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LUDMILA

IN THIS ISSUE

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KALIFORNIE ZÁŘI/SEPTEMBER 2011

You are invited to attend



OUR CZECH LITURGY

In SAN DIEGO our Mass will be on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 10 at 4:00 in the afternoon</u> at St. John's Church on the corner of Normal and Lincoln.

In LOS ANGELES our Mass will be on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 11, at 1:30 in the afternoon</u> at the Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886. Immediately after Mass a meal will be served. A donation of \$10.00 is requested, \$5.00 for parky.

IN SAN FRANCISCO our Mass will be on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 18</u>, at 11:00 in the morning at Star of the Sea Church, 4420 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA. For Octover: SD 22, LA 23; SF November 6.

Our cover page shows a drawing of St. Ludmila teaching her eldest grandson, St. Wenceslas, the truths of the Catholic faith. We now know that Prince Bořivoj and his wife, St. Ludmila were baptized in the Moravian St. Velehrad by St. Methodius himself. To what extent Borivoj understood his baptism is not clear. St. Ludmila, however, took baptism very seriously. For her it was not just a liturgical ceremony, but a commitment to live her everyday life by the Gospel. And in her time, it was not easy. Bohemia was still largely pagan.

She not only raised their her two sons Spytihnev and Vratislav in the true Christian faith and love of the Slavonic liturgy , but also her grandson, St. Wenceslas, whom she helped to govern even when he was still a minor.

St Ludmila can be an example not only in the old country but also here in our new country. The parents of our grandchildren often grew up without a basic religious education. And so it would be good if we would bring back the importance of Christian education and lifestyle. St. Ludmila showed us how the faith can be handed down from one generation to the next. *St. Ludmila, pray for us and for our nation.*

AUGUST 2011

Total collections for operation of the California missions: \$2,812.

SD \$360.00, *Velehrad \$0.00*; LA/OC collection \$1,033.00, meal \$267.00; *for Velehrad \$20.00*; SF collection \$752.00, *for Velehrad \$894.00*, meals \$400.00..

Mission Expenses: \$2,062.00

\$1,000.00 Bishop's salary; \$500.00 (rent for Polish Center (200), SF church (250), and the hall in San Diego (50); \$270.00 (travel to SF, gas, car maintenance); Věstník publication: \$150.00 printing +242.00 (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:

ZÁŘI • SEPTEMBER

- 1. za + Jima Frolíka (9.výr.+) Aška s rodinou
- 2. za + Jamese Loudu manželka Hana
- 3. za + Magdalenu Greenbergerovou (18.výr+)- manžel Silvestr

- 4. za + Milušku Svatošovou Franta Klojda
- 5. za + rodinu Smolíkovu Hana Louda
- 6. za +Františku Koktovou Marie Dvorská
- 7. za + John (Jana) Dobiáše sestra Hana s rodinou
- 8. za + Miroslav Marik (1.výr.+)- manželka Edith
- 9. za Franka Vajdíka(75.B-day) v Chatham, Canada Joe Kocáb
- 10. za +George Martinku Jean Hoard
- 11. za +Emilii Křížovou syn Vladimír
- 12. za +Miroslava Kovalčíka manželka Ilena
- 13. za +Dr. Luďka Kozlíka manželka Brigitte
- 14. za + Karla Nováka manželka Inka a dcera Irenka
- 15. za +Jiřinu Jordánovou manžel Pavel
- 16. za + Marii a Josefa Nečasovy
- 17. za +Raymunda Dvorského manželka Marie
- 18. za + Bohuslava Ulricha (+20.5.11) sestra Marie Wimmerová
- 19. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín Joe Kocáb
- 20. za O. Vojtěcha Cikrleho (u příležitosti jeho 65. narozenin)
- 21. za +Veronica Sujak Jean Hoard
- 23. za + Ludmilu Hudečkovou (5.výr+)- dcera Milada Vegvary
- 24. za +Jana Filípka přátelé
- 25. za +Marii Jordánovou syn Pavel
- 26. za +Marii Wagner dcera Bertha Srnka
- 28. za +Petra Vranu manželka Jarka
- 30. za o. Jaroslava Popelku (24.výr. +)

Memorial za Bohuslava Ulricha, který zemřel po těžké nemoci 20. května 2011 v Praze ve věku nedožitých 76. let jsme dostali od jeho sestry Marie Wimmerové, MUDr. Veroniky Šimánkové, dcery a Honzíka, syna.

September 8th marks the 170th anniversary of the birth of Antonin Dvorak. On September 25, at 10 am, Archibshop Dominik Duka of Prague, will celebrate a Mass in Washington, D.C. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Crypt Church (Lower level). Dvořák's Mass in D Major, "Lužanská" will be performed. This event commemorates also the 200th anniversary of St.



