

Second Sunday of Lent
March 17, 2019



SAINTS CYRIL AND
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOST' SVÄTÝCH
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit



2nd Sunday OF LENT

While he was praying his face changed in appearance
and his clothing became dazzling white. - Lk 9:29

41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314 • (586) 726-6911 • Fax: (586) 685-1070 • www.saintcyrils.org

March 16, Saturday – Sobota

- 9:00AM LM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For William & Sue Hines & Family
 ❖ For Sharonanne Brunet ❖ † Jim Kessler
- 4:00PM JN For Ken Warner req. Family
 ❖ For Daniel & Jonathan Wilkins
 ❖ For Glen & Amy Varchetti & Family
 ❖ † Duane Van Pamel ❖ † Douglas Lucey
 ❖ † Bob Szydowski req. Family

March 17, Second Sunday of Lent– Nedela

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1 or 3:20-4:1; Lk 28b-36 (27)

- 7:30AM JN For the Holy Souls in Purgatory ❖ For Fr. Libor & All Parishioners req. Balaz & Stanley Families
 ❖ For Nate & Theresa Robinson & Family
 ❖ For the Gammo & Gill Families ❖ † Josephine Davis
- 9:30AM JN For a Special Intention req. Cindy Zitny
 ❖ For Fr. Libor & All Parishioners req. Balaz & Stanley Families ❖ † Filippo Morrocco ❖ † Nicholas Krause
 ❖ † Ramsey Scivo ❖ † Mary Ellen Schultz
- 11:30AM LM (Slovak) For the Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union ❖ For Fr. Libor & All Parishioners req. Balaz & Stanley Families
 ❖ † Maria Tokar req. Maria Balaz
 ❖ † Vladimir & Terezia Krizik req. Sobolic Family
 ❖ † Stefan & Anna Sobolic req. Family
- 1:30PM ML For Fr. Libor & All Parishioners req. Balaz & Stanley Families ❖ For Abigail Bartold (14th B'Day)
 ❖ For Christine Norris (B'Day) ❖ † Rejeanne Buckley
 ❖ † Christine Ewine req. Dan Murphy
- 6:00PM PC *Latin-Tridentine (Missa Cantata):
 For the Intentions of all Parishioners
- 8:30PM PC For Fr. Libor & All Parishioners req. Balaz & Stanley Families ❖ For Katrina Aggoubi Nakia
 ❖ For Matthew & Samantha
 ❖ † Jose Carlos Torres Loya
 ❖ † Fernanda Bayoneto ❖ † Asso Shalha Hania

March 18, Monday – Pondelok

- 6:00AM LM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 9:00AM LM For Douglas Langlois req. Langlois Family
 ❖ For Patrick Hines (B'Day)
 ❖ For Carl & † Stephanie Varchetti & Family
 ❖ † Estelle Fritz
- 12:00PM JN,d For Marilyn Woodman req. Shirley Eckert
 ❖ For Gary, Patrick & Matthew
 ❖ For Luis Tolentino ❖ † Mary Ellen Schultz

March 19, Tuesday – Utorok

- 6:00AM JN For Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Archbishop Allen Vigneron
 ❖ For Ann Spriet (B'Day) ❖ For Valentin Vacaj
- 9:00AM LM For the Glantz Family
- 12:00PM JN For Marissa & Family

March 20, Wednesday – Streda

- 6:00AM PC † Germaine Evelyn
- 8:30AM *Stations of the Cross*
- 9:00AM JN (Latin) For James & Greete Varchetti
 ❖ † Fr. Paremmakkal Thoma Kathanar
 ❖ † Candida Hernandez
- 12:00PM LM For Uncle Romeo & Aunt Nellie Families
 ❖ For Dave & Family ❖ For Dick Tobin (B'Day)
 ❖ † Attilio Rocco

