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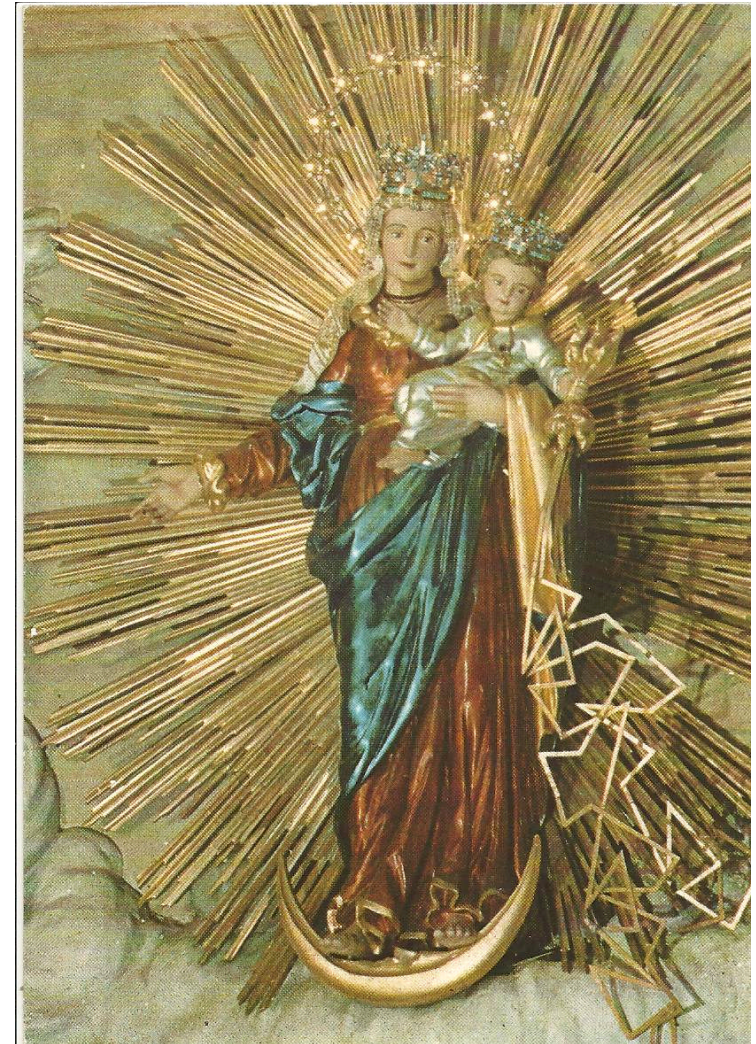
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IN ENGLISH
Czech Mission
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Our Lady of Hostyn

CALIFORNIA / AUGUST 2012

You are invited to attend



**OUR
CZECH
LITURGY**

In SAN DIEGO our Mass will be on Saturday, August 18 at 4:00 in the afternoon at St. John's Church on the corner of Normal and Lincoln. Refreshments follow.

In LOS ANGELES our Mass will be on Sunday, August 19 at 1:30 in the afternoon at the Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886. Immediately after Mass a meal of pork roast with dumplings and sauerkraut will be served. A donation of \$10.00 is requested, \$5.00 for parky.

In SAN FRANCISCO our Mass will be on Sunday August 26. A beseda with refreshments will follow

Mark your Calendars for September: San Francisco Sept 16, SD 29, LA 30.

Svatý Hostýn, Holy Hostýn,

is the most frequently visited pilgrimage shrine in Moravia and after Velehrad the most memorable one. For three centuries now thousands of pilgrims have been converging on Hostýn mountain with its sanctuary of Our Lady to seek and find there a refuge from their troubles and needs. Above the main altar of the Basilica of the Assumption of Our Lady is located a life size statue of the Virgin Mary. The Child Jesus, whom she is holding in her embrace, is aiming bolts of lightning at the Tatars depicted beneath the statue. These cruel marauders, who were threatening Europe during the 13th century, invaded Moravia in 1241, murdering and plundering. The people sought refuge in the forests and mountains to save their lives and whatever property they could bring with them. According to legend, those who found refuge on Hostýn were saved through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, when the encampment of the marauders was destroyed by fire caused by lightning. Another legend tells of a visit to Hostýn by the Apostles of the Slavs, Sts. Cyril and Methodius, who are said to have destroyed a pagan place of worship there and erected a chapel in honor of Mary.

