy Granatelli

*

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THE GIFT

T'was the night before Christmas and he lived all alone.
 In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
 I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
 And to see just who in this home did live.
 I looked all about, a strange sight to see,
 No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.
 No stocking on the mantle, just boots filled with sand.
 On the wall hung pictures from far distant lands.
 With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
 A sober thought came through my mind.
 For this house was different, dark and so dreary.
 I found the home of a soldier, one I could see clearly.
 The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
 Curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.
 The face was so gentle, the room in disorder,
 Not how I had pictured a United States soldier.
 Was this the hero of whom I'd just read.
 Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?
 I realized the families that I saw this night
 Owed their lives to our soldiers, willing to fight.
 Soon round the world the children would play,
 And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.
 They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,
 Because of the soldiers like the one lying here.
 I couldn't help but wonder how many lay alone,
 On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.
 The very thought brought a tear to my eye.
 I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
 The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
 "Santa don't cry, this life is my choice.
 I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more.
 My life is my God, my country, my corps."
 The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep.
 I couldn't control it. I continued to weep.
 I kept watch for hours, so silent and still
 As we both shivered from the cold night's chill.
 I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night
 This guardian of honor, so willing to fight.
 Then the soldier rolled over with a voice soft and pure
 Whispered, "Carry on, Santa. It's Christmas Day. All is secure."

One look at my watch and I knew he was right.
 "Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

Thanks to **Patricia Habat**
 for submitting this poem.

Every ray of light we shed upon others is reflected upon ourselves.
 --Ellen G. White

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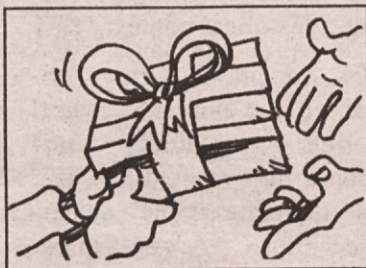
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Christmas Vacation

As is our custom, there will be no Ameriška Domovina (American Home) newspaper printed the week between Christmas and New Year's.



The custom of observing Boxing Day in Australia, Canada, Great Britain and New Zealand is said to come from the traditional British custom of handing out boxed gifts to servants and employees on the day after Christmas.

"The joy of brightening other lives, bearing each others' burdens, easing others' loads and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for us the magic of Christmas."
 -- W.C. Jones

Christmas is not just a day... It is a spirit which should permeate... our lives. To believe that the spirit of Christmas does change lives.. is the essence of our faith in Christ.

At Christmas I no more desire a rose/
 Than wish a snow in May's newfangled mirth;
 But like of each thing that in season grows.
 --William Shakespeare
 Love's Labour Lost

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Anise Cookies

Carol Koch gave me this recipe for Italian anise cookies.

Ingredients:

- 3 eggs
- 1 t anise extract
- ½ C butter, melted and cooled
- ¾ C sugar
- 1 T baking powder
- ¼ C milk
- 3 C flour

Directions:

Beat eggs, anise, butter and sugar in mixer. Add baking powder, milk and flour until batter is elastic and pulling away from the sides of the bowl. Roll into shapes and bake on ungreased cookie sheet 8 - 10 minutes at 350°. (Hint: these rise a lot, so don't put them close together on the sheet).

While still hot, frost with powdered sugar and milk mixture. You can add some anise extract and food coloring, if desired.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh
 Our Family Recipes

Double Divine Chocolate Cookie

- 2 pkg. (16 squares) Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate, divided
- ¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ tsp. Baking Powder
- 2 cups chopped nuts (optional)

HEAT oven to 350°F. Coarsely chop 8 squares (1 pkg.) of the chocolate; set aside. MICROWAVE remaining 8 squares chocolate in large microwavable bowl on HIGH 1-2 minutes. Stir until chocolate is melted and smooth. Stir in sugar, butter, eggs and vanilla. Stir in flour and baking powder. Stir in reserved chopped chocolate and nuts. Drop by ¼ cupfuls onto ungreased cookie sheet. BAKE 12 to 13 minutes or until cookies are puffed and feel set to the touch. Cool on cookie sheet 1 minute. Transfer to wire rack to cool completely. Makes about 1½ dozen cookies.

Christmas Radio Show

Mario Kavcic will host an International music Christmas radio program on Christmas Day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on WATJ 1560 in Chardon, Ohio.

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Christmas Donation
Thanks to **Belokranjski Klub** who sent in a \$100.00 donation to the American Home newspaper.

Donation
Thanks to **West Park Slovenian Home**, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland for the \$20.00 donation. Rudy Pivik writes, "Keep the news coming."



Christmas gift
Thanks to **Stefan and Sonja Durjava** of Euclid, OH who sent in a \$20.00 Christmas donation.

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Keep sending the good news and great stories. Being Slovenian is the greatest.
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Thanks to the **American Slovene Club** of Greater Cleveland who donated \$50.00 to the American Home newspaper.

Donation
Thanks to **Helen and John Kozlevchar** of Willowick, OH who sent in a donation of \$20.00.

Donation
Thanks to **Steffie Smolic** of Cleveland, OH who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to tour guide **Mimi Stibil** of Parma Hts., OH for the \$20.00 donation.

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Thanks to **Martin Tominc** of Willowick, OH who renewed his subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to **B. Svetlic** of Baltimore, MD who donated \$20.00.

Donation
Thanks to world travelers **Marie and Rudy Pivik** of Middleburg Hts., OH who sent in a \$20.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to readers **Millie and Fran Virant** of Euclid, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to **Anna R. and Joseph Zgonc** of Willowick, OH for their donation of \$20.00.

Donation
Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stalcar** of Milbrae, CA who for their donation of \$20.00.

Donation
Thanks to **Francisek E. Kuhar** of Lyndhurst, OH for the \$20.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to members of **TABOR** who sent in a \$50.00 Christmas donation.

Donation
Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lamovec** of Richmond Hts., OH for the \$25.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to author **Mara** and artist **Gary Hull** of Lakewood, OH who gave a \$15.00 donation to the Ameriška Domovina.

Donation
Thanks to **SNPJ Circle #2 Junior Chorus** who donated \$20.00 to the American Home newspaper.

Donation
Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Anonymous** of Wickliffe, OH for the \$150.00 donation.

Donation
Thanks to **Col (Ret.) Thomas J. and Jo Ann Zgonc Strauss** of Harker Heights, TX who donated \$50.00 to the Ameriška Domovina.

Donation
Thanks to **Raymond Mlakar** of Parma Hts., OH who donated \$30.00 to the Ameriška Domovina.

Donation
Thanks to **Richard and Mary Sterle** of Euclid, OH who donated \$20.00 to the American Home newspaper.

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Thanks to **Mary Zimmerman** of South Euclid, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation to the American Home newspaper.

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Coming Events

Friday, Dec. 28
St. Vitus Christmas Choir concert of traditional Christmas songs, 6:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church (Holmes Ave.)

Sunday, Dec. 30
St. Vitus Christmas Choir concert of traditional Christmas songs, 3 p.m. in St. Vitus Church.

Feb. 1, 2, 3
Slovenian Ski Weekend at Windham, NY. Call John F. Kamin 718-424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 3
St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School annual family-style dinner, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Adults \$11; children \$5. Take-outs available.

February 17-24
Slovenian Ski Trip to Steamboat, CO. Only \$1195. For information call Ivan Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 24
St. Vitus Slovenian Language School annual benefit dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish auditorium.
Sunday, March 10
St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School breakfast 8:45 a.m. to 12 noon featuring homemade sausage and crepe. Adults \$6.00, children \$3.00.

Saturday, March 16
43rd Annual Slovenian Man and Woman of the Year Awards Banquet at Slovenian National Home, 6417 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Serving 4 p.m. Program, 6 p.m. Donation \$20. John Telich and Jean Krizman are Main Honorees.

Sunday, April 7
Super Button Box Bash 20 - Slovenian Junior Chorus at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid.

Friday, April 12
St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School Reverse raffle at Slovenian Home, Holmes Avenue to benefit the "Discover Slovenia - 2002" tour.

Sunday, July 28
Slovenian School of St. Vitus parish summer picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Sept. 22
St. Lawrence Church, 3547 E. 80th St., Newburgh, Cleveland, concludes 100th year anniversary with Mass celebrated by Bishop Anthony Pilla, Bishop A. Edward Pevec, and Bishop Roger Gries. A dinner follows at Slovenian National Home on E. 80th St. For information call parish office at (216) 341-0496.

Pepper . . . and Salt



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Our Slovenian Christmas

(Continued from last week)

by JOE GLINSEK

(Conclusion)

Dad was a painful perfectionist when trimming the tree. In spite of its shape, he could always make it look presentable. An example of his fastidious care, was how he draped each strand of tin-foil individually, so it looked like an icicle. (To this day I call them 'tinsel' which is wrong). These could have been from my parent's first Christmas as well. Impossible, you say? If you could see him unroll a thick wad of newspaper, remove and place each single strand on the tree, and weeks later remove them one by one to rest side by side in the rolled newspaper, you'd believe it. Being so inordinately meticulous about his icicles, you can imagine how carefully those precious glass ornaments were wrapped and stored. Patience and frugality were two of his many virtues. Sad to say, I inherited only a few.

Our tree was usually decorated on a Sunday before Christmas. As a teenager, it drove me nuts to watch him, but he did wonders with those crippled trees. By now, I was trusted to check our strings of lights - they all conked out even if only one bulb was bad. During this tedious job, I acquired an advanced degree in 'sotto voce' cursing. Once, in my late teens, I asked to decorate the tree by myself, thinking it would be a real kick. Dad accepted my offer and did not watch or interfere. My job was made more pleasant with surreptitious doses of Christmas 'spirit.'

I did reasonably well with the lights and ornaments, and even tried doing the icicles like Dad. But even stone sober, this tedium would have been too much. The neat single strands graced only a couple of branches. The rest were applied by pinching little globs of silver foil and flinging it at the bare spots with the flourish of a Picasso dashing off an abstract painting. I was satisfied with the quick results, but Dad just smiled. He wouldn't lie by praising my efforts, nor did he criticize my childish act of impatience, but it must have required great restraint. He never 'fixed' my icicles on 'my tree.' A saintly man, my father.

That was the first and last time I decorated a tree while living at home. Under Dad's patient hands, the decorations fortunately obscured most of the tree whose needles started dropping from

day one, disappearing from under the ornaments at a rapid pace. The short needle fir was the usual Christmas tree sold at the time, and were it not for the blanket of decorations and lights, it would have looked like the skeleton of a large fish within a week. The mere vibration of walking through the room produced an audible shower of needles dropping on tissue paper and boxes. Our homemade "tree stand" lacked a water reservoir, and the dry heat from our furnace quickly stripped the tree. No matter how bad it looked, it stayed up until January 6th, a day known by any of three names: The Epiphany, the Feast of the Magi, or Little Christmas.

That's about how Christmas played out in the 1930s, and 40s. We also sang traditional and Slovenian carols around the piano. Music was in our gene pool, and it was ordained that I would start piano lessons at age six. Mom had also studied on the old "Kurtzman" upright, and she had met Dad in the church choir. The Slovenian carols we all loved were in a tattered ancient book of hymns that has long since disappeared. "Glej Zvezdice Bozje," (Look at the Christmas Stars) was one of our favorites. I can still play the melody, but some of the words have escaped me.

Uncle Mike was "an easy touch," especially around Christmas. Sentimental songs like "Roses of Picardy," "The Rosary," and "Moonlight and Roses," were always good for a few coins in pocket change. I had only to catch him in the living room and tease him with a few other tunes. I played his usual list of requests. They brought tears to his eyes and money to my pocket. Mike was not only sentimental, but very generous.

I've written about our Christmas customs and traditions, but there was one I shared only with Dad - we played our annual game of chess. The beautiful inlaid board and a handsome set of carved wood pieces was a gift from Mom to Dad, probably for his 40th birthday. I remember him teaching me the rudiments of the game sometime before I finished grade school in 1943. I still treasure the board. Here in Florida, I had it coated with the thick epoxy that's used on restaurant tables, added four legs and made it into a table. The chess set is complete except for one rook which was lost.

We played on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon sometime between Christmas and

New Year. I never won, and either Dad had never heard of the "three minute rule," or he ignored it. (I never heard of it until years later). Often I had time to make sandwiches while he contemplated his next move and several beyond that ahead. At that age, I was very impatient with the deadly slow pace of the game. I became less so as I grew older. And now, I understand how much he looked forward to our Christmas game.

As I'm waxing sentimental, let me also include a bit about Uncle Mike who took so much ribbing about the crooked Christmas trees he brought home. After he died in 1974, I was cleaning out the coal bin in our old house for my mother. Reaching up to pull the chain on the light bulb, I noticed something between the joists above the door. I called Mom down from the kitchen to show her my find - she knew nothing about it.

Tucked in the dark recess was a dusty bundle of round sticks with marks on their ends. The first one I pulled out was a short length of a small tree trunk with little nubs where the branches had been snipped. After brushing off the coal dust, it had a definite 'piney' smell, and the marks were legible. Written on the end with 'indelible' purple pencil was '1971.' There were more than a dozen others, one for

every year from 1958 through 1973. Visions of quick-shedding short-needled fir tree flashed through my mind. These were pieces cut from the trunks of Christmas trees that Mike bought and put up himself. And, it took Mom but an instant to connect the dates. 1958 was the year Dad died in January, and our twin girls were born on his birthday, December 3rd, just in time for their first Christmas. 1973 was the last Christmas for Uncle Mike - he missed 1974's by just a couple of

months.

We felt tinges of guilt for teasing him all those early years about his crooked trees, and both of us got a little misty-eyed thinking about Mike and his sentimental soul. It reminded me of past Decembers, and how lucky I was to have nothing but fond memories of Christmas.

Joe Glinsek "Grew up Slovenian" in Collinwood and now lives in Sarasota, Fla. This article is excerpted from a book he hopes to have published.

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My Adventures Discovering American Christmas Customs

by ANN ZAKELJ

We came to America in 1950. Ata found a job in a factory on St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland, and Mami soon joined him there. An elderly lady, Mrs. Stanonik, took care of me at her home on Bonna Avenue during the day. She was a loving woman with a daughter and grandchildren of her own, and I was fortunate enough to be in her charge.

My first summer there was spent in Mr. Stanonik's huge garden which overflowed with flowers, vegetables, and fruit trees, and chickens who picked at the scattered feed and pecked at my bare toes.

I had many adventures in their acres of back yard, always warily avoiding the compost pit at the very back, and careful to stay on the path which formed a gigantic rounded A through lush vegetation. (Many years later, long after the Stanonik's had gone to their rest, I was disappointed to discover that their back yard was typical of the lots on St. Clair, small and cramped and not the endless Eden that I had encountered as a child.) Mrs. Stanonik was a terrific cook and made me yummy dishes like Aunt Jemima pancakes dripping with Log Cabin syrup, and Jell-O and bananas. To this day, when I have these staples, I remember her.

But this food wasn't the only American tradition that she introduced me to...

A Visit to Santa Claus

At Christmas time, Mrs. Stanonik took her granddaughter Penny and me to Higbee's to see Santa Claus. I was clueless. I had already received my gifts on the feast of St. Nicholas from the saintly bishop himself, and I thought it very odd that this strange bearded man dressed in red velvet had me sitting on his lap telling him what I wanted for Christmas.

I told him that I'd like a doll; it was my heart's desire. So when he asked me what else I wanted, I was dumbstruck! What else could I want? Under pressure now to come up with another wish, I looked around me and saw painted on the surrounding walls huge wooden soldiers. They must have been 20 feet in height, with blue and red uniforms and tall black hats. That's as good a gift as any, I thought, and blurted out to the round stranger, "I want a BIG

MAN!" For a three-year-old Slovenian, that was as much

English as I could string together. It's my first Christmas memory, but still vivid after all these years.

Special Delivery

In the 1950s the Christmas season for us officially began on Thanksgiving morning. As a teenager, my brother Miro worked at E-J Hardware on St. Clair Avenue helping the owners (Joe Penko and Ed March) with odd jobs, one of which was distributing their annual Christmas catalog to the entire neighborhood.

Early Thanksgiving morning, my brother would load our little wagon with Ed and Joe's Christmas flyers, and the three of us, Miro, Milena and I, would start our trek. Systematically, we moved from house to house, street to street, block to block, stashing the flyers into mailboxes. I avoided the dilapidated houses, those that had crumbling walks and front yards overgrown with bramble bushes because maybe, Johnny Verbec lived there. Sometimes, I would see him walking down Prosser Avenue, dark, lanky, unshaven and dressed in a long black coat which was at least once, I recall, around a little mutt he was carrying. He looked like he was rescuing those mutts, but all of us neighborhood kids knew the truth: he ate the dogs (we imagined).

We trudged on, warm breath escaping in little puffs, noses red and fingers not quite frozen, delivering the advertising to nearly every house between East 52nd and East 72nd Streets, from St. Clair to Superior Avenues. By afternoon we were tired, cold, hungry, and ready to devour the Thanksgiving turkey that Mami had made.