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FROM THE DESK OF BISHOP ESTERKA

Dear Friends of our Czech Mission in California

On page 5 of this Bulletin is an article published not long ago in the Czech Catholic weekly on how one April night in 1950 the Communist secret police arrested 464 priests who they imprisoned in the Premonstratention Monastery in Zeliv in order to isolate them from the faithful, who were then left without shepherds. Those were the most feared, but on that particular night they imprisoned a total of about 7,000 priests



and religious in the former Czechoslovakia. It was just one of many "slices," by which the communists tried to control and destroy the influence of the Church in our country.

I recently got into a debate on the position of the Catholic Church at home with several visitors from the Czech Republic here in the U.S. Although these tourists confessed that only occasionally do they go to church, due to the fact that under communism religion was not taught and most go to church only on major holidays. Most do not understand why Catholics are still primarily seeking to get back the property confiscated by the communists and other church-state issues. In this exchange, I suddenly realized that these people do not grasp the extent to which the communists tried and are still, since they are still in government, trying to limit the Church today in its activities. These people, Catholics and non-Catholics, do not realize how much influence the Church and especially the Catholic Church, had before the war and after. The dominance of the Church had an amazing effect on people. Almost every village has a church; in larger cities, there were several, as well as church-owned schools, hospitals, and other institutions.... In each parish there was at least one priest who baptized, taught religion, prepared for the sacraments: the first confession, first communion, adoptions, marriages; visited the sick and buried the dead. That equaled an amazing influence on his parishioners. The Communists were very conscious of this and therefore, when they were going to take over after the war, they not only nationalized heavy industry, introduced collective farms in villages, and finally nationalized all businesses, even barber shops. Therefore, it was obvious to the communists right from the beginning that war had to be declared against all religious groups, but mainly against the Catholic Church, which was at its strongest and most influential. Its only absolute is faith in God. Therefore they had to destroy the Church, even at the price of blood, not just property.

I personally experienced persecution of the Church in my native parish, where already in 1949 the Communists arrested our pastor, Fr. Jaromir Porizek, known especially for helping the poor parishioners during the war, and sentenced him to 15 years in prison (he served over 11 years, was released and soon died under mysterious circumstances). The bishops of the whole country were terrorized and ultimately arrested. In their places the regime put their own men whose primary goal was to destroy the Church.

On 25 August we celebrated the feast of St. Louis, who became the King of France in 1226 after the death of his father, Louis VIII. While praying the breviary it occurred to me that the letter of King Louis to his son, who took over the government, could have been written St. Vaclav's father, Duke Vratislav. Since we celebrate the feast of St.. Vaclav in September, I'd like to share this letter with you. It presents well the foundations of Christian life which are ultimately the same for every one of us as for the king.

From the spiritual testament of St. Louis's son Philip the Bold, to his successor on the French throne.

Dearest son, I give you above all the wish that you learn to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your strength, because without it there is no salvation. Son, you have to avoid all that you know God does not approve of, which means every mortal sin; rather choose to endure all kinds of tortures than to commit a mortal sin.

When God permits you some suffering, you have to willingly endure, give thanks for that and understand that it is for your good and that you probably deserved it. And when God will give you some success, accept it with humility and thank him for it, praying that you will not fall into pride. You must not turn the gifts God gave you against him by being arrogant in your triumph.

Attend gladly and piously the liturgies of the Church. In the church pay your attention to what is going on, don't look around or try to converse with others, but pray to in words or meditation in the heart.

Have a compassionate heart towards the poor and suffering, providing them aid and comfort if you can. Be grateful to God for all the blessings you have received and ask him to give you even more. Support always the poor. Towards your subjects be always just. Do not sway from justice whether to the right or the left. Be always rather on the side of the poor than of the rich or well-to-do if you do not know the certainty of the truth. Take care of all those over whom you have power, especially members of religious orders that they too may llive under the auspices of justice and peace.

Be obedient to our mother the Church of Rome and the Supreme Pontiff as a spiritual father. Strive to ensure that every sin and blasphemy, and particularly false teachings have been eradicated from your country.

Dearest son, I give you blessings then, which a loving father can give to a son. May the Holy Trinity and All Saints protect you both from all harm. May God give you grace to do his will, that thus you may serve him with the proper respect so that we together can praise him forever. Amen



JAN DOBIAS April 26, 1923– July 6, 2011

Jan was born in Prague where he lived with his parents, brother, and sister in Kralupy nad Vltavou. He completed studies at the local *Realne Gymnasium Antonina Dvoraka* in 1942 and was immediately taken with a transport for forced labor in the war industry in Schweinfurt, Germany. After the war he worked with his father in their com-

pany established by his grandfather, which was then confiscated by the Communist regime after 1948. That same year Jan marries his wife of almost 63 years, Jindra. They had two children, Jan, born in 1949 and Blanka, born in 1952.

