

VĚSTNÍK

IN ENGLISH

Czech Mission

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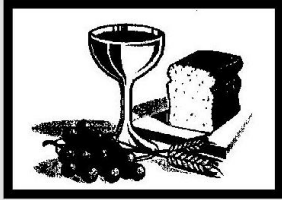
sv. Jakuba v San Diegu – sv. Františka v San Francisku - sv. Cyrila a Metoděje v Los Angeles



"Good King Wenceslaus," whose feastday is celebrated September 28, was able to incarnate his Christianity in a world filled with political unrest. While we are often victims of violence of a different sort, we can easily identify with his struggle to bring harmony to society. The call to become involved in social change and in political activity is addressed to Christians; the values of the gospel are sorely needed today.

CALIFORNIA / SEPTEMBER 2015

You are invited



TO OUR CZECH LITURGY!

In Los Angeles our Czech Mass will be held on September 13. at 1:15 pm in the Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda CA 92887. After Mass a meal will be served. A \$10.00 donation is requested; \$5.00 for parky.

In San Diego Czech Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, September 19. at 4 pm in the hall of St John the Evangelist Church, on the corner of Normal and Lincoln, San Diego, CA. There will be a beseda after Mass.

In San Francisco, the next Mass will be on OCTOBER 25. Our original September date has been cancelled because of the unavailability of space, and a meeting in Rome which Bishop Esterka must attend.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: October 2015 Masses: SD 17, LA 18 SF 25.

1. Sva - tý Vá - cla - ve, vé - vo - do če - ské
ze - mě, kní - že náš, pros za nás Bo - ha,
sva - té - ho Du - cha! Kri - ste, e - lei - son.

Cover photo:

Statue of Saint Wenceslas on the eponymous square in Prague, by [Josef Václav Myslbek](#)

FROM THE DESK OF BISHOP ESTERKA
Dear Friends of our Czech Mission in California



The beatification process is heating up for two young priests of the diocese of Brno, Father Vaclav Drbola and Father Jan Bula, who were unjustly accused and hanged by the communist regime in Jihlava. Only after the fall of communism were they legally acquitted and rehabilitated. Since 2004 the case for the canonization of these martyrs has been considered.



R. D. VÁCLAV DRBOLA

16.10.1912 born in Starovičky

3rd 8th 1951 hanged in a prison in Jihlava

14. 4. 2011 The Congregation for the Causes of Saints granted the nihil obstat

2. 9. 2011 Opening of the diocesan beatification procedure Bučovice

R. D. JAN BULA

24. 6. 1920 born in Luke's at Moravian Budejovice

20. 5. 1952 hanged in a prison in Jihlava

28. 1. 2004 The Congregation for the Causes of Saints granted the nihil obstat

25. 3. 2004 start of the diocesan beatification procedure Brno

postulator Msgr. Mgr. Karel Orlita, J.U.D.

The Velvet Revolutionary

[June 22-29, 2015 Issue](#) America Magazine

By [David Walsh-Little](#), professor of politics at The Catholic University of America.

HAVEL: A LIFE

By Michael Zantovsky

Václav Havel, playwright, dissident and president of both Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic successively, was one of the most inspirational human beings to have walked the earth in our time. I met him once when he received a group of visiting scholars at Prague Castle, and have long been aware of the seminal role he played in the history of his own country and as a thinker who grappled with the deepest challenges of the modern world. But I had not had an opportunity to contemplate the full range of his achievements before reading Michael Zantovsky's extraordinary *Havel: A Life*. It is a book that affirms the validity of the genre of biography, for it aims not so much at compiling the details as grasping their meaning as a whole.

Through Zantovsky's skillful presentation we gain a glimpse of what it was like to be Václav Havel. It approaches the form of "the story of a soul." We are privy to that inner unfolding by which Havel became Havel. This is no mean feat and it is possible only because Zantovsky shared so closely in the great drama. As a fellow participant in the Velvet Revolution that accomplished the transition from communism to democratic rule in Czechoslovakia, Zantovsky had a front row seat. But beyond that he was a friend of Havel and went on to serve him as spokesman, press secretary and adviser during his presidential years, and eventually as Czech ambassador to the United States and the United Kingdom. Yet the work is remarkably free of any inclination toward hagiography or score-settling. It is a biography that presents its subject in all his laudable features and in his undeniable limitations. It is almost a work of confession, as the best such exercises must be.

A large part of the credit for that unwavering scrutiny goes to Havel himself. He submitted to scrupulous self-examination, admitting his failures and often asking forgiveness for them (as he did in the last act of his presidency). Like Augustine in the *Confessions*, Havel knew that his life stood before eternal judgment. The time for self-serving excuses is past. All that remains is the sifting of the truth or falsity of what has been

done. Among his last writings is a reflection on his “preparation for the last judgment, for the highest court from which nothing can be hidden.” Had he lived up to the responsibilities that had been placed upon him? The question runs through Havel’s life as its guiding thread. Without becoming a secular saint and while retaining many of the character flaws to which he was prone, he nevertheless found his way to the truth of existence and staked his life upon it. This was what made Havel a beacon of authority in an environment largely deprived of it. His country exercised an outsize influence on the world scene so long as it was led by so powerful a witness to truth.