December 6th

Sveti Miklavz came to our house each December 6th sometime during those dark, indistinct hours between supper and bedtime. I know, because right after school, I would check my room only to find that it was as I had left it, my bed covered with its chenille spread and nothing else. But by bedtime, I would walk into the room and discover the bed heaped with wonderful presents, all left by the kindly saint.

A shiny apple. Cookies and figs and Hershey chocolate bars. A navy blue sweater with white and red embroidered flowers. Matching gloves. A minia-

ture stove and icebox, both made of metal, with little red plastic pots and pans and tiny little ice trays. A set of aluminum dishes that came in a big box decorated with pictures of food, like coffee that you could cut out in a disk and stick into the coffee cup so that it looked like you were drinking real coffee.

A doll with auburn hair done in bangs and braids that were tied with little blue ribbons and wearing a straw hat and white socks with blue shoes and a blue dress with a gauzy pinafore that had the ABC's printed on it and carrying one of those magic notepads where the writing disappears when you lift the gray plastic sheet and... and... Just how did Sveti Miklavz deliver all these marvelous gifts without my ever seeing or hearing or sensing him?

When I was a little older, I recall looking under beds and in closets and even rifling through Miro's briefcase for packages stashed by Ata and Mami, but as a very young child I wasn't preoccupied with the logistics of their delivery because the answer was so simple: It was a miracle!

Miklavzevanje

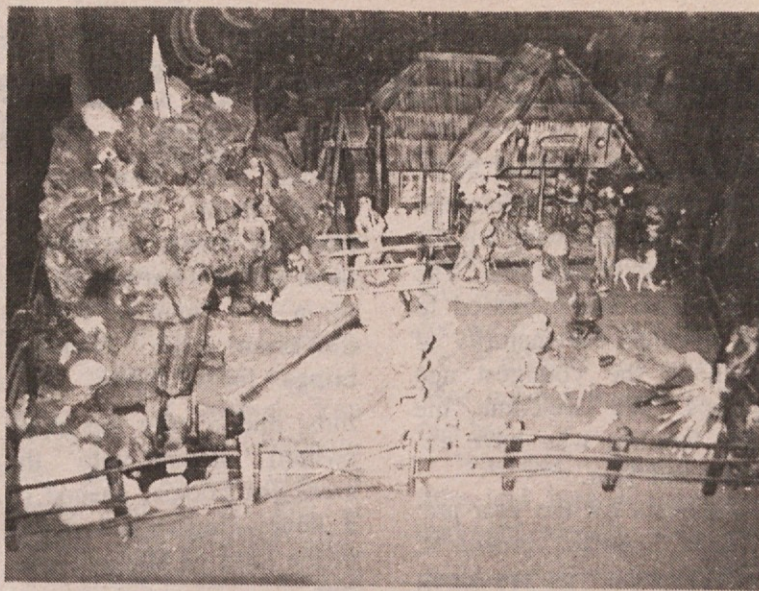
I remember how my knees shook as I sat listening for my name to be called. Back in those days, the red and black-clad devils roamed the small auditorium, hissing at the terrified children and rattling their chains on the floor. As we approached the stage and Sveti Miklavz, we had to run the gauntlet of horned *parkeljni* anxiously awaiting to snatch us up and take us to hell.

Of course, there were as many angels to guide us to the saint, but never enough. A half dozen victims invariably disappeared behind the scrim, their screams slowly tapering off to moans

of agony. I often wonder how any of us kids ever survived that psychological abuse.

We students, though, were especially pleased when a teacher or a priest was hauled off. One year, Mr. Intihar, the local insurance salesman, was taken by the devils. A few weeks later, I saw his picture and ad in the Ameriška Domovina, and then actually saw him walking down St. Clair. Was I confused? You betcha. I had thought he was burning in hell.

Miklavz disbursed the presents. Everyone who attended or helped at Slove-



nian School received a brown paper bag wrapped in red cellophane and tied with a silver ribbon. Sticking out of the bag was a *siba* or switch (stick), a white branch sprayed with silver glitter. In the bag were cookies, an apple or orange, figs and nuts, and a big gingerbread cookie with a paper St. Nicholas stuck to the icing. It was such a simple gift, but wonderful.

The pageants haven't changed much. The devils, using chains and pop-flares and flashlights under their chins, still scare the hell out of the little kids. The angels now wear twinkling lights in their hair instead of a star tied around their foreheads.

The cast of characters is the same, although the actors change from year to year, from decade to decade. And the goodies still come in a paper bag; the red cellophane has been replaced by plastic, and the switch is just a branch without the paint and glitter. In the bag, the usual: cookies, an apple, some candy, figs and nuts, a St. Nick cookie and one of the devils with a long red tongue made of satin ribbon attached with a dab of icing.

At a recent pageant, after 40-some years, my name was called by Sveti Miklavz. I was too surprised to realize that I wasn't frightened by the devils. I walked across the stage and accepted the gift from the saint, thanked him with a "Najlepsa hvala!" and sped past the devils who hissed at me and rattled their chains at my feet. I had gotten the goodies once again, unscathed.

Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve I envisioned my American friends and their families as if in a Norman Rockwell painting. Some were gathered around the Christmas tree singing carols and drinking eggnog, while others strung popcorn and baked gingerbread cookies. After all, isn't this how every American spends the night before Christmas?

On Christmas Eve at our house, we prayed the rosary.

How I loathed it. After supper, Ata and Mami knelt down before the sofa and chair in our dimly lit living

room and, giving us The Stare, began the prayers, "V imenu Oceta, in Sina, in Svetega Duha..." I can't speak for my siblings, but I remember how reluctant I was to join in.

Last year's ruse, a stomach ache, couldn't possibly work this year, I was sure, so I fell to my knees in surrender. With every bead, every response, every 'amen', I counted the prayers and mentally calculated the number remaining until our release from captivity.

At the end of the Fifty Joyful Mystery, I would leap up, only to be stared down again as Mami began the Sorrowful Mysteries. A groan, barely audible, escaped from my parched throat. One-third down; two-thirds to go. We were praying the entire rosary. Ten Hail Mary's times 15 decades, that's 150, not counting the Our Father's and Glory Be's and the little Slovenian epilogues tacked on to the end of every prayer. No one, I thought had ever experienced this much suffering, not even Dominic Savio when he slept on crushed walnuts.

Eventually, the final Doxology was said and the last rosary bead fingered. We rose from our penitent poses, ready to begin the second half of the annual ritual, the blessing of the house. Ata took a tin pie plate sprinkled with incense that had been burning on top of our Grand stove while Mami prepared the holy water. Then the two would begin the solemn procession through the house.

We followed them as they blessed every nook and every corner of every room. Up to the attic and down to the basement we proceeded, until we reached the crawl-space where Ata had buried dozens of gallons of his homemade wine. With a grand gesture, he wafted the incense toward the opening. Mami, gently mocking his ceremony, sprinkled what was left of the holy water onto the buried, aging vino. I can still see them now, trying unsuccessfully to stifle their laughter as we said our last amen's.

(Continued on page 10)

About St. Mary's Slovenian School

Slovenian School at St. Mary's in Collinwood is in full swing for the 2001-2002 school year. The enrollment has increased to 46 students, the majority of them in the youngest age groups. We welcome the new families who have enrolled this year.

Officers for the year are: Marija Sedmak, president; Julie Tromba, vice president; Marie Kushner, treasurer; Silviya Pisorn, secretary; Margie Koerwitz, corresponding secretary; Justi Novak, kitchen manager; Jovo Mejak, refreshment manager. We are thankful to have a great group of parents who volunteer their time whenever there is a planned event. We also thank the parish and extended Slovenian community for their continued support of our school.

The 7 classroom groups are organized more by ability than grade, allowing for a better pace. The classes can be structured less formally because of the smaller groups, allowing for more group work. The books and worksheets are supplemented with the use of music, discussion, drama, blackboard activities, posters, flash cards, puzzles, games, and other hands-on activities. This helps the students maintain interest in learning.

Standing outside the classroom doors you can hear the 4-year-olds playing *Raca, Raca, Gos* (Duck, Duck, Goose) and imitating the sounds that a *krava* (cow) and other barnyard animals make. The alphabet is taught with a song composed by talented musician and elementary singing teacher Mike Dolinar. Eight-year-olds are learning geography while assembling a challenging version of a jigsaw puzzle of Slovenia. As they work, they learn the capital city, the regions, and proudly point out where *stara mama* and *stara ata* are from (Where is Ribnica, anyway?).

Sometimes children may spend the last few minutes of the day playing "Hangman," but with a twist - all the words must be in Slovenian. This encourages them to spell words like *Ljubljana* correctly.

They challenge each other by thinking up the hardest words they know. In the middle and upper grades, the workbooks are supplemented with children's magazines from Slovenia, such as "Ciciban." Of course, there are still the more classic activities, like memorizing poetry by France Preseren.

The students are encouraged to "experience" the tra-

ditions, rather than hearing about them. Writing St. Nicholas letters encourages them to figure out how to ask for a new truck or doll in Slovenian. St. Nicholas brings them apples, figs, nuts, and a *siba* (spanking switch) along with the *medenjak* cookie, shaped of a honey-gingerbread dough in the form of Miklavz himself.

And which student hasn't been caught singing *Mi angelčki smo mali* (We Are Little Angels) in the car or in their bedroom? (Graduates, confess that you still sing it when no one's around to hear you!)

For *pust* (Mardi-Gras), the students have cut out and deep fried *krofe* (doughnuts) after learning the recipe in Slovenian: *En funt pa pol moka* (A pound and a half of flour)...

They also make *butare* for Palm Sunday, arranging the pussy willow and greenery and bows into mini-arrangements to carry in the procession. For Easter, they dye *pirhi* (Easter eggs) the old-fashioned way: arrange leaves of parsley on the raw egg, wrap in a rag or old stocking, and hard boil in a pot with lots of onion skins at the bottom. When unwrapped, the eggs are a beautiful rust-orange with yellow or light-green imprints on them.

Some of the students will be able to discover Slovenia up close this July. The school is planning a "Discover Slovenia - 2002" two week trip, following a successful trip in 1998. We will be making repeat visits to a few favorite spots, but mostly visiting new places. The trip is designed for the children, with a variety of activities planned, in addition to sight-seeing. The group will travel by bus, visiting the cities and countryside.

We hope to participate in some of the traditional crafts of pottery, lace-making and wood crafting as we visit local artisans who have continued these and other traditions.

We are planning food-tastings of the wind-cured Kraski prsut hams, domaci kruh (bread), and other delicacies.

We will be visiting a few of the many breathtaking churches, historical points-of-interest, the breathtaking (literally) farms, and the crystal factory.

We are planning a boat ride, carriage ride, and a train ride. Other plans are to see the Sent-jakob puppeteers perform a fairy tale, attend the open-air spectacular theater production of

"Miklova Zala," and learn to dance a Belokrajnsko kolo.

Swimming was a big hit last time, so we will visit the hot springs and splash around in the Kolpa River bordering Croatia, and brave the freezing waters of the Bohinj mountain lake.

The students' trips are being partially financed by separate fund-raisers ongoing since last year (strudel sales, breakfasts, Gund Arena and Jacobs Field concessions, an upcoming Reverse Raffle) as well as by; donations. After our previous trip, Slovenian school took on a whole new meaning for those students who were able to go. We hope the 2002 trip will be as motivational.

This year's teaching staff is Kristina Sedmak, Anica Nemec, Monika Povirk, Marija Sedmak, Bine Lampic, Brigita Mejak, and Janez Nemec. They are assisted by the unbelievably dedicated Mr. Rudi Knez for drama and singing, and Mike Dolinar for preschool/elementary singing.

Last year's Slovenian school graduates Robert Zalik and Joey Stepec, are to be congratulated. Robert continues to be part of the parish activities as an altar server and occasional lector. He is currently attending Lake Catholic High School. Joey can be recognized playing his violin pieces at holiday Masses and in the pit orchestra for Miklavz and Mother's Day Slovenian school performances. He attends St. Ignatius High School. We thank their families and extended families for all their help over the years. Tom Stepec served as a past president of the Parent's Board, and Elizabeth Zalik is to be commended for her many years of hard work as an outstanding treasurer.

We hope Robert and Joey will continue their involvement in the Slovenian community and our parish and school community. *Cestitamo!*

--Silviya Pisorn



The one who does not have Christmas in his heart will not find it under the tree.



American Christmas (Continued from page 9)

The pungent smell of incense permeated the house. It clung to my clothes and to my hair, and to the pillows on my bed. I fell asleep, listening... not for the sound of reindeer hooves, but to the silent echoes of the prayers that we had prayed.

Jaslice

It was embarrassing not having a Christmas tree. Few of my friends were privy to this dark secret, and even my best friends didn't understand that a tree just wasn't a tradition in our family. Neither was exchanging gifts, or writing letters to Santa, or putting out milk and cookies on Christmas Eve. So my best friend Margie Frank, bless her heart, took pity on me annually, and invited me to her house on the day after the holiday. We spent a couple of hours together, she playing carols on the piano, showing me the gifts she had received and offered me that thin ribbon candy which always cut my tongue to shreds. But I didn't mind because this was the way Americans celebrated Christmas, and at Margie's house I always felt like I belonged.

At our house, the *jaslice*, the Nativity scene, was the focal point of the Christmas holidays. Miro bought a crèche at the hardware store, not just a stable with the basic figurines, but extra shepherds, and a little plastic bridge spanning a little plastic pond, and dozens of sheep that we scattered on a field made of paper flecked with little bits of green foam rubber.

He would make a hill by putting a cigar box under the paper, then poke a hole through the paper, edge it with red tissue and rig up a red light bulb, creating the shepherd's campfire. Some years we'd find moss and add it to the scene, all of which was delimited by a white plastic picket fence, historically inaccurate, but who cared? The diorama covered the entire top of the buffet which had a mirror at the back, doubling the drama of the scene.

I would spend long hours before it, rearranging the figures, adding the Christ Child on Christmas morning and the Three Kings on the feast of the Epiphany, listening to the tinny sound of Silent Night emerging from

the music box imbedded into the side of the stable. My American friends had their Santa Claus and their artificial trees strung with glaring lights and covered with tangled tinsel. But we had Bethlehem!

Fallen Angels

My friend Nusa and I weren't asked to be angels for the annual Miklavzevanje because we were The Troublemakers. While American kids played CYO basketball on Saturday mornings, we attended St. Vitus Slovenian School... under duress. In class, Nusa and I passed notes, giggled incessantly, and decorated our fingernails with aluminum foil while Gospodicina Bolha, a saint-in-the-making, tried to impart to us at least a modicum of Slovenian grammar, history and literature. Putting up with us for three hours a week was probably all she could take.

One Saturday after school, we just showed up at the pageant rehearsal, joined the others on stage, and learned the songs and dances. The choreographer, Gospod Krmavner, assumed we were legit, and the bona fide angels didn't seem to mind. We were in!

Mami made me a costume, the standard garb for a 1957 angel: a long white gown, sleeves and hem bordered with silver ribbon, and a silver star attached to a band that I wore around my forehead.

The pageant rarely changed. My classmates and I, dressed as angels and devils, performed songs from the operetta Miklavz Prihaja while an older boy, usually of high school age, played the part of Lucifer. Dressed in a long black cape with red satin lining, horns protruding from his forehead, Lucifer's job was to keep the younger devils in line by cracking his whip, rattling his chain, and giving them evil looks.

I wonder how many of those fledgling devils actually believed that he was truly Satan, imported from hell for this special assignment?

This particular year, the part was played by a rather tall young man, a student at Cathedral Latin High School, and a recent arrival from Slovenia. The details of the pageant are a blur, but I do remember seeing him in the following weeks and months, walking in the St. Clair neighborhood. Without fail, I would razz him, yelling, "Loocifer! LOOCIFER!" He ignored me. Years later, when we were dating, John would say to me, "You were such a pain..." And when our kids asked me, "How did you and Dad meet?" I'd reply, "Well... Dad was Lucifer and I... I was an angel."

A little humor for starters this month, thanks to Norma Grif.

Two moths got fed up with Cleveland winters and decided that the next winter they would meet in Florida and stay there until spring. The first year, the first moth ventured south and waited and waited for his friend, but the 2nd moth never showed up. The second year, the same thing happened. The 2nd moth was nowhere to be seen. The third year, late into the winter season, the missing moth finally arrived. His friend asked him, "What happened to you? I haven't seen you in over 2 years." The second moth, pale and emaciated, replied, "I couldn't come. I was caught in some Slovenian's wallet."

Guest speakers at November's HAP meeting were Jill Branthover and Patrick Petsche from the Petsche Group of Merrill Lynch. For the benefit of all the "Slovenian wallets" in attendance, Jill explained that investors need 3 things: patience (especially since Sept. 11th), discipline (making a financial plan and sticking to it), and balance (having a percentage of one's investment in stocks, bonds and cash).

To underscore the idea of patience, Jill presented market figures 60 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor which stood at -8%. One year later the market had rebounded to +2.2%. To lose patience and sell is to lose money in the long run.