March 21, Thursday – Štvrtok

- 6:00AM PC † Raymond Woodman req. Peter & Brenda Stankiewicz
- 9:00AM JN For Mr. & Mrs. George Emmendorfer ❖ † Sue Scarchilli
 ❖ † Albert Tisch (6th Ann.) ❖ † Valerie Russell
- 12:00PM ML For Fr. John Simoneau ❖ For Lou-Em Clan
 ❖ † Gary Antonelli req. Family ❖ † Mary Ellen Schultz
- 7:00PM VP For the Priests of St. Cyril's req. Cindy Zitny
 ❖ For Seminarian Patrick Blenman req. Grandparents
 ❖ For Bob & Diane Reed ❖ For Stephanie Weil

March 22, Friday – Piatok

- 6:00AM PC For Mary Spriet (B'Day)
- 9:00AM LM For Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Kelly ❖ † Cezar Cabrera Sr.
 ❖ † Valerie Russel ❖ † Mary Ellen Schultz
- 12:00PM ML For Jack Glantz (B'Day) ❖ For Randy Gammo
 ❖ For Bill & Julie Marquard req. Leo & Diane
 ❖ For the Lagarde Family
- 6:30PM *Stations of the Cross*
- 7:00PM JN For Members of all Parish Ministries req. Cindy Zitny
 ❖ † Joseph & Margaret Swengros
 ❖ † Mary Manning & Family ❖ † Esther Rosenkranz

March 23, Saturday – Sobota

- 9:00AM LM For Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Thomas Desser ❖ For Lynn Shaouni
 ❖ † Lawrence Hines, Jr. ❖ † Valerie Russell
- 4:00PM ML For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Mary Wais (90th B'Day) ❖ For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family ❖ For the Laszlo & Ilona Families
 ❖ † Bob Szydowski req. Friends
 ❖ † Charles & Theresa MacDonald req. Family

March 24, Third Sunday of Lent– Nedela

Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12:1; Lk 12:1-9 (30)

- 7:30AM LM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 9:30AM LM For a Special Intention req. Cindy Zitny
 ❖ For Jim & Margaret Miller ❖ For Steven Funk (B'Day)
 ❖ For Joseph Simoneau & Family ❖ † Richard Branch
- 11:30AM JN (Slovak) For Darina Polasekova (B'Day)
 ❖ † Rafal Gomolka ❖ † Anna Gomolka
 ❖ † Anna Tomeckova req. Family
 ❖ † Maria Tokar req. Loretta Miscavich
 ❖ † Patricia Lolli req. Julie Celusnak
- 1:30PM ML For the Int. of the Members of the St. Monica Sodality
 ❖ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For the Priests of St. Cyril's
 ❖ † Rejeanne Buckley ❖ † James Zabawski
- 6:00PM PC *Latin-Tridentine (Missa Cantata):
 † Teofil Golec req. Joan Hartzell
- 8:30PM PC For the Secretarial Staff of St. Cyril's req. Cindy Zitny
 ❖ For Joanne & Jeff Sammons
 ❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
 ❖ For Carl Jamrog req. Edmunds Family
 ❖ † Elinor Baumgardner ❖ † Fran Dukaj

March 17, 2019 - Second Sunday of Lent

Jesus Christ, The High Priest

Fr. Libor Marek, Pastor • Imarek@saintcyrils.org
 Fr. Juraj Nuota, Associate Pastor • jnuota@saintcyrils.org
 Fr. Paul Czarnota, Priest in Residence • fr.czar@me.com
 Deacon Phil McCown • wadephil@yahoo.com
 Deacon Gerald Smigell • vgsmigell@gmail.com
 Parish Office • parishoffice@saintcyrils.org

Mass Celebrant Legend:

Fr. Libor Marek – LM
 Fr. Juraj Nuota – JN, Fr. Paul Czarnota – PC,
 Fr. Michael Lenz, OFM, Visiting Priest – VP
 Deacon Preaching – d

2019 Parish Lenten Projects

“Give alms from your possessions. Do not turn your face away from any of the poor, and God’s face will not be turned away from you. Give in proportion to what you own. If you have great wealth, give alms out of your abundance; if you have but little, do not be afraid to give alms of that little.” Tobit 4:7-8

This ancient advice from a father to a son is repeated to us today by the church, particularly during the season of Lent. Please consider joining your fellow parishioners in giving alms to one or more of the following projects this Lent.