Zantovsky’s narrative follows the process by which Havel came to realize that responsibility for the good was his alone. Beginning with his early years and following through his military service, it recounts how the suppression of the Prague Spring of 1968 propelled him into the role of a dissident. Without seeking confrontation and wary of the excesses of a moralistic stance, Havel gradually worked out the means by which the powerless might confront the powerful (to invoke the title of his most famous essay). The opportunity came when the Helsinki Accords made the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia signatories, along with the Western states, to a treaty that included the pledge to uphold human rights. Havel and his associates realized that they possessed a legal wedge by which to open a space for freedom. Thus was born the Charter 77 document (after the year) whose individual signatories demanded that their government uphold the guarantees to which it had recently bound itself. Leaving behind the fantasy of “Socialism with a human face” of the Prague Spring, the Chartists were inexorably pointed toward the full recognition of liberty of the person as the only adequate basis for humane government. After multiple arrests and interrogations, Havel eventually served five years in prison. Others, including the philosopher Jan Patočka, lost their lives.

Without becoming a believer, Havel edged ever closer to the idea of God. He knew that his own moral resolve drew upon depths beyond his individual consciousness. He sought to communicate something of that reawakening in inviting Pope John Paul II as one of the earliest visitors during his presidency. He also developed a close rapport with the Dalai Lama, who introduced him to the notion of meditation. Havel, despite his Bohemian associations, had much in common with both of them....Václav Havel was a true European, who understood that the project of European union could succeed only if it stood for something larger than the pursuit of self-interest. It could not define itself in opposition to America but must embrace its responsibility for the modern world it had brought into existence. His own life had exemplified the way.

Moments in the Life of the Mission



Congratulations!

Iris ŠILHÁR byla pokřtěna v neděli 16. srpna 2015 v Polském Centru v Yorba Linda bišopem Petrem Esterkou . Zhora je otec Peter, matka Silvia, bratr Vincenc a sestra Ester. Prosím, přivítejte Iris i s rodinou jako skvělý přírůstek do naší misie.



YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has declared the period of December 8, 2015, to November 20, 2016, one "that is to have the mercy of God at its center," when "the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy."

HOLY HUMOR

(Thanks to Dennis Vernak)

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments." answered the lady.

"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

WHAT DOES ST. WENCESLAUS SIGNIFY TO US?

If saints have been falsely characterized as "other worldly," the life of Wenceslaus stands as an example to the contrary: He stood for Christian values in the midst of the political intrigues which characterized 10th-century Bohemia.

He was born in 907 near Prague, son of the Duke of Bohemia. His saintly grandmother, Ludmilla, raised him and sought to promote him as ruler of Bohemia in place of his mother, who favored the anti-Christian factions. Ludmilla was eventually murdered, but rival Christian forces enabled Wenceslaus to assume leadership of the government.

His rule was marked by efforts toward unification within Bohemia, support of the Church and peace-making negotiations with Germany, a policy which caused him trouble with the anti-Christian opposition. His brother Boleslav joined in the plotting, and in September of 929 invited Wenceslaus to Alt Bunzlou for the celebration of the feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian (September 26). On the way to Mass, Boleslav attacked his brother, and in the struggle, Wenceslaus was killed by supporters of Boleslav.

St. Wenceslaus by his death did what he was unable to do while he was living. He made Bohemia Christian. Within thirty years of his martyrdom the Faith was so strong that Wenceslaus' friend, the Emperor Otto, gave Bohemia a bishop of its own with his seat in the Cathedral of Prague, where the good King lay in a shrine to which pilgrims came from all over Germany. At the beginning of the eleventh century St. Wenceslaus was already regarded as the patron of modern Czechoslovakia.

A Good Man Has Died: Jarda Hubík



Czechs and Slovaks living in the San Francisco Bay Area remember him very well. Czech friends called him Jarda, Americans Jerry, his wife called him Jari, and for the younger generation he was Mr. Hubík. Jaromír Hubík was born in 1928 and grew up in Babice, close to Uherské Hradiště. When the Second World War ended, young Jaromír was full of confidence and enthusiasm. He went to Brno to study at Masaryk University.

However, February 1948 marked the end of his studies, as his family owned a small canning and distillery factory. Those of you who lived at that time in Czechoslovakia, understand that being from a successful business family disqualified you from university studies.