Patrick suggested investments in tax-free bonds. Although their rates are lower, the fact that the interest in non-taxable makes their rate of return comparable to other bonds/stocks in the long run. He also outlined changes in Educational IRA's. Presently, one can deposit \$500 per year into these special tax-deferred accounts which, when applied to college costs, can be withdrawn tax free. However, beginning in 2002, the yearly maximum deposit in these IRA's will increase to \$2000, certainly a more realistic figure, given the ever-rising cost of a college education. These IRA's are perfect accounts for grandparents to set up for their grandchildren.

We were certainly pleased to have Patrick and Jill with us and grateful for the information they provided.

The remainder of the meeting was rather brief. A moment of silence was observed to honor the memory of "Fritz" Hribar, not only a Pensioner friend, but a long-

time friend to most of the Slovenian community. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

Kudos to Bill Zabukovec who improved our sound system and presented us with a portable microphone as well. As our hearing declines, we need all the audio related help we can get. Thanks, Bill.

Treasurer Louise Fujda is accepting dues for 2002. Payment must be made by Jan. 12th. Don't let that due-date slip by or you will be dropped from the list of active members.

To Art Tibyash, who has undergone double knee surgery, we send along get-well wishes from the entire HAP membership... And to all HAP shut-ins everywhere, please know that we keep you in our prayers at the start of each and every meeting.

By the time this report reaches you, our yearly Christmas Dinner will have already passed. There really is no better way to celebrate our "fellowship" as an organization than by taking part in this special afternoon each Christmas season in the company of old and new friends. Without a doubt, this event will always remain the highlight of the year.

To everyone, near and far, we wish for you and yours a truly blessed Christmas. For the New Year, it is our wish that from the personal introspection that most of us have experienced since Sept. 11th, will grow, both individually and collectively, a gentler, kinder and more loving spirit, not only among

us here in America, but throughout the world.

Finally, on a personal note, this HAP report will be my last. For a little more than 6 years now I have been the reporter and have enjoyed sharing news of activities, events and people that make this such a special organization. I have received wonderful support over that time from our Board and the membership in general. I find, however, that the words are no longer coming very easily and that getting an article ready seems to take an ever increasing amount of time. And so I believe that the time has come to turn the job over to a new correspondent who will bring a new and fresh perspective to future reports. I thank everyone most sincerely for their kind words and encouragement over these 6 years. It has been a true privilege to serve you.

Gratefully,
Myra Jerkic

Mr. Slakar's Walk Down Memory Lane



By RAY MLAKAR

Well before we get to the GI Party, time out for a couple of jokes. It seems that a man fell asleep in church and tumbled out of his seat. He woke up just as the minister was preaching about what the church needs. The man stood up and said, "What this church needs is seat belts." -- Okay, one more. Did you hear about the man who sat down at dusk and waited to see where the sun went? -- It failed to dawn on him.

Back to the Army and Basic Training and the first of many so-called GI Parties. I soon found out that they have a warped sense of humor for what they call a party. The sergeant comes back promptly at 1800 hours and said we would go to chow first, then the party afterwards. Chow. Odd dam, what is that? Well, we soon found out. But we wondered why didn't the sergeant just say, "We're going to have supper first, then the party afterward." After awhile you soon found out that those dudes have a language all their own. "Chow" was something else that I will talk about in later articles.

After chow, we went back to the barracks for the big GI Party because I am sure that most of us could hardly wait for the party to get started for the food at "chow" was nothing to write home about. The sergeant yells, "Are you mama's boys ready to party?" -- "Yes, sir," we reply. -- "You six dudes, come with me for the party supplies. A bunch of us yelled, "Be sure to bring back all the goodies you can."

Shortly, the six dudes and the sergeant came back with brooms, mops, buckets, GI soap, and bundles of newspapers. The sergeant yells, "You mama's boys start with hot buckets of soapie water. Use the scrub brushes and scrub the floor spotless because you may have to eat off them."

The sergeant has to be sick, we think. He calls this a GI party? We have got to talk to the chaplain about this because that cool cat needs help. The sergeant also hollers, "And don't forget the rafters above the windows." He was right, the captain did wear white gloves and I am sure a lot of us made a mental note to talk to the chaplain about him, too, and wearing white gloves when it is 90 degrees in the shade.

After a couple of hours the place smelled like a disinfected morgue. I know for I recall picking up quite a few bodies at the morgue. Boy, was I pooped. You heard all kinds of complaining and moaning like, "I never had to do this at home." The sergeant yells, "Sorry, but mummies are not allowed to do the house cleaning here... it's a man's job." Then came the windows. "Hey sarge, where is the Windex?" "It is in the bathroom dripping from the faucets. Use the newspaper, that's what it is for."

After it passes the white glove inspection, the captain gave the sergeant permission for us to go to the warehouse to pick up our beds. Unfortunately, they were not the four poster kind. Even when we got them to our barracks, we had to hose them off. Then we went back for the mattresses. What can I say? They were not Posturpedic. And I had just hoped that the soldier who had last slept on it was house trained.

Sheets and blankets were issued but we had to go through intense training on how to make up a bed. That no good yo-yo sergeant had us make up those beds a half dozen times before they were made up to his satisfaction. You had to make what they called a "white collar" spread, that is the white sheet folded back exactly eight inches. The sergeant carried a small ruler to check each bed.

The "U.S." emblem on the blanket had to be cen-

tered in the middle of the made-up bed. The blanket had to be made taught (tight) so that a quarter could bounce off of it. Boy I felt like some of the other soldiers that we would have a lot to discuss with the chaplain when we got to see him, for we felt that there were a lot of officers and sergeants who needed mental help -- real bad.

Whoopie. Finally bed time and here it was after midnight already. The sergeant yelled, "We blow the whistle at 05:30 (a.m.) Have your beds made, be washed, shaved and out in the company street by 06:00. Odd dam, was he kidding? Tomorrow is a full day: hair cuts and uniforms. One wise kid from New York says, "Sarge, I'll sleep in since I do not need a hair cut. I just had one before I left New York." -- "Sure," said the sergeant, "Anything you say, son. Get to bed and say your night prayers, you'll need them." Well, he did not have to remind me for I was gonna have a heart-to-heart talk with God about getting all those yo-yo's some mental help and send us a new crew as our training instructors. For some reason God was not listening or perhaps those yo-yo's had more pull with God than I did.

Sorry, this is the end of the column for 05:30 comes mighty early for a city slicker like me. See ya in the next article for I am sure the sergeant will not lose his whistle. In the meantime May the good Lord bless and watch over all of you and without fail -- God Bless America. This is one time in our history that we need all the blessings and help God can give us.



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Wouldn't life be worth
the living;
Wouldn't dreams be
coming true...
If we kept the Christ-
mas spirit.
All the whole year thru?

Heap on more wood!—the wind
is chill; But let it whistle as it
will, We'll keep our Christmas
merry still.

—Sir Walter Scott



The time draws near the
birth of Christ:
The moon is hid; the
night is still;
The Christmas bells from
hill to hill
Answer each other in the
mist.

Four voices of four
hamlets round,
From far and near, on
mead and moor,
Swell out and fail, as if a
door
Were shut between me
and the sound.
Each voice four changes
on the wind,
That now dilate, and now
decrease,
Peace and goodwill,
goodwill and peace,
Peace and goodwill, to
all mankind.
—Alfred, Lord Tennyson

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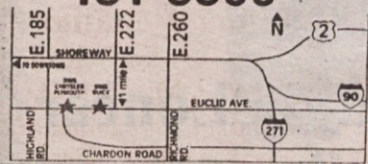
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in srečno Novo leto!*

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Death Notices

ANTOINETTE GERBEC
Antoinette Gerbec (nee Arko), 91.

Mrs. Gerbec belonged to St. Cecelija lodge of SDZ (AMLA), St. Mary Magdalene lodge of KSKJ, St. Vitus Altar Society, and St. Clair Pensioners.

She was the wife of the late John; mother of Richard (deceased) (Dorothy), Nancy Slapnik (Don), and Antoinette Heinen (Joseph); beloved grandmother of Louis Slapnik, Shelli March, Mark Gerbec, Leslie Park, Jay Gerbec, Laurie Spreng, Scott Gerbec, Sean Mickey, and Kristen Mickey; great-grandmother of Lisa March; great grandmother of 13.

She was the sister of Jennie Primc, Mary Turek, Sophie Turek, Louis Arko, Joseph Arko, Frank Arko, Frances Arko, and Victor Arko (all deceased).

Family received friends at The Zak Funeral Home on Friday, Dec. 14 from 3-8 p.m.

Funeral Mass on Saturday, Dec. 15 with 11:30 a.m. Mass in St. Vitus Church. Interment in Calvary Cemetery.

JOSEPH BOJC

Joseph Bojc, 76, a 51-year resident of Cleveland, formerly of Slovenia, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2001.

Mr. Bojc was born in Slovenia on May 2, 1925.

He belonged to Slovenska Pristava, Tabor, and K.S.K.J.

Mr. Bojc was employed as a cabinet maker for Leiden Cabinet Co. of Cleveland for over 10 years, retiring in 1992.

Mr. Bojc is survived by his wife, Poldi; children Joseph (Diana), John (Janice), Marjeta (Pete) Laughlin; grandchildren Joseph, Philip, Brad, Ashley, and William; sisters Francka and Anna; and nieces. His brother Frank, is deceased.

Friends were received at Brickman & Sons Funeral Home on Wed., Dec. 5.

Funeral took place on Thursday, Dec. 6. Burial in All Souls Cemetery in Char-don, OH.

In Memory

Thanks to **Karl Gorisek** of Willoughby Hills, OH who donated \$15.00 in memory of **Barbara Olson**, well known television commentator and author, who was a passenger killed aboard one of the airplanes which terrorists crashed on September 11.

In Memory

Thanks to **Angela Ambrosic** of Euclid, OH who donated \$20.00 to the American Home newspaper in memory of **Frances Ambrosic**.



In Loving Memory of the
36th anniversary of our dear
Mother, Grandmother,
and Great-Grandmother



Mary Hrastar

passed away Dec. 25, 1965

Sadly missed by

Son - Bill (deceased)
Daughters - Elsie Urbic
Marlene Dobrzeniecki (Fla.)
Grandchildren,
Great-grandchildren
and remaining relatives.

Remembrance



**John (J.P.)
Jevnikar**

Born May 16, 1918
Died Dec. 26, 1993

Not dead to those who loved
him

Not lost, but gone before,
He lives with us in memory
and will forever more.

Wife, Mary
Daughter, Jenien Beach
son-in-law, Bill
Sons, John and Bob
Grandsons John, Jeffrey

In Memory

Thanks to **Maria Curk** of Barberton, OH who sent in a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Vinko Curk**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Ann Lekan** of Parma, OH who sent in a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, **John**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Louis Cencic** of Euclid, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation in memory of **their parents**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Olga Kalar** of Euclid, OH who donated \$10.00 in memory of her husband, **Ludvik**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Minka Kmetich** of Richmond Hts., OH who donated \$20.00 in memory of her beloved husband, **Victor**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Okicki** of Cleveland who donated \$10.00 in memory of her husband, **Tony's** birthday in December.

In Memory

Thanks to **Rev. William Jerse** of Euclid, OH who donated \$20.00 in memory of his father, **Joseph A. Jerse**.

In Memory

Thanks to the **Merc and Tonkli Families** of Euclid, OH who donated \$10.00 in memory of **John and Jozica Varsek**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Jagodnik** of Sleepy Hollow, NY who donated \$45.00 in memory of parents, **Mr. and Mrs. Anton Mlack and Mr. and Mrs. Anton Jagodnik**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Joseph and Flora Jenko** of Cleveland, OH who enclosed a \$20.00 donation in memory of **their parents**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Maria Cugelj** of Cleveland, OH who donated \$10.00 in memory of her husband, **Ivan**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Amalija Gregorc** of Richmond Hts., OH who donated \$10.00 in memory of her husband, **Anton Gregorc**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Anna Marinch** of Las Vegas, NV who donated \$10.00 in memory of her husband, **Al Marinch**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Edi Mejac** of Willoughby Hills, OH who donated \$20.00 in memory of **Jaka Mejac**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Marie Oblak** of Cleveland who donated \$10.00 to the American Home newspaper in memory of her husband, **John V. Oblak**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Jean Samsa** of Cleveland who sent in a \$15.00 donation in memory of husband **John's** birthday.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Kette** of Bessemer, PA who sent in a \$20.00 donation in memory of **Pauline Vrecar and Frank Vrecar**.

Donation

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sturm** of Lyndhurst, OH who sent in a \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Marija Brodnick** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation.

Christmas donation

Thanks to **St. Anne Lodge #4 A.M.L.A.** who gave a Christmas donation of \$150.00. A card, signed by lodge secretary, **Lillian B. Novak**, reads, "The members of St. Anne Lodge #4 wish you and yours the best of the Holidays."



Christmas Memoriam



Mary Saurich

September 15, 1990

John Saurich

July 14, 1966

*Dearest Mother and Dad:
The Lord has taken you to Heaven,
We miss you very much,
We will love you always,
Some day we'll all be together again.*

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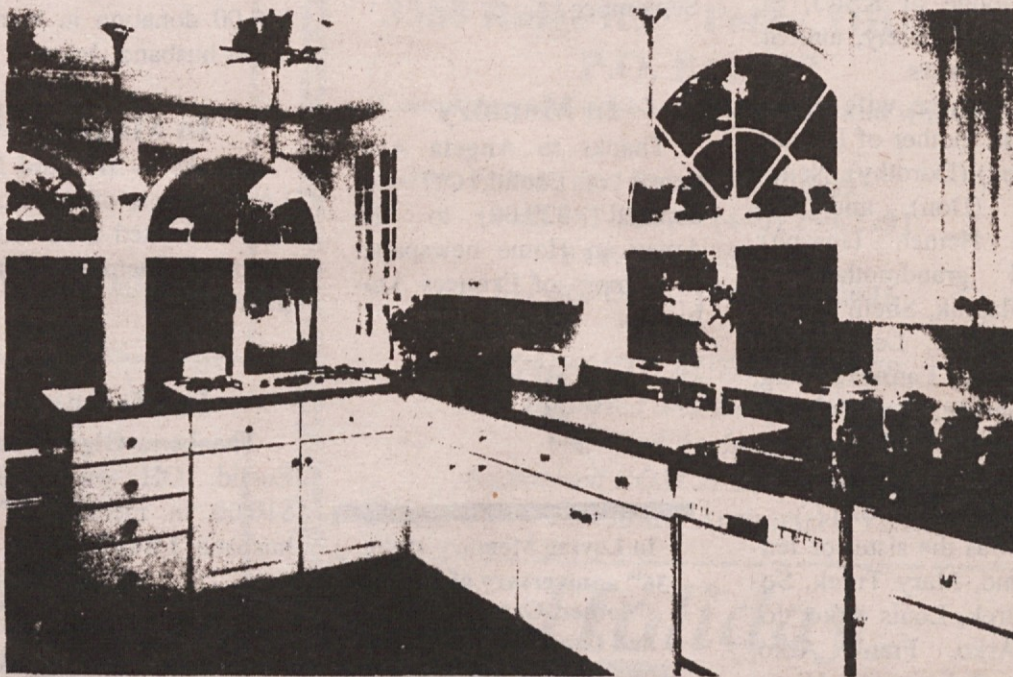
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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Novi nuncij Marian Oleš v ponedeljek prispel v Slovenijo – Dosedanji nuncij Edmond Farhat že odpotoval v Turčijo

Po 14-urnem letu iz Kazahstana je novi apostolski nuncij v Sloveniji mons. Marian Oleš prispel na Brnik. Na letališču ga je pričakal in pozdravil nadškof dr. Franc Rode. Dan prej, v nedeljo, je odšel na novo delovno mesto dosedanji nuncij Edmond Farhat, ki je sedaj nuncij v Turčiji, pokriva pa še Turkmenistan, Oleš pa, kot je doslej Farhat, pokriva še Makedonijo. Novi nuncij govori francosko, italijansko, angleško in špansko.

Odločili so se za "najbolj čisto ime"

V ponedeljek je bila v Ljubljani seja glavnega odbora SLS SKD Slovenske ljudske stranke. Na seji so se odločili, da ime stranke spremenijo. Odslej je stranka znana kot Slovenska ljudska stranka, njene kratice pa so SLS. Za spremembo je glasovalo 128 članov, proti jih je bilo 25. Proti spremembi so baje bili v prvi vrsti nekdanji člani Slovenskih krščanskih demokratov oziroma SKD.

Nova Slovenija (NSi) ima potrjena dva podpredsednika

V ponedeljek se je prvič po novembrskem kongresu stranke Nova Slovenija sestel strankin takrat izvoljeni svet. Predsednik sveta je Lojze Peterle. Na sestanku je svet potrdil dva podpredsednika stranke, to na predlog predsednika Andreja Bajuka. To sta Janez Drobnič, bivši generalni državni tožilec Slovenije, in Alojz Sok. Drobnič in Sok sta poslance državnega zbora, Drobnič je pa bil na sestanku izvoljen tudi za podpredsednika strankinega sveta. Strankina ženska zveza je želela, da bi eno podpredsedniško mesto pripadlo predstavnici ženskega spola, a Bajuk tega ni podprl. Lojze Peterle je dejal, da bo strankin svet sesta-

jal pogostejše kot doslej in da bo svet odslej resničen parlament stranke.