The concept of the Victorious Virgin Mary is unique in the whole world. Czech expatriates scattered abroad find in the devotion to the Virgin Mary of Holy Hostýn a religious and emotional bond with their motherland. The Victorious Guardian of Moravia is the guardian of us all.

www.hostyn.cz/cizi/english.htm

JUNE-JULY 2012

Total collections for operation of the California missions: \$3,892.00

SF collection: \$406.00; for *Velehrad* \$.35.00 . LA picnic collection \$901.00, meal \$1,004.00, tombola \$130.00; Mail: July \$550.00.

Mission Expenses: \$2,175.00

\$1,000.00 Bishop's salary; 125.00 (rent SF); 360.00 (travel to SF, gas, car maintenance); LA meal 279; Věstník publication : \$147.00 +264.00 (postage).

May God reward you for your generosity.

Please take care to make out your checks so that they will match the names on our accounts: RC Czech Mission, or Czech Center Building Fund, or if you wish it to go to the Bishop or to North American Pastoral Center for Czech Catholics: Bishop Peter Esterka, or NAPCCC

OUR MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST ONLY AS LONG AS WE SUPPORT IT FINANCIALLY.

YOUR TRUST OR WILL: Please remember Czech ministry in your trust or will. Our legal title is: North American Pastoral Center for Czech Catholics, 344 KOCH Avenue, Placentia, CA 92870. For information call Bishop Esterka, 714 524 0092.

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ÚMYSLY NA MŠE SVATÉ:

ČERVENEC • JULY

29. za Sally Bettar (90th birthday) - Helen Misik

SRPEN • AUGUST

1. +Miroslava Vykydala - sestru Helen Misik
2. +Robert Dvoráček - manželka Květa s rodinou
3. +rodiče Josefa a Ludmilu Dvořákovy - Ludmila Dvořák
4. +Bob Mařika - manžel Anna
5. +Karla Nováka - manželka Inka a dcera Irenka
6. +Emilii Křížovou - syn Vladimír
7. +sestru Zdenku Lundákovou a přátel - Ludmila Dvořák
8. +Jiřinu Jordánovou - manžel Pavel
9. za brske uzdravení Jozefa Braška - Lenka Dostálek
10. +George Martinku - Jean Hoard
11. + Mirka a Janu Janakovy - Gita a Honza Dedek
12. +Jana a Marii Hrobařovy - manželé Hrobařovi
13. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín - Joe Kocáb
14. +Marii a Antonina Šotlovi - manželé Hrobařovi
15. +Mirku Miksovou (páté výr.) - manžel Frank
16. +za rodiče Annu a Jana Vad'urovi.- manželé Hrobařovi
17. +Karla a Marie Bejblovy - Ludmila Dvořák
18. +Raymunda Dvorského - manželka Marie
19. +Miloše Mařika - manželka Edith
20. +Veronica Sujak - Jean Hoard
21. + Slavek Uhlíř (10th výr.) - manželka Jessie
22. +Dr. Luďka Kozlíka - manželka Brigitte
23. +Marka Vilinskeho - Lenka Dostálek
24. +Hedy Srnka - Bertha Srnka
25. +Premysla Tůmu - Elizabeth Khodabakhshi
26. +Petra Vranu - manželka Jarka
27. +J.V. Reicherta - manželka Jana
28. +Jana Janku - dcera Eva Kyška
29. + dcera Marii a syna Jaromíra - rodiče Hrobařovi
30. +Jima Frolíka (10th výr.) - Aška s rodinou
31. +Anastasie a Frantisek Slepíčka - Ludmila Dvořák

ZÁŘÍ • SEPTEMBER

1. +Albert Misik - manželka Helen
2. +Josef Hrabec - přítel

FROM THE DESK OF BISHOP ESTERKA

Dear Friends of our Czech Mission in California



The last event before the summer vacation was our mission picnic on "Fathers Day," 17 June, in the garden of our California Velehrad. Because I was leaving the next day for Europe, I had no opportunity to reflect on the entire event and properly thank all of you who have "put your hand to the work". Even though many had gone on holiday quite a bit earlier and I was afraid that we will be just a very little picnic this year, we eventually came together as quite a sizable group. A big thank you especially for the gift of the excellent steaks and their preparation to the Oberreiters, but also to the many others who have helped with the preparation of the altar, chairs, tables, selling tickets, you who brought desserts and guests, prizes for the raffle, and everything else to make it possible.... Each year I am pleased and even surprised that we can do it.