Dentures for the Homeless or Low-Income/ St. Leo’s Free Dental Clinic: What if you had no dental insurance, no money to buy a toothbrush and toothpaste, no money to pay for dentures if you lost your teeth because of lack of care? Your nutrition, health and self-esteem would all suffer. Many homeless and low-income men and women face this situation. To meet their needs, The Knights of Malta offer free care at the dental clinic they operate at St. Leo’s in Detroit. Many of the patients have not received dental care for a long time; many have lost all or most of their teeth. The clinic’s dentists and hygienists donate their time, but money is needed to purchase dentures for these patients. Help someone smile again with a monetary gift, a check made out to *Malta Medical Dental Clinic* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

Slovak Catholic Media Productions/ LUX New York: An active ministry at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City, LUX produces original programming for Slovak people in the US and Canada to help them deepen their faith and to connect with each other. Its primary service is live-streaming the Slovak language Holy Mass from St. John Nepomucene. Your monetary donation to LUX will help meet operating costs and purchase production equipment for their evangelizing ministry. Place your check made out to *St. John Neopmucene/LUX New York* OR a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a **BLUE** Lenten Offering envelope, and place your envelope in the Sunday collection basket by April 21.

“Housing with Care”/Vincentinum Family Center in Kosice-Saca, Slovakia: The children of families stressed by severe financial, medical or social situations run a high risk of being removed from their homes. To help struggling families remain together and overcome their difficulties, Foundation DeDo (NADACIA DeDo) operates centers which provide social and professional services along with affordable rental housing. Families receive ongoing help from social workers, counselors, and health professionals and spiritual guidance until they are more stable, usually about 3 years. In Kosice-Saca, the Vincentinum Family Center is currently undergoing an addition which will provide homes and support for five families. Your monetary donation will help with the final construction costs for this comprehensive family-saving center. Place your check, made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius*, in a **WHITE** Lenten Offering envelope and put it in a Sunday collection basket by April 21.

Right-to Life/Lifespan Baby Shower: Items for the Gianna House, a local home for pregnant teens that will open this spring, can be dropped off after all Masses this weekend. There is also a Baby Shower in the Father Mikus Hall after the 9:30AM Holy Mass on Sunday, March 17. Enjoy live music, a slide show about Gianna House, and refreshments. A complete Wish List of needed items is on the bulletin board in the vestibule. If you would like to contribute by check, please make your check payable to Gianna House and place it in the appropriate box at the shower.

Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Collection: This Lent, the Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council will be collecting change to donate to Gianna House. Gianna House will soon be providing a home and loving care for local pregnant teenagers and their babies up to 1 year after the birth of the baby. If you received a baby bottle, fill it with change during the weeks of Lent, and return it on Palm Sunday weekend. If you were unable to get a bottle and still want to support this important project, you can provide a check as outlined: Donations in the form of a check made out to: St. Nicholas Council 7011 will also be accepted. Together, each of our small donations will go a long way toward helping Gianna House provide for these vulnerable women and babies.

Clothing for the Homeless at St. Leo’s: All year-round, St. Cyril’s parishioners generously donate clothing for the homeless and those who live in the neighborhood around St. Leo’s. The Missionaries of Charity, who operate the clothing closet at St. Leo’s, are extremely grateful for all the clothing we provide. At this time of year, there is always a need for new and gently used warm clothing. In addition to that, there is a particular need for new socks and underwear for men and women. Please place your donations in the box marked Clothing Collection located in the coatroom.

Sacred Heart Food Pantry: Once again we will be supporting our less fortunate brothers and sisters in northern Macomb County with donations of non-perishable food items to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at Sacred Heart parish in Imlay City. Donations of canned fruit, tuna and chicken are particularly needed at this time. Please help feed the hungry by placing your donations in the box marked Food Collection located in the vestibule coatroom by April 16.

*Please remember in your Lenten devotions to pray for the staff and volunteers at:
Gianna House, LUX New York, Malta Medical Dental Clinic, St. Leo’s Soup Kitchen and Clothes Closet,
Sacred Heart Food Pantry and Vincentinum Family Center
and for the families and individuals they serve.*

If you have questions about any of the 2018 Lent Projects, please contact:
Erin Rybicki, Christian Service Coordinator, (586) 530-0547 or *Sandi Brady* in the Parish Office at (586) 726-6911

Join the Parish Lenten Challenge!