Luč miru iz Betlehema na poti po Sloveniji – Plamen bo ta konec tedna odnesen tudi na vrh Triglava

Betlehensko luč miru je preteklo soboto iz Avstrije v Maribor prinesel izbranec slovenskih skavtov 12-letni Rok Ozebek. V nedeljo so plamen miru slavnostno sprejeli tudi v Ljubljani, najprvo verniki med mašo v stolni cerkvi, po bogoslužju pa so mu namenili krajšo prireditev pred Mestno hišo. Iz rok meščanov je šla lučka na pot k predsedniku države Milanu Kučanu, nadškofu dr. Francu Rodetu in k poslaneu državnega zbora. Glavni nosilec projekta luč miru iz Betlehema je Združenje slovenskih katoliških skavtinj in skavtov. Skupina skavtov ga bo odnesla tudi na Triglav.

Milan Kučan uradno obiskal Anglijo

Pretekli teden je bil slovenski predsednik Milan Kučan na uradnem obisku v Veliki Britaniji. Kučan se je srečal z angleškim premierom Tonyjem Blairom v Blairovi uradni rezidenci na 10 Downing Street. V palači Buckingham je Kučana sprejela kraljica Elizabeta II. Kučan je označil obe srečanja za zelo pozitivni za Slovenijo, dobil se je pa tudi z angleškim zunanjim ministrom Jackom Strawom in obrambnim ministrom Geoffom Hoonom.

Kraljica Elizabeta II. je Kučana odlikovala z velikim križem sv. Mihaela in sv. Jurja, Kučan pa ji je podelil zlati znak svobode Slovenije. Kučan je kraljico povabil na obisk v Slovenijo, kakor je tudi Blaira.

Obetavno zagotovilo glede cestne mreže

Do konca 2005 bo zgrajena celotna štiripasovna avtocesta med Mariborom in Koprom. V sedmih letih avtocestnega programa je bilo zgrajenih 217,8 km avtocest in hitrih cest.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Božični dan oddaja—

Na božični dan, to je prihodnji torek, boste lahko od 8.30 do 9.30 zj. poslušali posebno slovensko božično oddajo. Pripravila in izvedla jo bo Radijska družina Cleveland (Pesmi in melodije iz naše lepe Slovenije) na postaji WCSB 89.3 FM. Več v obvestilu na str. 18.

Božičnica to nedeljo—

Že vrsto let prireja SPB božičnico za svoje člane in prijatelje. Letos bo božičnica to nedeljo, 23. decembra, v šolski dvorani pri Sv. Vidu ob 3h popoldne. Vsi lepo vabljeni in dobrodošli!

"Pristavska noč"—

Upravni odbor Slovenske pristave prireja tradicionalen večer Pristavsko noč v soboto, 26. januarja, v SND na St. Clairju. Za glasbo in ples bo poskrbel ansambel Staneta Mejača. Za rezervacijo miz in več informacij, pokličite MaryAnn Vogel na 216-383-9307. Vsi člani in prijatelji SP prisrčno vabljeni.

Božična koncerta—

V petek, 28. decembra, bo imel pevski zbor pri Sv. Vidu koncert božičnih pesmi v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in to ob 6.30 zvečer.

V nedeljo, 30. decembra, bo koncert ponovil pop. ob treh v cerkvi Sv. Vida.

Novi grobovi

Anne Larko

Dne 15. decembra je umrla 99 let stara Anne Larko, rojena Kolar, vdova po Emeryju, mati Patricije Mocnik, Lucille Armour in že pok. Barbare Roland, 14-krat stara mati, 10-krat prastara mati, sestra Jennie Debevec, Mary, Michaela in Rose, teta Jamesa V. Debevca, več desetletij zaposlena v pisarni AD. Pogreb je bil 18. decembra s sv. mašo v Villa Sancte Anne na Chagrin Blvd. s pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

William E. Ponikvar

Umrli je William E. Ponikvar, vdovec po Olgi roj. Hrovat, oče Patricije Wolf, Williama in Ronalda, 9-krat stari oče, 8-krat prastari oče, brat že pok. Josepha. Pogreb bo danes dop. ob 9.30 s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Wenceslase s pokopom na Vseh svetnikov pokopališču.

Božično voščilo—

Uprava Ameriške Domo-vine vošči vsem našim naročnikom vesele božične praznike ter srečno in še posebej zdravo leto 2002!

Zadnjič letos—

Prihodnji četrtek, 27. decembra, Ameriška Domovina ne bo izšla, tako se s to številko poslavljamo od leta 2001. Prva številka v novem letu bo izšla v četrtek, 3. januarja 2002. Do konca tega leta naročnino še lahko obnovite po stari ceni, kajti s 1. januarjem bo malce dražja.

Lepo božično darilo—

Če morda še niste končali nakupovanja božičnih daril, vam je na voljo zgoščenka (ali kaseta) "Sveta noč". Zgoščenka predstavlja svetovidski pevski zbor, ko poje mnoge božične pesmi. Poglejte na str. 3 za več informacij.

Narodnostno gibanje—

To soboto ima Ameriško narodnostno gibanje oziroma American Nationalities Movement svoje letno kosilo, tokrat na nemški pristani na Columbia Rd. v Olmsted Townshpu. Kakor vsako leto, gibanje izroča priznanja nekaterim svojim članom, tako je letos prišel na vrsto tudi urednik AD. Sen. George V. Voinovich je povabil več njemu znanih predstavnikov narodnostnih skupin na posvetovanje, ki bo v dvorani omenjene ustanove dop. ob 11h. Senator skuša organizirati podporo za širitev NATA, do katere naj bi prišlo novembra 2002 na sestanku na vrhu v Pragi, Češka. Slovenija se zanima za prejem povabila k članstvu in baje ima trenutno dobre možnosti.

Darovi—

Primorski klub je daroval \$100 v podporo našemu listu. G. Janez Dejak, Gates Mills, O., je prav tako poklonil \$100. Društvo "Tabor" je daroval \$50. G. Štefan in ga. Sonja Durjava, Euclid, O., sta darovala \$20. G.ga. Louis Čenčič, Euclid, sta darovala \$20, v spomin staršev. Ga. Mara in g. Gary Hull Lakewood, O., sta darovala \$15. Ga. Olga Kalar, Euclid, je darovala \$10, v spomin moža Ludvika. Ga. Mary Kette, Bessemer, Pa., je darovala \$20, v spomin Pauline in Franka Vrečar. Ga. Ann Lekan, Parma, O., je darovala \$10, v spomin moža Johna. Iskrena hvala vsem!



PARAFRIRANJE VATIKANSKEGA SPORAZUMA – Dne 10. decembra sta direktor vladne službe za zakonodajo Matjaž Nahtigal (desno) in apostolski nuncij Edmond Farhat parafrirala tkim. vatikanski sporazum. Pretekli petek, 14. decembra, sta pa zunanji minister Dimitrij Rupel in nadškof Jean Louis Tauran, tajnik Svetega sedeža za odnose z državami, podpisala sporazum. Tekst sporazuma je na str. 18. Na fotografiji zgoraj so na levi mariborski škof dr. Franc Kramberger, koprski škof Metod Pirih (zadaj) in ljubljanski nadškof dr. Franc Rode. V tem času je nuncij Farhat Slovenijo že zapustil, njegov naslednik poljskega rodu, 67-letni msgr. Marjan Oleš, že prispel v Slovenijo.

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No. 50

December 20, 2001

Tekst: Sporazum med Republiko Slovenijo in Svetim sedežem o pravnih vprašanjih

Republika Slovenija in Sveti sedež sta,

- izhajajoč iz Sporazuma o vzpostavitvi diplomatskih odnosov med pogodbenicama;
 - upoštevajoč, Republika Slovenija svojo ustavo, zlasti 7. in 41. člen, Sveti sedež, dokumente 2. vatikanskega koncila in norme kanonskega prava;
 - zavedajoč se pomena človekovih pravic ter zlasti ob sklicevanju na mednarodno priznana načela svobode mišljenja, vesti in verovanja;
 - izhajajoč iz večstoletne zgodovinske povezanosti med slovenskim ljudstvom in Katoliško cerkvijo;
- sklenila naslednji sporazum:

1. člen

Republika Slovenija in Sveti sedež potrjujeta načelo, da sta država in Katoliška cerkev, vsaka v svoji ureditvi, neodvisni in samostojni, in se zavezujeta k polnemu spoštovanju tega načela v svojih medsebojnih odnosih in k sodelovanju pri napredku človekove osebe in skupnega dobrega.

Katoliška cerkev v Republiki Sloveniji deluje svobodno po kanonskem pravu, v skladu s pravnim redom Republike Slovenije.

2. člen

Republika Slovenija priznava pravno osebnost Katoliške cerkve.

Republika Slovenija priznava tudi pravno osebnost vseh teritorialnih in personalnih cerkvenih institucij s sedežem v Republiki Sloveniji, ki imajo to osebnost po normah kanonskega prava. Cerkevna oblast jih mora v skladu s pravnim redom Republike Slovenije prijaviti pristojnemu državnemu organu, da jih registrira.

3. člen

Pravni red Republike Slovenije Katoliški cerkvi zagotavlja svobodo delovanja, bogočastja in kateheze.

Vsa izredna javna bogoslužna opravila in druga javna verska zbiranja (romanja, procesije, srečanja) pristojna oblast Katoliške cerkve v skladu s pravnim redom Republike Slovenije pripravi pristojnemu državnemu organu.

4. člen

Pristojna cerkvena oblast je izključno pristojna za vzpostavitev, spremembo in ukinitve cerkvenih struk-

(dalje na str. 20)

Posebna božični dan oddaja

CLEVELAND, O. – Dragi slovenski poslušalci oddaj Pesmi in melodije iz naše lepe Slovenije! Študentje na clevelandski državni univerzi WCSB 89.3 FM postji so nam sporočili, da nam odstopajo eno uro časa na sam božični dan in sicer od 8.30 do 9.30 zjutraj. Tako se Vam bomo oglasili z enournim božičnim programom na sam Božič. Vas že sedaj vabimo, dragi slovenski poslušalci, da odprete svoje sprejemnike v torek ob pol devetih zjutraj. Tako bomo lahko skupaj praznovali prihod Novorojenega Odrčenika s prelepimi pesmimi, ki nas vse obogate in še tesneje medsebojno povežejo v teh lepih praznikih. Poslušajte nas!

Radijska družina Cleveland

Slovenski kulturni center v Lemontu: Poročilo

WESTMONT, Ill. – Po 11. maši na nedeljo, 28. oktobra, se je od nas poslovil naš delovni in priljubljeni župnik p. David Šrumpf. Prestavljen je bil za župnika pri Kostanjevici pri Novi Gorici. Dokončno smo se še osebno poslovili od njega pred lemontskimi cerkvenimi vrati po maši.

Po malem kosilu v Domu smo začeli našo kulturno uro, kot po navadi na četrto nedeljo v mesecu. To pot smo imeli izrednega predavatelja, gosta dr. Ivana Štuhca iz Slovenije. Ker je dolgo deloval za slovensko škofijsko sinodo, nam je z lahkoto podal sliko Cerkev v Sloveniji.

Po študijih slovenskega prebivalstva, delo za sinodo se živeli v Sloveniji deli na tri več ali manj številčno enake skupine: one, ki so krščeni katoličani in hodijo redno v cerkev, one, ki so krščeni katoličani in redko pridejo v cerkev in zakramentom, in one, ki niso krščeni in so agnostiki, ateisti ali drugih ver. To slovensko družbo je dr. Štuhec ponazoril s trikotnikom z enakimi stranicami. S to delitvijo prebivalstva je lahko razumeti, zakaj vlada v Sloveniji tak sistem kot je.

Cerkev težko uri vero ljudem v cerkvi, če ljudje ne pridejo. Zato je treba najti nove načine, kako vplivati na ljudi. Katoličani sami morajo pokristjanjevati ljudi osebno, potem individualnih vernikov z dialogom in tudi z občestvom. To zadnje naj bi bilo na župnijski in dekanijski ravni.

Kako lahko vplivamo? Na snidenjih, veseljah,

plesih, športnih udeleževanjih, kjer pridemo v osebni stik z ljudmi, jih spoznamo in postanemo prijateljski in zaupljivi drug do drugega. Potom osebnega stika jih morda približamo Kristusu.

To stanje je dr. Štuhec ponazoril s koncentričnimi krogi, ki so se širili iz trikotnika navzven: pridobiti zunanje kroge ljudi za Kristusa v centru trikotnika.

Še eno misel je imel: izmenjavo študentov med ZDA in Slovenijo. Za izpeljavo tega podviga bi morali ustvariti organizacijo tu in tam.

Vsi bi ga še kar poslušali, ker zna zamotane stvari razčleniti in enostavno, jasno povedati. Saj ni čuda, da je tudi ravnatelj mariborskega semenišča.

Kot vsako leto, smo se spomnili našega pokojnega škofa Gregorija Rožmana. Letos je bilo to na prvi nedelji v novembru. Ob dveh popoldan smo se zbrali pri njegovem grobu na frančiškanskem pokopališču v Lemontu. Od tod smo krenili v procesiji proti cerkvi z našim novim župnikom in provincialom, p. Metod in p. Vendelinom na čelu. Kakih petdeset nas je bilo iz Joliet in čikaške okolice. Verno smo gredoč zmolili rožni venec do cerkve.

V cerkvi je maševal p. Bernardin, p. Metod je somaševal, p. Vendelin je orglal in vodil pevski zbor. Po maši je Jože Rus obudil spomine, tudi osebne, na škofa Rožmana. Spomnil se je njegovih anekdot. Kako se je škof rad šalil! Tako smo

ga tudi s te strani malo bolj spoznali.

Lidija Goršič in njena sestra Milena Žerdin sta na vijolino zaigrali narodne pesmi in potem spremljali ljudsko petje teh pesmi. Lojze Gregorič se je spominjal škofa ob njegovem grobu.

Sledile so recitacije Fanike Goršič in Mihaele Simrayh. Za konec smo zmolil oče naš za škofa in vse naše rajne in one v Sloveniji, katerih grobovi še vedno niso znani.

Navadno se naše nedeljske prireditve začno po enajsti maši. To našo šesto obletnico Doma smo tudi tako začeli, z mašo v naši veliki dvorani. Udeležilo se je je čez 350 ljudi. V procesiji s tremi ministranti in okoli deset narodnih noš, so prišli v dvorano p. Peter Lah, p. Blaž, p. Metod. Le-ti so somaševali z dr. Ivanom Štuhcem. Maša na odru dvorane je bila svečana. Cerkvni zbor je bil blizu odra pod vodstvom p. Vendelina. Da ni bilo gneče, so delili obhajilo na različnih krajih v dvorani.

Maši je sledilo kosilo; ki ga je pripravila Lillian Čepon.

Program smo začeli z razglasom nagradenke Prešernove nagrade iz Slovenije Nice Jakobson; učenke Slomškovo slovenske šole. Otroci so pod vodstvom Erike Bajukove risali prešernove motive iz njegovih pesnitev. Tekmovali so z otroki iz Slovenije in od drugod. Erika je tudi predstavila slikarsko razstavo umetnika Johna Culika, ki sedaj razstavlja v Domu.

Sledila je ameriška himna, ki jo je s čistim, lepim glasom zapela Kristina Markun, nato pa slovenska himna, ki smo jo skupno zapeli.

Na odru je najmlajša skupina slovenskih plesalcev Slovenskega kulturnega centra zaplesala ples Šumarjanka. Sledila je starejša skupina s plesoma Cepelke in Čindara. Vsi smo z veseljem in občudovanjem gledali te otroke pod vodstvom Sheene Litt. Naslednja plesa, Notranjski ples in Gorenjski splet, so nasmejano in z užitkom zaplesale odrasle gospe

(dalje na str. 19)

Letno zborovanje Družbe za slovenske študije na konferenci AAASS v Arlingtonu, Va.

Ur. AD: Prvič, v prejšnji številki je izšel ponatis članka, ki ga je bila v Ljubljani objavila novinarka Alenka Puhar, ki je bila navzoča na omenjenem zborovanju. Njeno ime je bilo pomotoma izpuščeno pri ponatisu. Drugič, nisem vedel, da bom prejel še eno poročilo, tokrat od prof. dr. Timothyja Pogačarja iz ohijske univerze Bowling Green, ki ga je pripravil v sodelovanju s prof. dr. Metodoma Milačem. To poročilo se bolj podrobno ukvarja z delovanjem na zborovanju članov in članic Družbe za slovenske študije oz. DSS.

BOWLING GREEN, O. – Sredi novembra, od 15. do 18., se je v predmestju Washingtona, D.C., v Arlingtonu, vršila konferenca Ameriškega združenja za pospeševanje slovenskih študij, največje severnoameriške akademske organizacije te vrste. Pod njenim okriljem je imela Društvo za slovenske študije (Society for Slovene Studies) svojo redno letno zborovanje, na katerem je gostovala vrsta uglednih severnoameriških, evropskih in drugih strokovnjakov, diplomatov in, seveda, članov DSS.