The next twenty years Jaromír Hubík continued to live in Czechoslovakia just as most other Czechs. He got married quite young, but it did not work out. He married for the second time, and he hit the jackpot. His wife Draha was a real partner, a tremendous support, and always optimistic. As time passed, Mr. Hubík achieved a good position in the oil refinery in Valašské Meziříčí. He built a nice family house. They had two children, Dana and Peter, and hoped that sooner or later everything would be great. It was going that way, until August 1968. “Jari, let’s go. I do not want our children to grow up in a country occupied by Russians,” declared Draha, and they left. Jaromír Hubík was then 40 years old and did not speak English.

The Hubíks settled in the San Francisco Bay Area. Jerry found a job at the Chevron Research in Richmond, where he started in the laboratory as an assistant and worked his way up to an engineering position before his retirement. Their comfortable house was a favorite place where they hosted many unforgettable parties.

Jerry Hubík soon became a real American patriot, helping new Czech immigrants. He sponsored his relatives and friends. However, he did not help only those he knew well. His letters to relatives who were waiting in a refugee camp in Austria for a Canadian visa were full of optimism and became a hit to the Czech refugees. A lot of Czech families in the camp wrote down Hubík’s address, and eventually one family with two children, already placed in Ohio, sent him a letter. Mr. Hubík responded by phone: “Come here to California. In the beginning you can live with us. We will help you.” And so he and his wife helped a family previously unknown to them. All of us know the saying from the Bible “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Mr. Hubík never declared it, but he lived it all the time, never expecting any reward.

JARMILA VRANA

+ 26. July, 2015

*May eternal light shine upon her,
and may she rest in peace. Amen*

We will try to have an obituary for Mrs. Vrana, a faithful contributor to the Czech Mission in San Francisco, in the October issue of Vestnik.

Exhibitions



In 2010 exhibit was prepared entitled “I believe my short life was not in vain: the life and death of the priest Jan Bula.” After installation in the Brno Cathedral it became a traveling exhibition, and now is being gradually placed in many parishes and several schools.

In 2012 an exhibit entitled “Born to be forgotten: the life of the priest Wenceslas Drbola”, was processed. It is located in the parish building in Starovičky. A copy of the traveling exhibit has been installed along with an exhibition about Jan Bula.



More information is available through the diocese of Brno:

<http://kanonizace.biskupstvi.cz>

Hubik, cont.

After retirement, he spent his last few years in Roseville, CA with his wife Draha to be close to the families of their son Peter and daughter Dana. As usual, with an advancing age, his health deteriorated. After a series of illnesses that he fought for years, he died at home, as was his wish, surrounded by his family. His wife Draha, daughter Dana, son Pete and daughter-in-law Leah, who was instrumental in his home care, were with him until his last breath, on June 30, 2015. In addition, he left behind five grandchildren and a lot of real friends. It is a great loss for everyone, even for those who would never meet him. There is always a shortage of men, good as Jerry Hubík was.

Ludvik Mlynek

ÚMYSLY NA MŠE SVATÉ:

ZÁŘÍ • SEPTEMBER

1. +J.V. Reicherta - manželka Jane
2. +Jiřinu Jordanová - manžel Pavel
3. +Karla Nováka - manželka Inka a dcera Irenka
4. +Miroslava Rajca - bratra Jaro Rajec a manželka Olga
- 5.+Vera Svoboda- přátelé
- 6.+Frank Miksa - přátelé
- 7.+Alberta Misika - Helena Misiková
- 8.+Miloslava Mařika (5.vyr) - manželka Edith
- 9.+Josefa Hrobaře- manželka Anna
- 10.+Jaroslava Hromka - Ingrid a Mirek Chybík
- 11.+
- 12.+Harry Lawrence - manželka Mary Kay
- 13.+Martina Krysku (+9/13/1992) - matka Eva
- 14.+ Roberta Mařika - manželka Anna
- 15.+
- 16.+Jaromir Striszka - přátelé
17. za živé a zemřelé členy české síně Karlín - Joe Kocáb
- 18.+Raymunda Dvorského - manželka Marie
- 19.+Dr. Lud'ka Kozlíka - manželka Brigitte
- 20.+ Jaroslava (Jerry) Prilla (+20.1.2012) -
- 21.+Annu a Josefa Nečasovy – přátelé.
- 22.+Marii a Jana Hrobařovy - Anna Hrobařová
- 23.+Tony Julik - přátelé
- 24.+Marii a Josefa Šimkovy - přátelé
- 25.+Emilii Křížovou - syn Vladimír
- 26.+Jarmila Vrana (+26.7.15) - dcera Jaroslava Prossr
- 27.+
- 28.+
- 29.+
- 30.+Jarda Hubík (+30.6) - manželka Draha

AUGUST - 2015

Income from Mission collections: \$3,218.00

SD collection: \$340.00; LA collection: \$579.00, meal \$215.00, special donation \$1,000.00; SF collection: \$803,00. building fund \$281.00.

Regular Expenses: \$2,061.00

\$1,000.00 Bishop's salary; \$375 rent for churches; \$210.00 (gas, car maintenance); Věstník printing: \$212.00 +\$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.

ADRESA MISIE / Redakce VĚSTNÍKU

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