As in previous years, so this year I was invited to the meeting of the Czech Bishops' Conference, which meets annually before the Sts. Cyril and Methodius' pilgrimages to Velehrad. So it was this year. I flew home to Moravia, via Munich, where, when changing planes for a flight to Vienna, it was so hot and humid that all of us passengers just poured with sweat. We were all completely soaked as we departed from Munich. In Vienna we got into slightly a more pleasant atmosphere. Although the aircraft was somewhat smaller than the intercontinental plane, it was filled to the last seat primarily because we flew with many "missionaries" who were on their way to Bulgaria in order to gain members for their church. Mostly young men, the missionaries were recognizable by the fact that they all wore the same uniform, that is, a black suit and white shirt. They were all well groomed, with good haircuts and shaves, and many studied the Bible during the flight and did not try to attract attention to themselves. As missionaries they are said to have great success. They try to get mostly "ordinary" people who do not know much about religion, but who are yet open to hearing about the Bible from these handsome, polite and likeable young men.

After two days I attended the ordination ceremony in the Brno Cathedral of Peter and Paul. There were three young men who had completed the rigorous preparation for receiving the sacrament of the priesthood. On this occasion I was again reminded of how my father, when I was a young boy, racing to get there in time, took me to Brno to see the ordination of priests. I remember very well how we maneuvered our way to get into the crowded cathedral where we hoped to see the event.

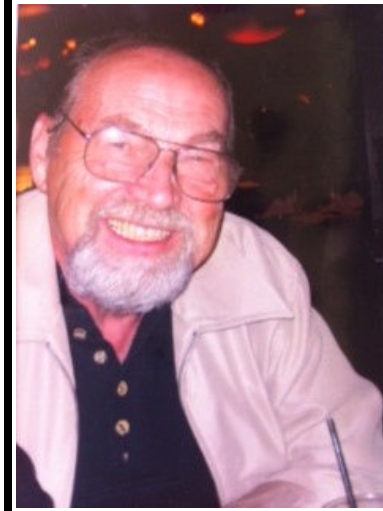
But despite all these efforts we did not succeed. I was never able to see the men being ordained. Much later, on September 11, 1999, when I myself was ordained bishop in the Cathedral, I finally got to see the altar. Coincidentally, this would have been the 90th birthday of my father already deceased for more than twenty years.

After the Mass it was customary to be invited by the Bishop of Brno to a gala lunch at the bishop's palace. Since this day was also convenient for a reunion, I met instead with my classmates from the Bishop's School in Brno, which was closed by the communists around Easter, 1950. So I passed on the lunch and participated in the meeting of my classmates at a nearby restaurant. It has actually become an annual discussion about current problems and issues that exist in the Church. Each year we are more aware of the fact that we are aging and slowly, unfortunately, disappearing...

This year I also met with classmates from the gymnasium in Hodonin, from which I graduated in 1956. Even here I was confronted with the obvious decline of our usual numbers. Each year fewer professors and classmates come. Some live far away; others excuse themselves because of illness; and still others have died. This is a sad fact of life.

Before heading home to California I was treated to a political engagement between the communists and socialists (the left) and other political parties (the right) in the government. It was anything but nice. They were discussing a statement of „no confidence“ in the present government that would mean new and expensive options. The speeches that preceded the voting were full of accusations and falsehoods. I felt like I was under communism again. They still have lots of power and are not afraid to use it. Finally those who were in favor of opposing the government failed, but the lesson I took from it is that democracy today is very fragile there, to a degree that is dangerous. The political situation in our native country, that is, today's Czech Republic, is disturbing and scary. I am surprised that the people are willing to cooperate with the communists, not realizing the danger they are in. Those who oppose the communist doctrine and way of life don't seem willing or able to organize actively.

I came home to the United States with a sadness that has not left me yet.



ROBERT DVORAČEK

10. duben 1930. - 23. květen 2012.

With a sad heart my mother Kveta Dvoraček and I wish to notify the Czech community that my dear father Robert Dvoraček passed away on May 23, 2012, in Los Angeles

wife Kveta, daughter Genie Berberian and family.