It's not too late to join the Parish Lenten Challenge. Participants can grow in their faith this Lent by completing a worksheet, located in the vestibule. It contains personal challenges designed to help us grow as Catholics. There are separate worksheets for Adults, Teens and Children. Once your worksheet is complete, drop it off in the Parish Office and you will be included in a Raffle that will take place after Easter. (You may complete more than one sheet.)

Lots of fun raffle prizes will be awarded including; gas and restaurant gift cards, an Amazon Fire 7 Tablet and more!

Life Teen High School Youth Group • Monday, March 18

*Walking Toward Virtue – A Night on Church Teaching on
How to Walk with People Experiencing LGBT Tendencies*

**Parents: please discern if this Night
is appropriate for your teen.**

7:00PM - 8:45PM in the Fr. Mikus Hall

Join us next week on Monday, March 25, for a night on *Why How we Treat Others Matters*.

Life Teen is Ss. Cyril and Methodius high school youth group. It's open to all teens, from any parish, and new teens are always welcome. Our goal is to create a welcoming Catholic community where teens can encounter Christ, learn what it means to follow Him, and then witness to His love. Feel free to come and see what a Life Night is like. Bring a friend with you!

We ask that teens have turned 14 years old before December 1 of last year and be at least a freshman to attend.

Questions: Alexandria Lewis, Youth Minister
(586) 641-7672 or lifeteencyril912@gmail.com or (586) 641-7672

Y Disciple Small Groups for High School Teens

Is your teen ready to go deeper? Consider starting a Y Disciple small group. For more information, contact:

Monica Majcher at smallgroupcyril@gmail.com

We are also looking for more small group mentors – Catholic adults age 21 and up who commit to walking with teens on their faith journey.

EDGE Middle School Ministry • Thursday, March 14

*Hunting for Lent – A Night on Embracing
Penitential Preparation for Easter*

7:00PM – 8:45PM in the Fr. Mikus Hall

New teens who would like to attend can register at the EDGE Night.

Join us next week on Thursday, March 28, for a night on the *4th Commandment*.

Questions: Alexandria Lewis, Youth Minister
(586) 641-7672 or edgecyril678@gmail.com



Easter Novena Mass Cards

Our Easter Novena will begin on Easter Monday, April 22. Novena Mass Cards are for living or deceased relatives and friends and are available in English and in Slovak for \$10 each.

Available after Masses on weekends or in the Parish Office on weekdays from 10AM—5PM.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most precious gift anyone can receive!

Northland Family Prayer

March 23 & Tuesdays during Lent

There are additional opportunities for prayer outside the Northland Family Planning Clinic during Lent. We hope you can join us.

1) One event takes place on Saturday, March 23, from 11:00AM to 12:00PM. 2) Another event takes place on Saturday, April 6, from 11:30AM to 12:30PM. 3) For those wishing to pray when the clinic is open, a group will gather each Tuesday during Lent between 10AM and 10:15AM to recite the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy. The clinic is located at 3810 17 Mile (just west of Ryan Road). Questions - contact *Anne Marie*, (586) 873-2004.

The 40 Days for Life campaign runs daily from March 6—April 14. For more info go to: 40daysforlife.com/browse-campaigns/

New Online Giving Option

We are excited to introduce a new way to give at Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish. We have partnered with Pushpay to accept donations online and through your mobile device. We chose Pushpay because of how simple it is to use. Once your account is set up, you can give in just seconds.

How:

- To give using your mobile device simply text SSCYRIL to 77977 and a link to the giving page will be sent to you.
- To give online you can simply go to our website: www.saintcyrils.org and select "GIVE" on the homepage.

Why:

For You:

- Having the option for online and mobile giving through Pushpay gives you the ability to set up a recurring gift and saves you the time and energy of writing checks and filling out envelopes every week.
- If you don't carry cash and you don't write checks, this allows you the opportunity to practice sacrificial giving using ACH payments or a credit card.
- It allows you to change the amount of your gift or cancel in just seconds if your circumstance changes.
- Most special collections will be set up as a fund option in online and mobile giving.
- You will be able to review all your online/mobile gifts at any time in your online account.