Slovenske zadeve – zgodovina, kultura, politika, vojaška vprašanja – so bile dobro predstavljene. Na konferenci je bilo letos pet strokovnih sestankov o slovenskih zadevah. Poleg tega je bila Slovenija predstavljena tudi na drugih, primerjalnih sestankih. Po številu in dovršenosti predavanj so slovenske

teme zavzele ugledno mesto na tej mednarodni konferenci.

V petek, 16. novembra, sta sprejela udeležence in goste minister za zunanje zadeve Republike Slovenije dr. Dimitrij Rupel in veleposlanik RSlovenije v ZDA dr. Davorin Kračun. Tega sprejema so se udeležili tudi drugi sodelavci veleposlaništva v Washingtonu.

Na sprejemu je dr. Rupel v nagovoru pozdravil in čestital Družbi za slovenske študije, katerih sestankih se že dolga leta tudi sam udeležuje kot strokovnjak in diplomat.

Predsednik DSS dr. Metod Milač se je v svojem odgovoru v imenu Družbe zahvalil dr. Ruplu in dr. Kračunu za ta prijeten večer.

Lepo presenečenje za vse prisotne je bila dr. Ruplova objava, da bo dr. Carole Rogel v kratkem prejela od predsednika RSlovenije Milana Kučana priznanje Častni znak svobode Republike Slovenije.

Dr. Rogel, avtorica številnih strokovnih del (npr. *The Break-up of Yugoslavia and the War in Bosnia*, 1998), je bivša predsednica DSS in še vedno članica izvršilnega odbora DSS, že desetletja pospešuje slovenske študije v ZDA.

Celotni program slovenskih sestankov na konferenci je urednik *Ameriške Domovine* dr. Rudolph M. Susel, že objavil v številki z dne 8. novembra. Dr. Susel je bil prisoten na konferenci. Podrobno je komentiral skupaj z dr. Jožetom Velikonjo (ki je

sicer bil odsoten, a je svoje pripombe poslal v pisni obliki), predavanja kolegov dr. Franceta Dolinarja (tudi odsoten), dr. Matjaža Klemenčič in dr. Jere Vodusek-Staričeve o arhivih Slovencev, ki so se v letih 1945-47 izselili, posebno tistih, ki so domovino zapustili maja 1945.

Skrb za profesionalno ureditev pomembnih podatkov je bila problematika tega sestanka. Slovenski strokovnjaki se ukvarjajo s tem vprašanjem zdaj deset let. Pred leti (1996) je, na primer, dr. Vodusek-Starič predstavila rezultate svojih raziskav na podobnem sestanku v okviru AAASS v Bostonu.

Te vrste arhivov se nahajajo po bivši Jugoslaviji, v Londonu, v ZDA in drugod, v ustanovah tako kot v rokah izseljencev in njihovih potomcev. Opazke dr. Susla in dr. Velikonje so privedle k živahni diskusiji. Sestanek je vodila univerzitetna profesorica v pokoju (Ohio State) dr. Carole Rogel.

O življenju in delovanju intelektualcev v Sloveniji pod komunizmom so predavali dr. Mirjam Hladnik (o pisateljici Angele Vode), profesor Ljubljanske univerze Andrej Inkret (o pesniku Edvardu Kocbeku /zaradi dr. Inkretove odsotnosti je njegov referat prebral g. Milan Kravanja iz Washingtona/) in novinarka Alenka Puhar (tema: "Ignorirani intelektualci v dobi železne zavese").

Predavanja je komentiral zgodovinar dr. Peter Vodopivec, ki je tudi v izvršilnem odboru DSS. Ta sestanek je vodila dr. Lea Plut Pregelj (U. of Maryland), kateri so bili vsi udeleženci hvaležni za njeno splošno organiziranje slovenskih sestankov na AAASS.

Po desetih letih samostojne slovenske republike, je prišel čas pregledati diplomatska dejstva in mnenja ljudi o temi ameriško-slovenskih odnosov v preteklosti in v naprej. Zanimive vidike so predstavili bivši veleposlanik v ZDA dr. Ernest Petrič (zdaj zastopa Slovenijo v OZN), bivši konzul v Los Angelesu Mark Ryavec, in profesor

BOŽIČ

KAJ POSTALI LJUDJE SMO MI,
KAM SE NAM TAKO MUDI?
V RAZKOŠJU SLAVIMO TE LEPE DNI,
A SREČE PRAV NIKJER JE NI.
PRIPRAVLJAMO IN HITIMO,
VSEH DOBROT JE PREOBILNO.
PRAZNOTO V DUŠI MI PUSTI,
KO SLAVIMO PRAZNIČNE VSE TE DNI.

ZA SVETNO VSO DOBROTO
V DUŠI ČUTIM LE SAMOTO.
PO SVETU SE BOŽIČ PRAZNUJE,
A V ČLOVEKU PRAZNOTA ZMAGUJE.
NEKOČ DETE BOŽJE SMO SLAVILI,
SKROMNO V SVETI NOČI SE VESELILI.
SPOMIN NA IZGUBLJENI ČAS OBUJA SE
ZNOVA IN ZNOVA DUŠA POGREŠA TE.

SONJA

Charles Bukowski (Bradley University).

Profesor Karl Ryavec, ki je pred leto obravnaval to temo v reviji *Slovene Studies*, je spretno vodil diskusijo.

Na razpravah o slovenski Koroški, ki jih je vodil dr. Susel in za katere je dal iniciativo zdaj že pokojni dr. Andreas Moritsch, sta dr. Valentin Sima in dr. Tina Bahovec podala zanimive poglede na dobo integral-

nega nacionalizma (1918-1945).

Dr. Dennison Rusinow (U. of Pittsburgh) je v izbranih besedah dodal svoje poglede na obe razpravi, kakor je tudi dr. Anton Gosar z Ljubljanske univerze, ki je poleg komentarja na predavanja podal kratko poročilo o delu in zaslugah pok. dr. Moritscha.

V nedeljo, 18. novembra, zjutraj, na razpravi o socialnih zvezah oz. povezavah v slovenski družbi, je bila predstavljena raziskava prof. dr. Franeta Adama o slovenski eliti (ekonomski, politični, kulturni). Dr. Jurij Fikfak je predaval o simboliki, novi in bivši, v enem majhnem mestu zunaj Republike Slovenije (na italijanski strani meje). Njegova kolegica v Slovenski akademiji znanosti in umetnosti, dr. Tatiana Bajuk-Senčar, je obravnavala delež eko-

(dalje na str. 20)

SKC v Lemontu

(nadaljevanje s str. 18)

pod vodstvom Dane Rebrice Blase.

Ta dan je bil praznik sv. Martina, martinovanje. Kdo bi si mislil, da je v našem Domu največ Martinov, kar sedem. Za vsakega godovnika je Stuart Nyberg opisal, v začetku neimenovanega Martina, iz katerega dela Slovenije prihaja sam ali starši, nakar je eden od plesalcev z odra šel iskati godovnjaka in jo ali ga pripeljal na oder. Tam so točili vino – ki se je spremenil iz mošta na sv. Martinov dan – za odrasle in mošt za mladoletne.

Sledili so mešani pari skupine Veselje in zaplesali plese Landler in Koroški ples. Za konec smo z vsemi nastopajočimi, odborniki, kuharicami in strežniki pred odrom na plesišču in z ljudmi v dvorani skupno zapeli pesem Bog te živi.

Naj se tu zahvalim za pripravo celega programa Dani, Corinne Leskovar in Nandi Puc. Sledila je prosta zabava in ples ob glasbi Staneta Mejača iz Clevelanda.

A.A.

V BLAG SPOMIN

OB 12. OBLETNICI



Franka Kastigar

ki je umrl 25. dec. 1989

Že dvanaajsto leto je minilo, o.kar Te več med nami ni, a misel nate še vsaki čas bedi.

Žalujoča družina

Euclid, Ohio, 20. decembra 2001.

Dr. Karl B. Bonutti

**Veleposlanik Republike Slovenije
pri Svetem sedežu**

in žena Hermina

**želita vsem sorodnikom, prijateljem
in znancem**

**VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE
IN SREČNO LETO 2002!**

Rim, Italija

Tekst sporazuma med Slovenijo in Svetim sedežem

(nadaljevanje s str. 18)

tur, zlasti cerkvenih območij (nadškofij, škofij, apostolskih administratur, personanih in teritorialnih prelatur, opatij), samostanov, župnij ter ustanov posvečenega in družb apostolskega življenja.

Nobena škofija Katoliške cerkve v Republiki Sloveniji ne bo obsegala ozemlja, ki je zunaj meja Republike Slovenije, in noben del ozemlja Republike Slovenije ne bo pripadal škofiji, katere sedež je zunaj Republike Slovenije.

5. člen

V pristojnost Katoliške cerkve sodi, da po normah kanonskega prava podeljuje imenovanja in cerkvene službe.

Imenovanje, sprejemanje odpovedi in premestitev škofov so v izključni pristojnosti Svetega sedeža.

6. člen

Katoliška cerkev v Republiki Sloveniji ter njene pravne in fizične osebe lahko svobodno vzpostavljajo in neovirano ohranjajo stike s Svetim sedežem in med seboj.

Prav tako lahko tudi svobodno vzpostavljajo stike in sodelujejo s škofovskimi konferencami, drugimi cerkvenimi ustanovami ter drugimi organizacijami in pravnimi osebami, bodisi doma ali po svetu.

7. člen

Katoliška cerkev ima polno svobodo posedovanja lastnih sredstev obveščanja in ima, enako kot druge pravne osebe, pravico dostopa do vseh javnih sredstev obveščanja.

8. člen

Pravne osebe Katoliške cerkve lahko ustanavljajo združenja v skladu z zakonodajo Republike Slovenije.

Republika Slovenija priznava pravico vernikom, da v skladu z normami in cilji, določenimi s kanonskim pravom, ustanavljajo združenja, ki svobodno in javno delujejo. Pravni vidiki dejavnosti teh cerkvenih združenj se urejajo v skladu z ustreznimi predpisi Republike Slovenije.

Pravne osebe Katoliške cerkve lahko ustanavljajo fundacije, ki delujejo v skladu z zakonodajo Republike Slovenije.

9. člen

Pravne osebe Katoliške cerkve s sedežem v Republiki Sloveniji lahko v skladu z zakonodajo Republike Slovenije pridobivajo, posedujejo, uživajo in odtujujejo premoženje in nepremičnine ter pridobivajo lastninske in druge stvarne pravice ali se jim odpovedujejo.

10. člen

Katoliška cerkev ima v skladu z zakonodajo Republike Slovenije in v skladu s kanonskim pravom pravico ustanavljati in upravljati šole vseh vrst in stopenj, dijaške in študentske domove ter druge izobra-

ževalne in vzgojne ustanove.

Država bo podpirala ustanove iz prejšnjega odstavka ob enakih pogojih, kot podpira druge tovrstne zasebne ustanove.

Status dijakov, študentov in gojencev teh ustanov je izenačen s statusom gojencev v javnih ustanovah.

11. člen

Pristojni državni organ in pristojni organi lokalnih skupnosti ter pristojna cerkvena oblast sodelujejo pri ohranjanju in vzdrževanju kulturnih spomenikov ter drugih kulturnih dobrin in arhivov, ki so v cerkveni lasti.

12. člen

V Republiki Sloveniji je zagotovljeno celovito spoštovanje verske svobode posameznikom v bolnišnicah, domovih za ostarele, zaporih in drugih ustanovah, v katerih je oteženo svobodno gibanje oseb, ki se v njih nahajajo.

Katoliška cerkev ima pravico do pastoralnega delovanja v teh ustanovah v skladu z ustreznimi zakoni s tega področja.

13. člen

Dobrodelne in socialne cerkvene ustanove in organizacije, ki se ukvarjajo z dobrodelnostjo in družbeno solidarnostjo ter so organizirane v skladu s slovensko zakonodajo, so glede olajšav, pomoči in drugih spodbujevalnih ukrepov izenačene z drugimi podobnimi dobrodelnimi organizacijami v državi.

14. člen

Republika Slovenija in Sveti sedež bosta reševala sporazumno po diplomatski poti morebitna razhajanja, ki bi lahko nastala pri razlagi ali uporabi določb tega sporazuma.

Republika Slovenija in Sveti sedež si bosta nadalje prizadevala obravnavati vsa odprta vprašanja, ki niso predmet tega sporazuma, z namenom njihove sporazumne rešitve.

15. člen

Ta sporazum bo ratificiran v skladu s pravili vsake od pogodbenic in bo začel veljati z izmenjavo listin o ratifikaciji.

Podpisano v Ljubljani, v dveh izvirnikih, od katerih je vsak v slovenskem in italijanskem jeziku, pri čemer sta besedili v obeh jezikih enako verodostojni.

Zborovanje DSS

(nadaljevanje s str. 19)

nomskega diskurza v sestavi slovenske identitete. Prof. John Cox (Wheeling Jesuit U.) je komentiral predavanja z vidike zgodovinarja.

To sekcijo je vodil dr. Timothy Pogačar.

Poleg strokovnih sestankov je imela DSS ob tej priliki tudi svoj letni občni zbor, to pod vodstvom predsednika dr. Milača. Na zboru so bili prisotni kot običajno tako člani kot drugi udeleženci zborovanja.

Na žalost se letos niso mogli udeležiti zborovanja AAASS in DSS nekateri vodilni člani. Iz vrst DSS na primer: dr. Henry Cooper (bivši predsednik DSS, sicer profesor na Univerzi Indiana v Bloomingtonu), dr. William Derbyshire (tajnik DSS, sedaj živeč v Seattleu, Wash.), dr. Tom Pristley (bivši predsednik in živeč v kanadski provinci Alberta), in dr. Rado Lenček (DSS Raziskovalno - dokumentacijski center), čigar osemdesetletnico smo pred kratkim praznovali.

Radi bi še omenil prisotnost pomembnega številca strokovnjakov iz Slovenije, nekaterih članov DSS, ki se vsako leto udeležijo sestankov AAASS (g. John Karns, Allentown, Pa.) ali pridejo od zelo daleč (Savo Tory, Avstralija). Izmed ljudi prav iz Washingtona smo imeli v svoji sredi tudi dolgoletnega člana DSS Staneta Šušteršiča in že omenjenega g. Milana Kravanje. Prispevali so veliko znanja in zanimanja.

Vsi, ki se zanimajo za slovenske zadeve, bodo nadvse dobrodošli na zborovanjih, ki bodo jeseni 2002 v Pittsburghu, Pa., leta 2003 v Torontu in, lahko vsaj omenimo, v Salt Lake Cityju leta 2004 in Bostonu l. 2005.

Informacije o teh konferencah in informacijah o DSS sploh lahko dobite od urednika okrožnice DSS, dr. Davida Stermole, čigar internet naslov je:

www.arts.ualberta.ca/~ljubljani

dr. Tim Pogačar

za dr. Rado Lenček, direktor Raziskovalno-dokumentacijskega centra DSS



† V BLAG SPOMIN †



Anton Adamič
1899-1982



Pavla Adamič
1913-1997

Božični čas, čas tihe miline,
Čas grenkih spominov,
Čustev polno v nas se porodi,
Saj odsotna sta premnogo dni.
Božja milost naj nad Vami bdi,
Pokoja tihega želimo mi.

Otroci:

Pavla Dolinar, Mira Kosem in Tone Adamič
z družinami ter družina Veider

V BLAG SPOMIN

obletnice smrti naših dragih staršev

51. obletnice našega
dragega očeta, starega
in prastarega očeta



JOSEPH MIHEVC
ki je umrl 28. decembra 1950

Preteklo je 51 let že,
ko hladna zemlja krije Te;
zelo vsi smo Te ljubili,
in prezgodaj igubili.

Oba prosita za nas vse Boga,
da življenje nam srečno dá,
ko bomo tudi mi k Vam prišli,
veselili bomo se vsi.

Žalujoči ostali:

Sylvia Plymesser – hčerka;
Glenna – snaha;
vnuki in vnukinje ter ostali sorodniki.

19. obletnice smrti naše
ljubljene matere, stare
in prastare matere



ANTONIA MIHEVC
ki je umrla 29. dec. 1982.

Srečno ljubljena nam mama,
šla prezgodaj si od nas;
dobra, skrbna si nam bila,
vdano molimo za vas.

Dr. JOZE BERNIK, poslanec v državnem zboru

Komentar o Sloveniji v drugi polovici novembra

Buenos Aires, Arg. – Zadnje čase je slovenska vlada do neke mere spremenila svoj pol stoletni nekulturni odnos do pobojev po koncu vojne svojih slovenskih idejnih nasprotnikov in njihovih grobišč.

Ne, ni se zgodil čudež. To je med drugim storil pritisk realnosti približevanja Slovenije Evropski zvezi (EZ).

Odločitev za vsaj delno odpravo poveljnih krivic in grobega kršenja ustavne pravice mrtvih do človekovega dostojanstva ni od danes. Po vseh znakih sočestje je sedanjih načrtov vlade trenutno času najbolj primerna opcija od mnogih možnih opcij, ki so bile pripravljene že v času "sestopanja z oblasti" od tedanjih komunističnih oblastnikov.