Loucim se s Vami, pratele mili ruky stisk dnes uz Vam nemohu dat. Srdce mi dotlouklo, odesly sily, mel jsem Vas vsechny, mel jsem Vas rad.

We have been informed that **JOSEF HRABEC**, seen at far right in this photo, has died. We are hoping that the family or close friends will send us information so that we can include an obituary in our September issue. The photo below, showing Josef and Anna Hrobar, Bishop Esterka, and Rose and Josef Hrabec was taken about ten years ago.





Bohumir (Bob) Marik
May 29, 1928 - July 22, 2012

Bohumir Marik was born to John and Emilie Marik, a prominent business couple who ran the firm Tuzem, on May 29, 1928 in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. When Mira was just 15 and his brother Slava was 10 their father, facing persecution and imprisonment as a „capitalist,“ sailed away to America. After that life became difficult for the brothers, who

dreamed to also go to America. Slava left first on a cruise to Italy from which he never returned. A few years later Mira packed up his wife Julie and his twin 14 year old daughters Eva and Yana and headed for the border with West Germany. After temse hours the family made it across the border. They stayed for a year in Germany waiting for visas and finally arrived in America.

Mira became known as Bob to his American friends and colleagues and was finally able to try his hand at business. He could not believe the opportunity and freedom he had. He vowed that both his daughters would use the opportunity they had in America and pushed them to get advanced degrees, which they did, becoming doctors of pharmacy. He succeeded in business beyond his wildest dreams, running a custom ironworks business in Redondo Beach and then moving on to commercial real estate business ventures. Meanwhile his brother Slava built a successful medical practice and became prominent in his field. The brothers brought their mother to America, where she lived out her life with the knowledge that her sons were s successful and happy.

Later in life, with second wife Anna, Bob continued an active life of skiing, dancing, mountain biking, and world-travel.

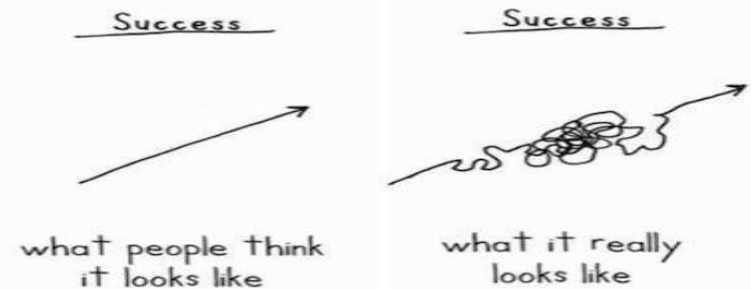
He is survived by his wife, two daughters, two grandsons Nicky and Billy, and two granddaughters Jessica and Jennifer.

- *The grieving Marik family*

There are no classes in life for beginners: right away you are always asked to deal with what is most difficult. Rainer Maria Rilke



It was raining during the procession in Mikulcice. July 5, 2012.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Beginning with our next (September) issue, the Vestnik will be cut back to two sheets (8 pages). This is necessary because the work has become impossible to sustain with the help that is available to us. We will continue to announce Mass times and intentions, as well as important news of events in the California Czech Mission; however, features such as inspirational articles will be discontinued. You can still find these on our website: www.czechchurch.org This is not a decision based on finances, but on human resources. Since there is no translation resource available, all obituaries and other information sent to us will henceforth be published in the language in which it was received.



Fathers Day Picnic June 17, 2012, at Velehrad CA

Photo courtesy of Christine Dvorsky.

Once again the annual Father’s Day picnic will be remembered as a great success. As usual the group assembled on the deck after dinner for a record shot. Don’t miss Filip Dobes in the water, giving the victory sign. Then, from left to right

We would like to be able to name each person shown here, but alas, not all are instantly recognizable. If you can tell us the names of all the persons in this photo, please send them to Bishop Esterka as soon as possible. Even if you only know a few, it would help us in the long run.

Missionary returns.

Daniel Sputa, with 9 undergraduate students and two other staff members from Marywood University in Scranton PA, headed to Guatemala in May, 2012, for some weeks of volunteering to help with reforestation projects, education initiatives, and other projects sponsored by the San Lucas Mission. He is grateful for the support he received from the California Czechs that enabled him to undertake this mission. He found it to be challenging as well as faith-affirming.