For the Church:

- Saves the Church time and increases giving record accuracy by automatically recording your gifts in your donor records.
- Decreases the work load of our volunteer counting team who work so hard to count each week's collections.
- Lowers risks and security concerns of handling so many cash and check transactions.

What If I Already Give Via ACH:

If you are currently participating in our ACH giving option you can simply set up your ACH using the new online or mobile platform and contact the front office to complete a form or send an email to business@saintcyrils.org requesting the current ACH be canceled. We will discontinue the current ACH giving system once all our current givers are transferred to the new system.

Can I Still Use My Envelopes:

If you are not comfortable using online or mobile giving, you can continue to give as you do now. This simply offers another giving option for those that are interested.

If you have questions feel free to contact:

Rob Avery, (586) 726-6911, business@saintcyrils.org or speak to someone in the Parish Office.



RUMMAGE SALE

Mark Your Calendars • April 1 - 5

The Ss. Cyril & Methodius Rummage Sale is fast approaching and we need your help! We need your donations of gently-used, clean and working treasures that you no longer want or need in your home: Housewares, clean clothing, purses, bedding, tools, working electronics, working small appliances, working TV's, lamps, craft supplies, books, cd's, dvd's, frames, toys, baby items, knick-knacks, furniture, jewelry, sports equipment, outdoor stuff. Anything that you can bring to the church, we can sell! There are tax donation receipts available at the time you drop off your treasures.

Rummage Sale Drop Off Days (in the Father Mikus Hall):

Monday and Tuesday, April 1 and 2, ONLY; 10:00AM - 7:00PM

Sale Days (in the Father Mikus Hall):

Wednesday & Thursday, April 3 and 4; 10:00AM - 7:00PM

Friday, April 5; 8:30AM - 11:00AM; \$3 & \$10 per bag day

Volunteers are needed on ALL days to help. You will not be required to lift anything heavy. Even a few hours are very helpful. You will have fun while you're working and meet new people! Sign-up sheets are in the church vestibule on the table. You DO NOT need to be a member of the Rosary Society to help. All proceeds support Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Andrea Davis, (586) 405-4666

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

**Fridays During Lent (except Good Friday)
March 22, 29, April 5 & 12 * 4:00PM-7:00PM
Fr. Mikus Hall * Dine-In or Carry-Out**

You are invited to a delicious fresh dinner with friends and parishioners while supporting an important ministry.

Dinner Menu:

Salmon (Grilled or Blackened) w/ Rice & Vegetable (\$11)

*Beer Battered Cod (2 pcs.) w/Fries (\$8)

*Beer Battered Cod (2 pcs.) w/Mac & Cheese (\$9)

*Butterfly Shrimp (6 pcs.) w/Fries (\$8)

*Butterfly Shrimp (6 pcs.) w/Mac & Cheese (\$9)

*Popcorn Shrimp w/Fries (\$6)

*Popcorn Shrimp w/Mac & Cheese (\$7)

*Comes with Cole Slaw & Roll,

Soda, Coffee & Sales Tax are Included

Ala Carte Menu:

Clam Chowder - Made Fresh (\$4.50)

Macaroni & Cheese - Made Fresh (\$3.50)

Extra Beer Battered Cod (\$3.00)

French Fries (\$2.50) & Slaw (\$1.00)

Carryout Available. Come & Enjoy.

Questions:

Jon Ruthenbeck, (248) 953-9053 or John Fournier, (248) 410-5866

**Eat
More
Fish!**



St. Monica Sodality Mass • Sunday, March 24

During Lent we seek ways to draw closer to Christ and away from worldly attachments. We are blessed this month to celebrate the feasts of St. Joseph and the Annunciation. Let's place all of our loved ones into the humble and loving arms of the Holy Family, and trust in God's love and plans for them. The next St. Monica Sodality Mass takes place on Sunday, March 24, at 1:30PM. Please join us for Holy Mass and prayers.