Spričo pričakovanja slovenskega članstva v EZ v dveh letih se je pričelo muditi. Scenarij je torej skrčen v čas dveh let, vendar bo država po delnem izvajanju urejanja grobišč mogla pokazati svetu ta napredek, za neizvršene obljube se bo mogla izgovarjati na pomanjkanje časa in finančnih sredstev.

Kljub že mnogim dosedanjim razočaranjem ob vladnih obljubah, vendarle upamo, da tokrat dane besede ne bo vzela nazaj in da bo obljubo izpolnila do konca. Od čuječnosti naših državljanov bo odvisno dosledno izvajanje obljubljenega programa.

Priznati pa je tudi treba, da so verjetno tudi na našem drugem političnem bregu ljudje, ki so prišli do spoznanja, da s tem pol stoletnim sramotnim bremenom ne moremo stopiti med ev-

ropske narode, ki so svoje tragedije, čeprav mnogo manjše, mogli urediti že pred desetletji.

V zadnjih nekaj mesecih je eden od poslancev Nove Slovenije v Državnem zboru dvakrat postavil vprašanje vladi, enkrat pa varuhu človekovih pravic Hanžku, kako se namerava država odolžiti za velik humanitarni dolg do poveljnih žrtev.

Uredili naj bi grobišča v Kočevskem Rogu in na Teharjah. O deseterih drugih grobiščih ni bilo niti besede.

Čeprav se je ob najdbi grozljivega grobišča pri Slovenski Bistrici prvič pojavila v javnosti slovenska generalna državna tožilka Zdenka Cerar in je bila, priliki primerno, zgrožena nad domnevnimi zločini, storjenimi v začetku leta 1946. (sic.) Napovedala je različne pravne posege, vendar ne posebno prepričljivo. Ker od tožilstva ni bilo znani nobenih odločnih korakov, je v začetku oktobra omenjeni poslanec pisal generalni tožilki o njeni dejavnosti glede grobišč.

Drugo vprašanje je bilo glede aretacije in prevzema domobranskih ranjencev v dveh bolnišnicah v Ljubljani takoj po koncu vojne. Kot je dokumentirano v knjigi *Brez milosti* prof. dr. L. Šturma, je za temi ranjenci in bolniki izginila vsaka sled.

To pismo je imelo za posledico napoved obiska v omenjeni poslanski skupini, nato do odpovedi in končno do tiskovne konference v Državnem zboru skupaj s predsednikom Borutom Pahorjem, go. Cerarjevo

in generalnim direktorjem policije Markom Pogorelcem.

Tu ni bilo nobenih dramatičnih izjav ali obljub. Človeka pa čudi, da je generalna državna tožilka apelirala na vse, ki bi mogli kaj vedeti o zločinih in zločincih, naj stopijo iz anonimnosti in povedo kar vedo, čeprav je prav ona tista, ki bi po svoji službeni dolžnosti morala vedeti največ o teh zločinih in storilcih zločina. Njeni strankarski predhodniki niso izgubili nobene prilike za preganjanje in strahovanje svojce žrtev in druge še živeče morebitne priče zločinov.

Ob vseh teh dogajanjih se je pojavila v DZ pobuda, da bi se začeli pogovarjati o nekakšni deklaraciji o obžalovanju poveljnih pobojev in o spravi. Kot je znano je prišlo v zadnjih nekaj letih do več predlogov take deklaracije, vendar nobena ni uspela.

Nekaj dni pred omenjeno tiskovno konferenco sta poslance Lojze Peterle in Janez Janša ponovno zahtevala obravnavo v DZ njune resolucije, ki je bila vložena proti koncu leta 1997, pa ni bila nikdar dana na dnevni red.

Predsednik Kučan je poslal v DZ vse svoje iz-

jave o poveljnih pobojih, grobiščih, skupnem spomeniku in deklaraciji, in predlagal obravnavo o trenutnem stanju.

Seveda pa nikjer ni omenil dejstva, da je v vsem tem času nastopal v javnosti s stigmatiziranjem ideoloških, ubitih in živih nasprotnikov. Prav tako ni povedal, da je celo v mednarodni javnosti pred dvema letoma trdil, da je komunistična Jugoslavija ravnala s svojimi kolaboracionisti s sovražnikom po določbah Potsdamske konference (čeprav je bilo največ umorov v maju in juniju 1945, omenjena konferenca pa je bila šele v juliju istega leta...).

V zaprtem posvetovanju v DZ je pretekli teden (tj. v predzadnjem tednu novembra, op. ur. AD) prišlo do soglasja, da imajo ureditev grobišč in poprava krivic prednost pred potrebo po deklaraciji in skupnemu spomeniku.

V petek (tj. 23. nov., op. ur. AD) je vlada obravnavala in sprejela svojo deklaracijo in tudi predlog zakona o vojnih grobiščih, ki ga meni poslati v DZ v drugo obravnavo.

V deklaraciji je videti napredek, vendar je pomanjkljiva, med drugim tudi v tem, ker ne omenja poprave krivic žrtvam revolucije v vojnem času. Predlogi in komentarji so dobrodošli.

Lep pozdrav vsem.

Škofja Loka,
26. novembra 2001

Povzeto iz *Svobodne Slovenije* z dne 6. decembra 2001, str. 1.

ZAHVALA v spomin Tonetu Umek

CLEVELAND, O. – Iskrena hvala sorodnikom in prijateljem, ki so večkrat telefonsko poklicali iz Slovenije, Avstralije, Nizozemske in Kanade ter iz raznih krajev ZDA ob času Tonetove bolezni.

Hvala za obiske na mojem domu in v Hospice. Hvala župniku Neil Walters od župnije sv. Felicite in župniku John Kumsetu od Marije Vnebovzete, za obiske v Hospice, ko sta Toneta pripravila za odhod iz tega sveta, kakor tudi za lepo pogrebno sv. mašo ter spremstvo na pokopališče Vernih duš.

Hvala pevkam za res lepo petje Tonetu priljubljeno "V nebesih sem doma".

Hvala vsem, ki ste prišli v pogrebni zavod in v cerkev in ga spremljali na zadnji poti, ter vsem posameznikom in Primorskemu klubu za darovano cvetje in denarna darila ter tolažbo.

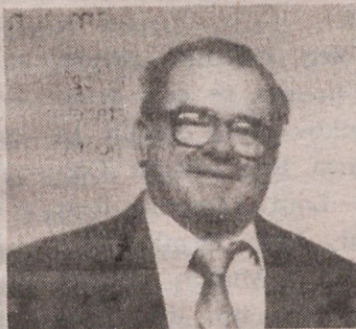
Ob tej priložnosti želim vsem sorodnikom, znanecem in prijateljem vesele in blagoslovljene božične praznike in srečno, zdravo Novo leto 2002, to iz vsega srca.

Prejšnja žena
Mary Umek



V BLAG SPOMIN

ob drugi obletnici



Ciril Stepec

Umril je 20. decembra 1999.

Dve leti že počivaš.
Pri Bogu srečo uživaš.
Naš dom pa prazen je,
od kar te več med nami ni.
Le počivaj v božjem miru,
kjer ni gorja, kjer ni solza.
In trudna pot na svetu,
naj nas pripelje k Tebi vrh zvezda.

Žalujejo:

Žena - Urši
Sinovi - Viktor, Daniel
in Robert
Vnuka - Daniel in Jacob
Vnukinja - Ashley
Brat - Tone z družino
Sestre - Pepca (v Kanadi)
Mara, Vida in
Ani z družinami

VOŠČILO TREM SLOVENIJAM

Naj Kristusovo rojstvo ob pomoči slovenske Cerkve in ljudi dobre volje z novim letom 2002 prinese vsem trem Slovenijam: doma, v zamejstvu in svetu zaslužen blaginjo. Naj dubovne, moralne in narodne vrednote zopet zaživijo v slovenskih srcih. To so moje želje in voščila rojakom - Slovencem!

Vinko Levstik

DIPLOMAT
Hotel ****

EURO
in

EURO
Restaurant

GORICA, Corso Italia 63, tel. 0039 0481 82166, faks 0039 0481 31658, e-pošta: levstik.vinko@eurodiplomatotel.it

Vsem Slovenkam in Slovencem v Združenih državah Amerike, Kanade in drugod po svetu želiva blagoslovljen Božič in zelo dobro novo leto 2002!

Our best wishes to all Slovenians in the United States, Canada and elsewhere in the world for a blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year 2002!

Dr. Marija Bernik in/and dr. Jože Bernik, Member of Parliament, Republic of Slovenia

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iz Clevelanda

**Vesele božične praznike
ter srečno Novo leto
želim**

vsem mojim prijateljem in znancem

Lojzka Zabukovec

Cleveland, Ohio

**Vesele in milosti polne božične praznike
ter srečno, mirno in blagoslovljeno
Novo leto**

želim vsem znancem

Maria Zakelj

Cleveland, Ohio

Triglavske novice

GURNEE, Ill. – V jesenskem času so naši garači na Triglavskem parku podrli več suhih dreves, največ dela pa je bilo z grabljenjem listja. Določen je bil dan in vsi so bili povabljeni na veliko čiščenje. Hvala Bogu za traktorje in drugo mehanizirano opremo, sicer bi se obrabile grablje in tudi roke bi odpovedale. Ko so končali se je tra-

va spet videla in vse je bilo pripravljeno na pomlad. Hvala vsem, ki ste prišli in pomagali.

Na praznik sv. Martina, jesenskega patrona, se je zbralo lepo število članov v zakurjeni dvorani. Odmevalo je po parku: "Prišel je svet Martin, ki je požegnal vin..." in še in še so se vrstile pesmi do večera. Bilo je res lepo popoldne.

Potem je prišel sv. Miklavž – stara navada! Priklical nam je v spomin lepe čase, ko smo bili še mladi in smo sveto verjeli v Miklavža. Lepo je videte otroke, že tretji rod, ko hitijo na oder s tresočimi koleno in se z rožnimi vencami otepajo vsiljivih parkljev. Ves program je pripravi-

la naša vedno skrbna Helenca. Hvala ti!

To je navadno zadnje srečanje pred Novim letom in seveda veselo srečanje. Letos je bilo še prav posebno, ker smo obenem obhajali 70-letnico našega zvestega člana Darkota Berginca, edinega pevca, ki nam je še ostal od našega "zbor".

Ko nas je bilo še veliko, smo vsako nedeljo prepevali z dušo in srcem. Darko je tudi dolgoletni pevec pri fari sv. Janeza, in pri USPEH-u. Darko, na mnoga leta!

Okoli Zahvalni dan praznika so naša dekleta pod vodstvom Lizi Gordon pripravila slovensko razstavo za vsakoletni Folksfair. Slovenija je bila bogato predstavljena.

Sedaj pa še nekaj bolj resnega. Vsako leto izgubimo kakega člana, ki se pridruži našim že pokojnim Triglavčanom. Letos smo izgubili zavednega in zvestega člana Martina Simčiča, Belokranjca. Pogrešali smo ga letos na vseh piknikih in seveda tudi na trgatvi. Martin je bolehal že dolgo, pa je le rad prišel na Park, dokler ni bil priklenjen na posteljo. Zdaj je rešen vsega trpljenja, mi pa pogrešamo njegovo dobro voljo in nasmeh, ki je bil razveseljiv za vsakogar. Tablica z njegovim imenom se je pridružila premnogim drugim v kapelici nad jezerom. Martin, počivaj v miru.

Poleg smrtnih primerov imamo še celo vrsto bolnikov: Jože Smolič in njegova Rezi, Ralph Cofelt, Loni Limoni, Rezi Kotar, Vera Ornik, Rozi Dovnik, Minka Mejač, Zofi Rifelj itd. itd. Tudi dopisnikarica tega članka je imela letos slabo poletje. Zato so se vsi dopisi zelo zamudili.

Triglavami vsem znancem in prijateljem želimo srečen božič, zdravja in božjega žegna v novem letu, in na svidenje v Parku. M.K.



**Blagoslovljene božične praznike
in srečno Novo leto želi vsem,
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naših prireditev**

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KOROTAN**



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Marija Sever – hči
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ANICA RESNIK

Toronto, Ont.

NAŠE ŽIVLJENJE...

...je v prvem letu tretjega tisočletja zaznamovano s strašnimi dogodki. Preračunana hudobija, želja po oblasti, sovraštvo v spopadu svetovnih ideologij je bruhnilo na dan in vsekalo globoko bolečo rano ameriškemu ljudstvu. V jutru enajstega septembra je v pičli uri skoraj štiri tisoč ljudi izgubilo življenje, žalost prevzela osirotele družine, mesto New York onemelo v dosedanjem svetu neznani, enkratni katastrofi.

To teroristično dejanje je raztrgalo dragoceno podobo svetovnega miru, modernega napredka in osebne varnosti v zdravem okolju. Nov čas je tu, z novimi zahtevami, odgovornostjo in vprašanji o medčloveških odnosih in splošnem smislu življenja. Ob newyorški jami "Ground Zero" je sedaj za ves svet nova življenjska postaja.

Ta zemlja, del neskončne vsemirja, vpletena v sončni krog z luno in milijardami zvezd, je v nasprotju s trpljenjem in zmotami, iskanjem človeštva od vekomaj na isti poti, v štirih letnih časih okrog sonca.

Sedaj je že zelo pozna jesen. V lepih dneh se sonce nagiba na južno stran. Drevje je zgubilo svoj zlati plašč, polja in vrtovi svoje sadove in cvetje. V zgodnjem večeru zažare cestne luči.

Na Slovenskem letovišču so po Zahvalni nedelji zaprta glavna vrata. Brezjanska Marija se je iz kapelice preselila v varnejši dom, poletne hišice samevajo. V lepih,

sončnih dneh se še vedno vračamo k njim, v mir in lepoto jesenske pokrajine.

V skupini torontskih društev deluje skupina Vztrajnost, ki že skoraj enajst let zbira slovenske vdove, jim nudi družabnost, prijateljstvo in medsebojno pomoč. Ustanoviteljica te skupine je Cvetka Arhar, ki je kmalu po smrti moža Franca začutila in spoznala potrebo po posebnem združevanju. Danes je v skupini zapisano do dvesto vdov, ki se občasno zbirajo v Domu Lipa. Duhovni vodja je g. Tone Zrnc. Organizirajo izlete, romanja itd. Gospe Mija Ferkulj, Francka Kramar, Marija Por so njene zveste pomočnice.

Tako smo v oktobru romali k Rožnovski Mariji v Merlin v londonški škofiji, v spremstvu Romana Travarja, novega kaplana pri Brezmadežni. Koncem novembra je bil izlet v Owen Sound k predbožičnemu koncertu. Organizacija je odlična in odziv vedno številen, saj je dobrodošla mešana družba mož in žena, ki preživi en dan ali dva v domačem pogovoru, petju in molitvi.

Na praznik Vseh svetih in vernih duš smo prižgali sveče v cerkvah in na pokopališčih, se spominjali in molili za vse pokojne. Novi grobovi se odpirajo, stari znanci odhajajo...

Desetega oktobra se je Francka Kavčič v Torontu poslovila od svoje velike družine, imela je devet otrok, 26 vnukov in šest pravnukov, ter

odšla k ljubljenu možu Johanu v nebeške kraje. Pokojna Francka je vse življenje ostala pristna Gorenjka izpod romantičnih Dolomitov, v mladostnih letih vzor slovenske lepote, delavna, tiha, poštena žena in mati, ki je poleg velike družine našla čas za slovensko cerkev in skupnost.

Množice ljudi so se zbirale ob njeni krsti v pogrebem zavodu in pri pogrebni maši v cerkvi Brezmadežne. Žalostno slovo se je spreminjalo v zahvalo Bogu za plemenito Franckino dušo, za dar vere, ki nam po trpljenju in smrti prinaša tolažbo večnega življenja.

V temnem povojnem času, leta 1948, je komunistična oblast mladi materi Francki iztrgala iz naročja in doma pet malih otrok in jo držala dve leti v zaporih, ker niso našli njenega moža. Ob spominu na vso žalost in trpljenje je vedno pripomnila, da bi brez vere ne preživela...

30. oktober ... Cvetje na Franckinem grobu je komaj ovenelo, ko smo na slovenskem delu pokopališča Vnebovzetja spremljali v zadnji dom na zemlji Marico Bastič, poročeno Cerar. Osemdeset let ji je bilo namenjenih na zemlji. V horjulski fari, v vasi Lubgojna, kateri je posvetila pozneje v Kanadi lepo povest, je preživljala mladost in postala dobra učiteljica. Komunistična revolucija ji je umorila očeta in mater ter tri brate.

Po treh letih begunstva v avstrijskem Spittalu je našla nov dom v Kanadi. S pokojnim možem Francem Cerarjem sta v Torontu ustvarila družino s štirimi otroki in bila ves čas delavna v slovenski skupnosti, pri župnji Brezmadežne kot učiteljica v slovenski šoli, v skavtski in drugih organizacijah, v starostnem domu Lipa, kjer je do zadnje bolezni vodila aktivno skupino starejših žena in bila članica upravnega odbora.