In 1967 Jan decided to move to California where he and his family joined his brother and sister and their families in Los Angeles. He became a member of SVU, serving several functions and becoming the president of the local chapter from 1982-1988. He also participated in the Pasadena Beseda, where he was know to bring news about historical, cultural or political events that were interesting to all members. His lifelong enduring love was for classical music.

A few years ago, after visiting Pennsylvania, he and his wide decided t90 move there to be with their daughter Blanka and her family. He lived there until his death in July, 2011. Jan was a very kind man who liked to help his friends and all others. He will be missed by the members of the Czech community in Los Angeles and by all members of his extended family. He is survived by his wife Jindra, son Jan and his wife Sonia, daughter Blanka, grandchildren Alex and Nicole, and his sister and sister in law and their families.

Thank you for remembering our father with love and kindness.

The Dobias Family

May he rest in peace.



Happy 50th Anniversary **Dolores and Kuba Oberreiter!**

We congratulate you on the occasion of your 50th wedding anniversary (August 25).



Congratulations! The 60th ANNIVERSARY parish of St. Wenceslas in Toronto, 24-25.9.

The parish of St Wenceslas was organized in Toronto in 1951, largely by refugees from Czechoslovakia after 1948. Only in 1963 was a building, originally for industrial uses con-

verted into a church. The anniversary celebration will be held from 24 to 25 September, 2011. On Saturday evening we will be listening and dancing to folk music played by musicians from Bojanovice. On Sunday, at the 10.30 am Mass we thank our parish for 60 years, and also celebrate our patron, Saint Wenceslas. During this Holy Mass Bishop Peter Esterka will administer the sacrament of Confirmation. The celebration concludes with a gala dinner at which the Cymbal band will again play folk music.



Fr. Libor Švorčík, farář

TIMELKA Alois 360 ESTREET KLEBŠ Václav 376 KNITILIA KOUTNÝ Oldřích 383 KOUSUK Ladislav 390. KULA Emil 39 LA MALÝ František 398 MAREK Antonín 404. NĚMEC Václav 415.) SEK Karel 411. PAULÜJosef 41.

It was August 13, 1968. Just eight days before the Warsaw Pact troops invaded Czechoslovakia, at the time when the whole country was enjoying a "Czech Spring," monks, priests and their superiors met and together celebrate mass in the abbey Nativity church of the Virgin Mary in Želiv. They were the same ones who were arrested in

the middle of one April night in 1950 by lackeys of the communist State Security. Now, at the same place, but 61 years later a memorial was erected to all 464 priests imprisoned. The celebration has arrived, however, not one of them survived to attend it....

The names of monks and priests now cover a wall several meters high in the cloister of the monastery of Zeliv. In the foreground is a huge cross. "May God fill us peace and forgiveness which is important for everyone's life," Abbot Bronislav Kramar Premonstratensian, welcomed pilgrims and guests at the celebration, which was preceded by the ceremonial unveiling of the monument. Presiding at the Mass was Archbishop Dominik Duka, Archbishop of Prague, who recalled that during the service in 1968, his predecessor, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, stood at the altar, along with Archbishop Charles Otčenášek and P. Anthony Šuránek. "This was the place of a special prison for the religious elite, for those who might become bearers of resistance against the communist regime. Those interned here and elsewhere were part of a nation that had fallen into slavery and humiliation to those whose envy and hate, conceived a program of destruction, "said Archbishop Duka. During the talk he urged those present to pray "for these courageous witnesses of our faith, who offered to free them if they cooperated.""We are here to thank those who were witnesses of faith and to say by our presence here: we will never forget," said Duka, and pointed to the example of those who were interned in Želiv: "They have shown that the life of the Church is not built on the laws, money, property or favor. But it is based on faith, a mighty fortress. They proved to us that God allows persecution, but does not abandon us, "said the Archbishop. In the context of suffering and persecution of the Church under the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia, Dominik Duka recalled that the period of persecution of Christians did not end: "Every hour and indeed every minute on this earth Christians are dragged to prison, death camps and starvation, are condemned and killed. Several hundred thousand people go through this hell every year. "

Jiří Macháně, Katolicky týdeník., 34.

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BLAHOPRANI... Magdalena

Magdalena 7-year old daughter of Daniel Horak and Pavlina Zilinska was baptized at the Czech Mass in Yorba Linda Sunday, August 14. The family will be living in Slovakia.



SAN DIEGO ALBUM



Youngest member of the San Diego Mission Vincent Silhar made his debut on Saturday, August 13.His mother Sylvia plays piano for the hymns.



SAN DIEGO ALBUM





Highlighting the San Diego Mission's diverse community of young and older, Czech and Slovak, all ages showed up for the August 13 celebration of the Eucharist.