Cleveland Pilgrimage of Historic Churches • March 28-29

On March 28-29, for two full days, you are welcome to join Prayer Pilgrimages in Cleveland as we plan to tour & visit the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Conversion of St. Paul Shrine, & eleven other significant Catholic Churches known for their architectural beauty and historic significance. Guided tours & daily Holy Mass included. One night lodging at Days Inn near downtown. Deluxe motorcoach pickups Thursday early morning & returns Friday evening from Ss. Cyril & Methodius Activity Center and Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth. Total cost per person, including hotel lodging: \$210 (single); \$180 (double); \$170 (triple); \$160 (quad).

Reservation and/or info: *Michael Semaan* at (248) 250-6005 and/or visit: www.prayerpilgrimages.com.

Altar Boy Meeting • March 30

Happy, blessed Lent! We will have an Altar Boy Meeting on Saturday, March 30, beginning at 5:15pm to approximately 6:45PM. Black Cassocks and White Albs age 11 and older are invited. We will be practicing incense and the proper use of the Thurible and Boat. Fr. Juraj (George) will discuss the protocols for using incense. Those of you who are proficient with incense can be very helpful with hands-on training. If we have time remaining, we will review and train on other jobs. As always, it is a great pleasure to altar serve with all of you! Questions: *Jeff, gurasforlife@gmail.com*

Regina Caeli Academy • April 1

Join our exciting mission to form the next generation of Catholics! Regina Caeli Academy provides a classical, hybrid education in the Catholic tradition. Pre K3-12th grade students attend Socratic, hands-on classes two days a week and homeschool on the remaining days. Event includes a tour, classroom observation, and Q&A; children welcome!

Our Touring Event is on Monday, April 1, at 10:30AM, at 42259 Hayes Rd., Sterling Heights (Located inside Hope Community Baptist). www.rcahybrid.org

RSVP to jpogasic.det@rcahybrid.org or call (989) 402-5109

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**Lenten Reflection with Fr. Cyril Whitaker**

**Fridays, April 5 & 12, 7:00PM**

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American Red Cross Blood Drive • Monday, April 15

Our next Blood Drive is during Holy Week on Monday, April 15. The Blood Drive will take place from 1:00PM-6:45PM.

Please sign up today on the schedule in the vestibule or call the Parish Office, (586) 726-6911. Without the proper amount of blood on-hand, patients (perhaps even our family members or friends) may not have blood available for necessary operations or emergencies. Please HELP SAVE LIVES. Sign up today!

Questions, please call: Parish Office, (586) 726-6911

Welcome to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church

If you would like general information on:

◆ Sacraments (Baptisms & Weddings)

◆ Joining the Parish

Contact the Parish Office: 586-726-6911



Catechism Corner • All Classes Take Place in the Church Building

Catechism Schedule

Wednesday, March 20 @ 6:15PM: Class for All. Benediction for 5th - 8th Grades

Saturday, March 23 @ 10:00AM—2:00PM: Confirmation Retreat for 7th & 8th Grade Students

Wednesday, March 27 @ 6:15PM: Class for All. Benediction for 1st - 4th Grades

Wednesday, April 3: NO CLASS (Spring Break)

Questions: *Paul or Carroll Schuller*, Directors of Religious Education, (586) 254-9212 or p_schuller@yahoo.com



ADORATION 101 • *Perpetual Patrons, Part 1*

"I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man can number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!' " (Rev. 7:9-10)

As Catholics, we recognize what's called the Communion of Saints. This is an article of our faith which we all profess during Sunday Holy Mass when we pray the Nicene Creed (or more accurately the Nicene-Constantinople Creed which dates back to A.D. 381). The Communion of Saints can be understood as the unity and co-operation of the members of the Church on earth with those in heaven, and those in purgatory. We are all united as being the one Mystical Body of Christ. The faithful on earth are in communion with each other by professing the same faith, obeying the same authority, and assisting each other with their prayers and good works. We are in communion with the saints in heaven by honoring them as glorified/triumphant members of the Church, we invoke their prayers and ask for their aid, and we strive to imitate their virtues. We are in communion with the souls in purgatory by helping them with our prayers and good works.