(dalje na str. 15)

Č.g. Ivan Plazar – 65-letnik

TORONTO, Ont. - Č.g. Ivan Plazar, duhovnik Misijonske družbe sv. Vincencija Pavelskega, je bil rojen 25. novembra 1936 v Hrastniku. Leta 1947 se je družina preselila v Brežice, kjer je Ivan končal gimnazijo. Vdanu univerzitetnega študija v Ljubljani, kjer je študiral kemijo in pozneje pouk zamenjal za ekonomijo, je začel razmišljati o duhovniškem poklicu.

Ob nekem predavanju g. Franca Sodja pri frančiškanih v Ljubljani se je odločil za Misijonsko družbo. Po vojaški službi je 8. septembra 1959 v Beogradu vstopil v noviciat in 11. septembra 1964 v škofijski kapeli v Mariboru postal duhovnik lazarist. Novo mašo je daroval 13. septembra v Brežicah.

Teološke študije je začel že v noviciatu v Zagrebu in jih v petih letih končal na ljubljanski univerzi z odličnim uspehom in naslovom Master of Divinity.

Duhovniška pot je Ivana Plazarja vodila iz Zagreba v Celje in na razne kraje po Sloveniji kot misijonarja. V prvih letih je bil prefekt dijakov v Zagrebu, ekonom, kaplan, župni upravitelj, misijonar v katoliški diaspori v Beogradu in Srbiji.

V Kanado je prišel 14. decembra 1969 za kaplana k Mariji Pomagaj. Potem je v kratkem času

kot kaplan pri Brezmadežni leta 1972 postal odgovoren za pastoralno delo med Slovenci brez lastnih župnij po Kanadi od Montreala do Pacifika.

Svoje bogoslovno znanje je uporabljal v vodenju duhovnih vaj v Torontu in Clevelandu. V tem času je bil še upravnik mesečnika Božja Beseda.

5. septembra 1976 je bil poklican za slovensko župnijo Lurške Matere božje v Winnipegu, kjer je uspešno deloval do 1. 1981 skupno z mlado slovensko skupnostjo, ki je kmalu pridobila visok ugled v pisanem mednarodnem Winnipegu.

23. julija 1981 se je Ivan Plazar vrnil k Mariji Pomagaj. Kot župnik je skupaj z gg. Ivanom Janom in Jožetom Časlom skrbel za duhovno življenje velike torontske skupnosti, polne z raznimi društvi in dejavnostmi. 7. avgusta 1987 je sprejel še dolžnosti superiorja torontske hiše lazaristov in ostal v tej službi devet let.

Po zlati maši g. Janeza Kopača 4. julija 1988 in odpovedi župnikovanja je Ivan Plazar postal župnik pri Brezmadežni, kjer deluje še danes. V tem času je začel delovati slovenski starostni Dom Lipa. Župnik Ivan je kot predsednik upravnega odbora Domu Lipa posvetil več let.

(dalje na str. 25)

Povišanje letne naročnine

Pisarna AD sporoča, da zaradi izrednega povišanja poštne in prav tako znatno višjih cen časopisnega papirja, nadomestnih del za tiskarski stroj in druge opreme, bo s 1. januarjem 2002 letna naročnina na Ameriško Domovino povišana za pet dolarjev, torej na \$35 letno od dosedanjih \$30.

Vsak naročnik, ki bi rad pred 1. januarjem svojo naročnino obnovil, ne glede na to, kdaj bo potekla, to lahko stori za sedaj veljavnih \$30 na leto.

Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija (MZA)

Catholic Mission Aid (CMA)

je javna, nepridobitna, dobrodelna misijonska organizacija. Ustanovil jo je Fr. Charles A. Wolbang, CM. Registrirana je v mestu Columbus, Ohio, ZDA.

Za pomoč slovenskim misijonarjem zbira finančno pomoč za njih delo med ubogimi v misijonskih deželah ter za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev za domači misijon.

Hvaležni bomo za vsak dar, ki ga boste darovali v ta namen.

Spomnite se misijonarjev in ubogih v svojih oporokah. Za vse prejete darove izdamo potrdilo za "Income tax".

Uradni naslov:

MZA – CMA

17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119

Glavni odbor MZA-CMA, Cleveland

KANADSKA DOMOVINA

Z novim prizidkom bo DOM LIPA v Torontu imel prostora za 100 stanovalcev

TORONTO, Ont. – V soboto, 10. novembra, so se prijatelji slovenskega starostnega doma Lipa zbrali na letnem banketu pri Brezmadežni v New Torontu. Darko Medved, sedanjí predsednik upravnega odbora, je pozdravil vse navzoče.

Dom Lipa – Slovenian Linden Foundation – je od leta 1985 dosedaj največja samostojna slovenska ustanova, priznana od ontarijske vlade za življenjsko vzdrževanje starejših Slovencev.

Leta 1987 je bilo poslopje Doma Lipa vredno štiri milijone dolarjev na trgu nepremičnin. Je last slovenske skupnosti, ki vsako leto na občnem zboru izvoli in potrdi odbor Slovencev za nadzor in pravilno delovanje zavetišča. Za vse odbornike je to častna, brezplačna služba služba skupnosti, neprecenljiv in plemenit dar Domu Lipa, ki je zgrajen popolnoma

iz darov kanadskih Slovencev.

Ontarijsko ministrstvo za zdravstvo in socialno skrbstvo nadzoruje delovanje doma in delno krije današnje stroške.

V Domu Lipa bo z novim prizidkom, ki bo odprt v juliju 2002, prostora za sto (100) oseb, razdeljenih v dva oddelka: ostareli stanovalci (residents) in onemogli, ki potrebujejo celodnevno oskrbo (extended care).

Za Božič 1987 je tedanjí torontski škof koadjutor dr. Alojzij Ambrožič blagoslovil poslopje in novo kapelo. Umetnik Tone Jemec jo je okrasil s kipom Vstalega Kristusa v glavnem oltarju in križevim potom.

V januarju 1988 se je tam naselil prvi stanovallec, g. Franc Sodja, kmalu za njim pa še štiri najst oseb. G. Sodja je še danes skupaj z g. Ivanom Janom duhovni vodja Doma Lipa, ki s

ss. Mirto in Veroniko skrbijo in delijo duhovno tolažbo in mir sedanjim stanovalcem.

Med starostnimi domovi v Torontu zavzema Dom Lipa visoko mesto priznanja in ugleda pri mestnih in pokrajinskih oblasteh. Vsesplošen red in čistoča, poslovanje, zlasti pa številni prostovoljci in prostovoljke v vseh oblikah delovanja, stalno duhovno vodstvo in navzočnost sester dajejo domu odlično spričevalo in zgled sličnim ustanovam v Torontu.

Prav ta karitativnost, uspešnost in ugled v skupnosti, vsa ta socialna zavest je vabilo in vez, ki današnjega predsednika Darkota druží z Domom Lipa. Odzval se je vabilu in prošnji župnika Janeza Kopača in l. 1993 prevzel to odgovorno mesto, kjer uspešno in odlično vrši svoje delo.

Po njegovih lastnih besedah, sta mu poleg drugih odbornikov v veliko pomoč odvetnik Anthony Klemenčič in hišna zdravnica dr. Elizabeta Kocmur, voditeljica odbora za povečanje doma.

Dolga je vrsta dobrotnikov, podpornikov, prostovoljnih delavcev, ki so pomagali graditi Dom Lipa in ga še podpirajo od prvih začetkov v l. 1975.

Imena Jože Kastelic, mentor, nadzornik vseh preteklih in sedanjih gradbenih del, arhitekt Franc Levec, ki skrbi za Dom Lipa kot za svoj lastni dom, inženir Franc Markež, praktični strokovnjak, pokojni Lojze Babič, organizator nabiralnih akcij in prostovoljcev, Miro Rak, prvi organizator Walkathona, dr. Stane Bah, prvi administrator Doma Lipa, uspešni predstavniki pri kanadskih oblasteh, ki je v l. 1992 pridobil Domu Lipa Nursing Home License – so z zlatimi črkami zapisana v zgodovino Doma Lipa.

Ker Slovenci od l. 1988 niso nikdar zasedli vseh 64 postelj (30 samskih in 30 za onemogle), je bila uprava zaradi zdravega gospodarskega

položaja prisiljena sprejemati prebivalce drugih narodnosti, predvsem pa Slovane. Danes je v Domu stalno 75 do 80% Slovencev.

Čedalje večja je potreba. Po dogovorih z oblastni glede finančne pomoči in odlični oceni Doma Lipa, sedaj gradbeno podjetje Canning Co. gradi novo poslopje za 36 novih stanovalcev, ki bo povezano s prvotno stavbo. Tako bo v l. 2002 velika slovenska družina praznovala spet lep dan in pomagala svojim starejšim do mirnega in prijetnega kotička v Domu Lipa.

Anica Resnik

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(For residents only)

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IVO ŽAJDELA

S SPRAVO NAD ZLOČINE

To jesen je predsednik države Milan Kučan mnoge presenetil, ko se je opredelil glede povojnih pobojev. 26. septembra je za nacionalni radio izjavil: "Moje stališče /.../ je, da je potrebno, da se v Sloveniji krivice popravijo tam, kjer jih je še možno popraviti, da se zločinu reče zločin in se ugotovi, kdo je za zločine kriv. Tako tiste medvojne kot tiste povojne, in da se krivce postavi pred sodišče, ki potem človeka ali obdolženca spozna za krivega ali ga oprostí. Zločin ostane zločin. Tudi če pravno stvari zastarajo, moralno ne zastarajo." To je ponovil čez nekaj dni v Kopru, na proslavi desete obletnice odhoda zadnjega jugoslovanskega vojaka iz Slovenije, ko je dejal, da za zločine kolaboracije in za povojne poboje ni opravičila.

V intervjuju za *Delo* 30. oktobra je dejal, da smo bili "soočeni z dvema hudima grehoma. Prvi se je zgodil s prostovoljnim sodelovanjem z okupatorjem, ko je bil slovenski narod obsojen na uničenje, drugi pa, ko je komaj konstituirana država uporabila svoje organe in vojaške enote za nezakonite zunajso-

Č.g. Ivan Plazar

(nadaljevanje s str. 23)

Vedno zvest Gospodovemu klicu Pasi moje ovce, je ob 35-letnici župnije Brezmadežne organiziral dvotedenski misijon, kakor l. 1981 pri Mariji Pomagaj. Njegova zamisel so bila Marijina romanja po slovenskih družinah v obeh župnijah, kakor tudi molitvene skupnosti za poglobitev verskega življenja v župniji.

Župan Ivan deli odgovornost za uspešno rast svoje župnije s člani gospodarskega in pastoralnega sveta. Lepo vzdrževana cerkev, poslopja in vsa okolica pričajo o dobrih gospodarjih in vernem slovenskem ljudstvu, ki vsako nedeljo polni cerkvene klopi, se zbira v cerkveni dvorani h kulturnim in društvenim prireditvam, kot je bil slavnostni večer 22. novembra ob praznovanju 65-letnice rojstva župnika Ivana.

Naš jubilarant se zaveda svojega duhovniškega poslanstva v sedanjem hitrem času, ki nima ne časa ne posluha za Večno Resnico, in želi biti duhovni vodnik in prijatelj vsem ljudem.

Hvala, gospod Ivan, in Bog naj Vas ohranja v Svojem vinogradu še mnogo let!

Anica Resnik

Ljubljana, Slovenija

Toda pri tem je povsem zamolčal bistveni del te zgodbe, da v Sloveniji med vojno ne bi bilo nobenih domobrancev (protirevolucionarjev), če ne bi bilo komunistične revolucije, ki je s svojim revolucionarnem terorjem ljudi prisilila – v pogojih okupacije oziroma ob prisotnosti okupatorja! – da so se pred to revolucijo organizirali v samobrambne protirevolucionarne formacije, najprej v vaške straže, potem v domobranci.

Kučan je pri svoji izjavi računal, da je povprečni Slovenec izredno močno indoktriniran s povojno komunistično mitologijo o medvojnem dogajanju na Slovenskem. V tej mitologiji so nastopali partizani kot dobri fantje, ki so se borili proti okupatorju in za osvoboditev domovine, domobranci pa so bili slabi fantje, saj so bili kolaboracionisti, ker so sodelovali z okupatorjem.

Kučan je torej zamolčal bistveni del zgodovinske resnice. Ta je, da pri slovenski protirevoluciji nikakor ne moremo govoriti o (klasični) kolaboraciji. Pri protirevoluciji je šlo izrazito za samobrambo pred revolucionarnim terorjem. Stiska protirevolucije je bila še posebej velika, saj se proti revolucionarnemu terorju nikakor niso mogli organizirati upirati mimo vseprisotnega okupatorja. Poleg tega je nesporno dejstvo, da je protirevolucionarje terorizirala in pobijala revolucija, ne pa okupator.

Toda če bi se protirevolucija kakor koli organizirala mimo okupatorja, bi jo ta začel takoj uničevati. To bi počel celo bolj sistematično, saj so protirevolucijo sestavljale nacional(istič)ne slovenske sile, komunisti pa so bili s svojo ideologijo internationalisti in kot taki za okupatorja lahko tudi bolj sprejemljivi.

Protirevolucija je lahko kolikor toliko uspešno obstajala le tako, da si je zaščitila hrbet proti okupatorju. Na dveh frontah, hkrati proti revolucionarnemu terorju in proti okupatorju, se nikakor ni mogla boriti, saj je že tako njena po-

zicija bila zaradi revolucije izrazito izsiljena. Šlo je torej za povsem jasen modus vivendi, šlo je za čisto (samo)obrambno pozicijo.

Tej poziciji se zaradi izrazito nasilnega revolucionarnega nastopanja od poletja 1941 naprej ni dalo izogniti! Bila je neizbežna in v svoji poziciji zelo prizadeta, saj se je nahajala pred samimi slabimi okoliščinami in možnostmi, na eni jo je pobijala revolucija, na drugi je stal okupator.

Govorjenje o prostovoljnosti kolaboracije je zato zaradi izrazite krivičnosti naravnost zločinsko podtikanje. Je le to, kar so komunisti v zvezi s tem od vsega začetka leta 1941 počeli. Svoje žrtve so morali čim bolj očrniti.

Zato je danes naravnost perversno, da razni novinarji, politiki in zgodovinarji, večina namer-

(dalje na str. 26)

Naše življenje

(nadaljevanje s str. 23)

Za vse njeno delo – naša hvaležnost in prošnja, da bi Najvišji učitelj našel nove delavce za Njegove šole življenja na zemlji.

Enaintridesetega oktobra je v Torontu ugasnilo mlado življenje Adriane Jamnik Sousa. Dan pred njenim dvajsetim rojstnim dnevom so jo angeli sprejeli v Večno pomlad. Bolezen raka ji je v treh letih končala zemsko pot.

Po praznikih Vseh svetih in vernih duš je zadnjič obiskala cerkev Marije Pomagaj v beli krsti popisani z zadnjimi pozdravi sošolk, sošolcev in prijateljev družine Jamnik Sousa. Cerkev je bila premajhna za vse, ki so Adriano spremljali na zadnji poti na pokopališče Gora miru. Mnogi so ostali zunaj na stopnicah. Duhovne pesmi deklet Mladinskega zbora Novi rod in združeni cerkveni pevci so navzoče vodili v premišljevanje o smislu življenja.

Mlada Adriana je bila in je zdaj še bolj žgled današnji mladini. Nadarjena visokošolka je ves čas bolezni ohranila pozitiven pogled na življenje in končala trinajst let šolanja. Za vstop na univerzo ni bilo več mo-

či. Bila je zvesta prijateljica, priljubljena in sijajna organizatorka šolskih prireditev. V zadnjem letu bolezni je njena ideja prireditve Festival of Arts zajela učitelje in študente štirih šol, ki je zbral 10 tisoč dolarjev za raziskovanje rakavih bolezni in za Terry Fox Fund.

V pesmi iz njenih šestnajst let se odkriva široko duhovno obzorje, ki jo je zdaj za vedno sprejelo v vrste angelov in njenih starih staršev Jožice in Ludvika Jamnik.

S cvetjem in solzami, z molitvijo in poslušanjem njenih najljubših pesmi, smo se poslavljali od te posebne deklice, katere zgled in spomin naj vedno živi med nami. Nekdo je dejal: "To je naša mala Terezika!"

Njena pesem (odlomek): "There is a life after death, a life far beyond our wildest dreams, a paradise for those who have suffered the tyrannies of a heartless world, a place of peace and eternal solitude. May this truth be your guiding light in the struggle to escape the clutches of darkness and open your mind and heart to the true light of God." (Pesem iz leta 1996.)

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V BLAG SPOMIN

NAŠEGA MOŽA, ATA,
IN STAREGA ATA
Deseta obletnica smrti



MILAN DOLINAR
ki je umrl 14. decembra 1991

Deset let Te zemlja krije,
v temnem grobu mirno spiš;
Srce Tvoje več ne bôje,
bolečin več ne trpiš;
Nam pa žalost srca trga,
solze rosijo nam oči;
Dom je prazen in otožen,
odkar Te več med nami ni.

