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IN ENGLISH

VĚSTNÍK

Czech Mission

www.czechchurch.org

sv. Jakuba v San Diegu – sv. Františka v San Francisku - sv. Cyrila a Metoděje v Los Angeles



A child is born to us; a son is given to us. Isaiah 9:6

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

I wish you good health, love, and happiness in the new year as I pray for you at the altar

+Peter Esterka

CALIFORNIA / DECEMBER 2011

You are invited to attend



**OUR
CZECH
CHRISTMAS
LITURGY**

In SAN DIEGO our Mass will be on Saturday, December 24 at 3:00 in the afternoon at St. John's Church on the corner of Normal and Lincoln.

In LOS ANGELES our Mass will be on Sunday, December 25 at 2:00 in the afternoon 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 Sunday, January 8, 2012 at 11:00 in the morning at Star of the Sea Church, 4420 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94118.

For January 2012: SD 21, LA 22, SF 29.

CHRISTMAS TOMBOLA

This year as in previous years we are sending raffle tickets along with our Vestnik. By buying the tickets you are supporting our Mission financially. Surely you know that without your help our Mission could not exist.

We hope that all of you will come to be with us at the Christmas Mass in your area. In LA on December 25 a dinner of Svickova (marinated beef) with dumplings will be served. In addition prizes from the tickets you have returned will be drawn. We also ask you again to bring gifts, and if you can, ask your local businesses to donate something for our Christmas tombola. Many companies are glad to offer a bag of groceries, a free meal or something from their store. More valuable things, such as afghans and wine baskets will be auctioned. You have to be present to get these treasures, but the prize money from the raffle tickets will be sent to you even if you are not present for the drawing. Be creative. It has usually been lots of fun. Let's hope it will be so again this year.



NOVEMBER 2011

**Total collections for operation of the California missions:
\$1,928.00**

SD collection \$250.00, for Velehrad \$310.00 LA collection \$754.00, meal \$324.00, for Velehrad \$.00; SF collection: \$600.00, for Velehrad \$624.00 .
November intentions \$2,390.00.

Mission Expenses: \$2,193.00

\$1,000.00 Bishop's salary; 500.00 (rent for Polish Center (200), SF church (250), and the hall in San Diego (50); 280.00 (travel to SF, gas, car maintenance); Věstník publication : \$149.00 +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:

PROSINEC • DECEMBER

- 1.+Věru Svobodovou - Hana Loudová
- 2.+Michaela Kratochvíla - sestra Anna Pařezová
- 4.+J.V. Reicherta - manželka Jane
- 5.+Marii Jordánovou - syn Pavel
- 6.+Marii Caruso - sestra Alena
- 7.+Jaromíra Hrobaře - sestra Alena
- 8.+ James Louda - Hana Louda
- 10 +George Martinku - Jean Hoard
- 12.+ Petra Vranu - manželka Jarka
13. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín - Joe Kocáb
14. +Annu a Josefa Nečasovy - přátelé
15. +Františka a Helenu Vykydalovy - Halena Misíková
16. +Dr. Lud'ka Kozlíka - manželka Brigitte
17. 62. výr. svadby Anny a Josefa Hrobařových - Alena
- 18.+Raymunda Dvorského - manželka Marie
- 19.+Jarmilu Gavendovu - Marie Dvorská
- 20.+Veronica Sujak - Jean Hoard
- 21.+Zdenka Šafaříka - manželka Libuše a dcera Jana
- 22 +Karla Nováka - manželka Inka a dcera Irenka
- 23.+Antonína Gavendu - sestra Marie Dvorská
- 24 +Miloslav Marik - manželka Edith
25. za členy naší krajanské rodiny
- 26.+ Frances Kokta - Petr Král
- 27.+Jiřinu Jordánovou - manžel Pavel

CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Please let us know as soon as possible if you can help with any of the following tasks on Christmas Day. Please call and leave a message at 714 637 6789. We will want you to come to the Polish Center **by 1 pm before Mass on Christmas Day**: *bringing Christmas cookies or desserts, helping set up tables and decorations, kitchen serving and cleanup, filling stockings for kids, singing carols, selling tombola tickets, helping with tombola numbers and delivering prizes, cleaning up after the meal. Thank you!*

FROM THE DESK OF BISHOP ESTERKA

Dear Friends of our Czech Mission in California



First of all I would like to wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas season and the best of everything for the New Year 2012. Also I would like to invite you to come and join us at our Christmas Masses and programs that follow in all three Missions. We experienced some difficulties this year with finding an acceptable time for our Christmas Mass in San Francisco. The first idea was to have it on New Year's Day, but it did not suit those who would celebrate St Sylvester and be too sleepy next day. Then I thought we could have the Mass early, on Dec 18. But after considering all the pros and cons, we decided to have the Mass on January 8, the feast of Three Kings.

The end of a year invites reflection on the state of our Missions. In California we have not changed too much during the last few years. It is true that some of the older members have died and, because they are incapacitated because of age, others do not come to join us for our monthly gathering. But on the other hand, we do have individuals and sometimes whole families who have become actively involved in the life of our Missions and, thus, have rejuvenated and enlivened our ranks.

Much more difficult is the situation of those in Canada and Australia. In Canada today we have just one very active and successful Mission/Parish in Toronto where Fr. Libor Svorcik has been pastor for more than ten years. He took upon himself a situation of raging conflict and failing community and because of his patience, perseverance, and willingness to serve people he has turned it around. Now to go there is to feel like a family, with cooperation among people. The parish has become a true center for Czech people. During the year Fr. Libor visits our people in Montreal and Ottawa and even flies to West Canada to three centers there. It goes without saying that it is too much for one person; still he is making it work.

An even worse situation is in Australia where we have large communities of our country-people, especially in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, and Adelaide. The only Czech priest, Fr. Hrdina, who lives in his religious community in Melbourne, is more than 90 years old. He occasionally celebrates Mass at Sumava. This is clearly not the solution. Without everyday activity and ministry this community will not remain alive and will not be able to flourish. For all of us this is a warning, and an opportunity for us to value what we have and try to improve it.

In case you are wondering . . .

Our December Věstník is smaller, two sheets instead of three, because we have to make room for the raffle tickets and still pay 44 cents.



NICHOLAS ADAM SEMANCIK

was baptized by Bishop Esterka at the Czech Mass in San Diego (St John Evangelist Church) on November 19, 2011. His parents are Jonathan and Marcela (Bachraty) Semancik. Godfather is Andrej Bachraty.

Please support this young family with your prayers and friendship.



The Bishop's Medal of Service to the Czech Community was awarded to **Maria and Jerry Kletecka** during the LA Mass on November 20, recognizing their many years of irreplaceable service to our community, continuing to the present day.



Clockwise: Petr Peterka plays the role of St Nicholas in San Diego on November 19. Two pictures show Daniel Botcha as Bishop St Nicholas for the San Francisco children on November 28; Peter David as Bishop St Nicholas, assisted by Filip Dobes, brought chocolate coins to the LA community at the November 20th Mass in Yorba Linda.



We hope to make the visit from St Nicholas an annual tradition at our November Masses in the future and hope all the children will come to claim their rewards for good behavior throughout the year.