Žaljujoči ostali:

Pavla — žena
Rozi, Milena — hčerki, in zeta
Miran, Gregor — sinova,
in snahi
vnuk in vnukinji

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1407. Božič – Praznik veselja, miru in ljubezni!

Vsakdo se ga veseli. Iskreno in od srca si voščimo zdravja, sreče, zadovoljstva ter božjega blagoslova, kar naj vsakega spremlja ne samo ob praznikih, pač pa skozi vse leto.

Iskrene čestitke in dobre želje uredništvu Ameriške Domovine, vsem sodelujočim pri Misijonski Znamkarski Akciji, vsem dobrotnikom misijonarjev ter onim, ki vzdržujejo bogoslovce, ter vsemu božjemu ljudstvu. Božje Dete Jezus naj vsem obilno poplača. Blagoslovljene božične praznike. Zdravo in uspešno novo leto 2002, v imenu MZA iskreno želim Sonja Ferjan.

Od srca do srca iz misijonskega sveta

Tudi za božič nas želi razsvetliti misijonar iz japonskega Tokia g. Vladimir Kos s sledečo pesmijo:

RADUJ SE, SODELAVEC, SODELAVKA!

1.) Sodelavec, sodelavka Gospoda:

je Božič prav posebej vajin dan?

Brez dvoma! Sina Božjega prihod pripravljajo še zmeraj srca vdana.

2.) Ni prva – Miriam misijonarka?

In Jožef, zvesti, pridni, čisti mož?

V ozadju odigrava njun se dar – kot prst, vodó in zrak želi si roža.

3.) In naš Gospod želi si pomagánja,

čeprav bi vse lahko ustvaril Sam.

Moči nam da za verovanje Vanj,

in da v ozadju tiho Zanj garámo.

4.) Radujta se božične melodije,

pri Njem sodelavec, sodelavka!

po vaju tudi ta božični sij

ljubezen božjo v daljni svet oznanja.

S pristrčnim pozdravom voščim blagoslovljen Božič in blagoslovljeno Novo leto 2002. Vaš vdani Vladimir Kos, SJ.

Pater Pepi Lebreht, Misijon Nadoba, Togo, Afrika, piše:

Za božične praznike se vam zopet na kratko oglašam. Vsem, ki sem vas med poletnimi počitnicami srečal v Sloveniji, se iskreno zahvaljujem za izmenjane besede, za vse darove in vso razumevajočo podporo.

Po vrnitvi v Nadobo, med pleme Tamberma na jugu Toga, se je zopet marsikaj zgodilo. Najprej je neko soboto ponoči udarila zelo močna strela. Uničila je precej aparatov, pa tudi telefon. S pokritjem nemajhnih stroškov nama je uspelo vse popraviti.

Brevir smo začeli moliti v novem oratoriju sv. Frančiška. Hvala Bogu, prihaja k molitvi brevirja tudi precej mladih. Kakšen večer se jih zbere tudi do dvajset. Lepo je moliti z njimi.

Gradnja hiše sester sv. Avgušтина, hvala Bogu, je sedaj že pri koncu, tako da upamo, da se bosta prvi sestri vselili že za Božič. Naši načrti postajajo resničnost; darovi mnogih slovenskih vernikov pa že rojevajo svoj sad. Začeli smo tudi z gradnjo nove knjižnice.

Novembra so naši kmetje v velikih in hrupnih skupinah želi glavno in najbolj priljubljeno žitarico "fonijo", katerega zrna po obliki spominjajo na gris. Delali so po skupinah. Podnevi so ga želi, ponoči pa z nogami "mlatili". Drug drugemu si pomagajo in za plačilo ničesar ne zahtevajo. Gostitelj dela mora delavcem zagotoviti le dovolj polente z mesom in domačo pijačo "čukutu".

Prva adventna nedelja je bila nabito polna: najprej prečudovito peta, odploskana, z bobni odmevna sv. maša, pri kateri je vstopilo v katehumenat 35 ljudi (med njimi so bili v glavnem mladi). Po sv. maši pa smo pripravili dan Karitasa, kjer so odrasli kristjani skupaj z mladimi pripravili različno hrano, domačo pijačo, razne igre in prodajo rabljenih oblek, ki so prišle iz Evrope. Na ta način smo nekoliko napolnili blagajno župnijske Karitas, nekaj pa je odcurljalo še v škofijsko Karitas.

Po posameznih osnovnih in srednjih šolah v Nadobi in nekaterih okoliških vaseh vstopamo v višje razrede in prinašamo otrokom in mladim znanje o religijah. Prinašamo tudi molitev in Božjo besedo. Ne gre za neposredno oznanjanje Kristusa, marveč za sejanje njegove Besede in dobrote, ki moreta v nekaterih srcih poroditi odgovor pnižne in zaupne vere.

V krščanski skupnosti poskušamo poživiti katoliška gibanja med mladino in otroci. Pri tem nam pomaga že ena od novih redovnih sester. Istočasno volimo nove odgovorne v krščanski skupnosti. Naš škof je skupaj s sodelavci pripravil pravilnik o tem, kdo je lahko izvoljen in kakšno delo naj kot odgovorni opravlja.

Praznik Kristusovega rojstva. – Iz srca vam želim, da bi lepoto božične skrivnosti doživeli odrešujoče v globini

svojega srca. Naj bo za vas in za vse vaše bližnje božični čas Kristusovega rojstva, čas posebnih milosti, poln božjega blagoslova, miru in ljubezni. Naj veselje nad Odrešenikom, ki vedno z nova prihaja, napolnjuje tudi vse dni leta Gospodovega 2002.

Najlepši praznik Gospodovega rojstva v najlepšem srcu!

Vdani in hvaležni, p. Pepi Lebreht.

Misijonska sodelavka ter poverjenica MZA

v Windsorju, ga. Mimi Martinčič, se je letos odločila, da bo poskusila izvršiti preko pisem nabirko za slovenske misijonarje. Radi zdravstvenih razlogov ni mogla pripraviti srečanja in misijonskega kosila, kot je to mnoga leta prirejala z njenimi pomočnicami, katere so ji letos pomoč odpovedale, verjetno tudi iz opravičenih pomislekov. Resnično ji moramo dati vse priznanje, kako izredno je iznajdljiva, kljub vsem nevšečnostim; še celo pri hoji si mora pomagati z "walker"-jem.

Razposlala je okrog 80 pisem za pomoč misijonarjem ter za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev. Hvalimo Gospoda za vse razumevajoče, kajti uspeh je bil lep. Odzvali so se sledeči:

Iz Windsorja: Jan Grebenc \$50; Vencelj Horvat \$90; Tončka Javornik \$30; Kristina Javornik \$10; Viktor Javornik \$10. Še po \$10: Mary Kolar, Mary Peršolja, Lizika Štrukelj, Marjeta Tompa. Po \$15: Ivanka Košnik, Micka Kužnik. Po \$20: Zalka Pirih, Irena Reduta. Anica Novak \$60; Helena Perz \$30; Justič Šepetanc \$50; dr. Vladimir Pezdirc \$50; Peter Martinčič \$100; Mimi Martinčič \$140.

Iz hrvaške fare sv. Frančiška Asiškega so darovali: Peter Bakić \$10; po \$20: Jelka Bernardič, Milivoj Darković, Branka Gavrić, Zdravko Kuharić; Mate Car \$50.

Dobrotniki iz Detroita, Mich.: Vida Požar \$10; po \$20: Jožef Briški, Rafael Drenšek, Mary Ana Lunder; Frank Gerkman \$30; po \$50: Rezka Gerkam, Mary Košir, Frančiška Mehle. dr. Marjeta Jamšek-Tehirian \$100.

Vseh darov skupaj US \$350 za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev ter kan. \$890.07 za vse misijonarje ter za misijonarja Mavriča. Stroškov za znamke in za fotokopije je bilo v skupnem znesku \$60.93.

Mariji Martinčič se je vsem darovalcem zahvalila za njih razumevanje in dobroto ter velikodušnost.

Iskrena zahvala Mimi Martinčičevi za njen napor in žrttev. Srčna zahvala pa tudi vsem darovalcem – Bog plačaj. Veliko dobrega lahko v življenju naredimo – samo hoteti je treba. Če je žrtev večja, je pri Bogu še večja nagrada.

Mimi, zdravja Ti želimo ter lepo praznuj božične praznike in prav tako vsi ljudje, ki imate srce za potrebne. Dobrota se poraja v naših srcih. Božič je dobrota – ljubezen, in to je Jezus v nas. V Božiču za MZA –

Sonja Ferjan

79 Lunness Rd., Toronto
ON M8W 4M7, Canada

S SPRAVO NAD ZLOČINE

(nadaljevanje s str. 25)

no, nekateri pa tudi iz nevednosti, prepuščajoč se mitu, ki so nam ga vbijali v glave pred letom 1990, še vedno ponavljajo lažnjivi komunistični konstrukt in mit o slovenski kolaboraciji.

Kolaboracija je bila v Franciji, v Belgiji, na Nizozemskem, Danskem, Norveškem, na Madžarskem, skratka v mnogih evropskih državah. O kolaboraciji govorimo tam, kjer so domače politične sile povsem prostovoljno

sodelovale z okupatorjem, čeprav ni bilo pri njih nobene komunistične revolucije, ki bi jih v kaj takšnega prisilila.

Zato je tudi uporaba termina, da je šlo za državljansko vojno povsem napačna. Ena stran je napadala, druga se je branila. Poleg tega se ta druga sploh ne bi branila oziroma se ne bi znašla v tej poziciji, če je revolucija ne bi povzročila.

Gre torej za dve izrazito neenakovredni poziciji: napadalno in obrambno. O državljanski vojni bi lahko govorili, če bi se med seboj spopadali

dve politični strani znotraj naroda v bolj ali manj "čistih" okoliščinah. V Sloveniji pa v letih 1941 in 1945 ni bilo teh "čistih" okoliščin, saj je bila dežela okupirana oziroma zasedena z močno tujo vojsko.

O nekaterih elementih državljanske vojne bi lahko, pa še to zelo pogojno, govorili šele za obdobje leta 1944 in do konca vojne, ko se je protirevolucija bila prisiljena preoblikovati (zaradi strašnih pobojev revolucije jeseni 1943) v mnogo resnejše vojaške formacije. Te (domobranici) so bili od leta 1944 tudi ofenzivne, ne več samo defenzivne (obrambene), kot prej vaše straže.

Mimogrede, zato so bile tudi besede dr. Franceta Bučarja na prvem zasedanju demokratičnega parlamenta leta 1990, da se je zdaj končala državljanska vojna, povsem napačne in do "ene strani" krivične. "Državljska vojna" se leta 1990 nikakor ni mogla končati, saj je v Sloveniji od leta 1945 do leta 1990 pustošila klima komunistične diktature, skozi udbovski aparat ene najbolj dodelanih v svetovnem merilu. Končala se je torej diktatura, ne pa državljanska vojna! Le kaj naj si človek misli ob takšnem govorjenju in ob tako zgrešeni uporabi znanih in zelo jasnih politoloških terminov?

Vrnimo se h Kučanu. Predsednik države je torej vse to zamolčal. Ponovil je stari komunistični obrazec (konstrukt) o medvojni kolaboraciji in povojnih pobojih te kolaboracije. Z zločinom se je torej šlo na zločin. Nekako tako kot zdaj Zahod z bombardiranjem v Afganistanu uničuje teroristične zločince.

Toda z zgornjo izjavo, da so bili povojni poboji zločin, ki bi ga tudi bilo treba kaznovati, je Kučan kljub vsemu za mnoge sile na Slovenskem šel predaleč. Borci mu prav gotovo niso ploskali! In še marsikdo ne. Zato je kmalu zatem v intervjuju za Delo (30. okt. 2001) svojo prejšnjo izjavo nadgradil in jo s tem bistveno omilil. Osredotočil se je na prvi del, na kolaboracioniste. Pri tem je potegnil iz rokava nekaj-

(dalje na str. 27)

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*Vesele Božične Praznike
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Vesele, miru polne božične praznike ter sreče,
zdravja in uspehov polno novo leto želi vsem

Družina Matija Lončar



*Vesele Božične Praznike
in Srečno Novo Leto!*

Folklorna skupina Kres

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!*

**Blagoslovljene božične praznike in srečno
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in srečno Novo leto
vam želijo**

Milan, Blažena, Barbi, Suzi in Franki RIHTAR

kakor tudi
David, Kerry, Jack in Max



*Vsem našim sorodnikom in prijateljem namesto
osebnih voščil prav iz srca želimo blagoslovljene
božične praznike in srečno novo leto.*

**družina Miro Odar
družina Andy Odar**

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA,
DECEMBER 20, 2001

S SPRAVO NAD ZLOČINE

(nadaljevanje s str. 26)

šno svojo "zasebno" zgodbo o svojem očetu in stricu. Oč naj bi bil izrazil pozitivec, tako kot partizani nasploh, saj je kot komunist in partizan padel in dal svoje življenje proti okupatorju na sremski fronti.

Vse nekaj drugega pa naj bi bil njegov stric. Ta naj bi leta 1941 pričakal Madžare kot velik madžaron. Zato je bil po vojni, leta 1945, "justificiran" na dvorišču soboškega gradu.

S to "osebno zgodbo", za katero ni dvoma, da je bila zelo učinkovita, je izredno zvito poskušal obremeniti kolaboracioniste iz svoje predhodne "koprške" izjave in povedal, da so bili v povojnih pobojih povsem upravičeno pobiti. Tako kot njegov stric.

Kučan si madžaronstva svojega strica verjetno ni izmislil. Zaradi tega madžaronstva je bil ta njegov stric po vojni "justificiran" (mar res, mar je bil prej pravnomočno obsojen?). Če je to z "velikim madžaronstvom" res, potem je prav gotovo bil kolaboracionist v takšni obliki, kot to ta pojem opredeljuje. Kolaborirati pomeni prostovoljno pomagati okupatorju pri doseganju njegovih vojaških in političnih ciljev na škodo lastnega naroda. V Prekmurju med vojno ni bilo revolucije, tako kot v osrednji Sloveniji.

Kučan je torej s to "svojo" zgodbo hotel obremeniti v povojnih pobojih pobite domobrince. Pri tem ga ni prav nič motilo, da pri domobrancih oziroma slovenski protirevolucionarji, kot smo kratko nakazali zgoraj, nikakor ni šlo za prostovoljno sodelovanje z okupatorjem, ampak za izrazito prisiljeno navezo.

Če so hoteli sploh obstajati, so si morali zaščititi hrbet. Imeli so dve zelo slabi možnosti: ali se pustijo še naprej pobijati komunistom, ali pa se proti temu početju organizacijsko naslonijo na okupatorja; mimo njega se pač ni dalo! Če je od tega imel okupator

(dalje na str. 28)

*Blagoslovljene božične praznike
in srečno, zdravo Novo leto
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ŽIVI ...**

**VESEL BOŽIČ VSEM
ŽELIMO LAH-OVI**

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in srečno Novo leto*

želijo

Dr. in ga. David Turk in družina

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S SPRAVO NAD ZLOČINE

(nadajevanje s str. 27)

kakšno korist, je to bila samo izrazita posledica, ki pa gre v celoti na rovaš tistega, ki je protirevolucijo povzročil, to pa so bili komunisti s svojim partizansko-revolucionarnim nasiljem.

Za nameček je v intervjuju za *Delo* dejal: "Mislil, da bi bil poraz slovenstva, če bi si kot cilj postavili kaznovanje za zločine kolaboracije ali za zločine neposredno po vojni. Za prihodnost slovenstva je potrebna narodna pomiritev ali sprava. To naj bo naš skupni cilj."

Sprava torej! Spet so morali poseči po tej temi. Tako kot so dediči komunistične revolucije hoteli svoje politično-duhovne očete – revolucionarje – zaščititi s projektom sprave že ob prelomu z diktaturo na začetku 90. let, tako zdaj spet vlečejo ta prosluli projekt na plano. Spravljajmo se torej, saj ni važno kaj piše v ustavi in zakonih.

Saj ni važno, da ustava in zakoni za nekatere veljajo, po tej spravaški logiki pa za druge ne. Eni imajo pač moč govoriti in delati vse, drugi nič. Kučanu na kraj pameti ni padlo, da bi ob sodnem preganjanju domobranca Vinka Levstika kaj govoril o "porazu slovenstva". Deset let je imel za to priložnost. Levstika so preganjali, ga medijsko nenehno linčali in na koncu obsodili na 12 let zapor, ne da bi mu karkoli dokazali – vse na osnovi "rekla kazala". Kučan pa se zdaj, ko se je vsaj malo pisalo o grobiščih poveljnih pobojev, ki so širom po Sloveniji, naenkrat spet zateka k spravi.

Milan Kučan, predsednik države, nam torej ni povedal nič novega.

Spretno je ponovil stari boljševistični obrazec s pomočjo uporabe tipičnih polresnic. Celo svojega strica je moral uporabiti za renoviranje nekega ideološkega mita. Zgodovina bo o takšnem predsedniku prav gotovo izrekala svojo neizbežno sodbo.

18. novembra 2001



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