We must recognize that those who have died do not somehow "leave" the Church, or somehow get disconnected from us here on earth. The Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, extends beyond the limits of space and time. Those in heaven and in purgatory are as much our brothers and sisters as those of us in the Church here on earth.

St. James reminds us that, "the prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects" (James 5:16) and there is no one more righteous than those who have already been thoroughly cleansed in the Blood of the Lamb, who have entered into the Beatific Vision, i.e, the Saints. They have been where we are now and have remained faithful to Christ until death. During this Lenten season, takes some time to read the lives of the saints, read what they wrote, pray to them, learn from them just as you would with someone on earth. Our Catholic faith is so rich in its resources to help us to our ultimate end – heaven! – *Paul A. Ray*



UNPLANNED Movie In Theaters on Friday, March 29

Have you heard of a woman named Abby Johnson? Do you know her major conversion story?

The movie "Unplanned", is a pro-life movie based off Abby's best-selling book. Abby, is a former TX Planned Parenthood clinic director who is now a major pro-life advocate. She worked for 8 years with Planned Parenthood and helped facilitate 22,000 abortions. One day, she was needed to assist with an actual abortion. She walked away from her job after witnessing the brutality of the death of a 13-week-old preborn baby during an ultrasound-guided abortion.

Actress Ashley Bratcher portrays Abby in the movie. Abby herself was involved with the making of the movie and she and Ashley have been touring a lot with each other giving interviews. Abby stated in an interview on February 21 at a Human Life Review event, "Watching someone play the worst version of yourself, it's been really humbling." Further adding about the movie, "It's really to show everybody that our pasts are

redeemable. Anything that we have been through in our lives, God is ready to redeem that and to really use it for His glory. And so it's really His story, in the end."

Abby founded "And Then There Were None" in 2012, a ministry that helps abortion workers leave their jobs and find employment outside the industry. She has aided 500 former abortion workers to date.

Abby became Catholic with her husband, Doug, in 2012. They have seven children - one adopted - already born into this world and number eight will be born in June.

The movie is rated R by the Motion Picture Association. Are they inadvertently supporting the belief that "anything that has to do with abortion is an act of extreme violence"? (from the National Catholic Register article dated 3/4/19). It is indeed violence against the developing baby in the womb and violence against the desperate mother. In the pro-life circle people are saying that R = Recommended not restricted. A teenage girl can go get an abortion without her parents' consent but can't go see this film about abortion. I urge everyone I know to go see this movie and for those with older teens, take them with you! The scene of the abortion that Abby assists with will show the real impact of horror for Abby that she just saw a precious life taken away. It was the critical turning point in her life and it must be shown.

This story will reinvigorate the Pro-Life Movement in our country as the veil is torn from what is hidden behind Planned Parenthood walls and lies.

If you want to join my husband and I and others from the parish at the AMC Sterling Heights theater on Friday night, March 29, please call me at 248-816-1546 or text me at 248-495-9563, and I will give you details on the time and how much the ticket per person will be. I will try to get the theater to block out a certain number of tickets for our group and can keep all who are interested posted on the details.

God's timing in the making of this movie, done quietly "behind the scenes" (like our Blessed Mother's mantle was over the production, protecting it as it was being created), and then the movie being released all across the country during Lent is perfect as He is perfect!

Blessed be God forever! *Lynn Gura*, Parish L.I.F.E. Ministry

In The Beginning ...

How did Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church begin a century ago? What were the founders thinking when they first struck out to establish a parish in Detroit in the early decades of the 20th Century? Were they aware that they were creating an institution that would endure for 100 years and beyond? Did they realize that their efforts would provide a home not only for Slovak Americans and new immigrants from the homeland, but would serve as a melting pot for Americans and immigrants of many ethnic backgrounds; a welcoming place of peace and prayer for all who came? This is the story of our parish, told by the very pioneers who established this Church and shared through a series of articles that will eventually bring us to this current day. *Fr. Libor*

Detroit Mich dňa 16-ho Decembra 1915.

*Začínáme z Božiu Pomoc!
u brata Olekšaka Domiňika,
ohľadom sa založenia slovenskej Osadi, a
postavením slovenského Kostola tuna v Detroit.
pri tomto začiatku zme sa zešli tuna v prítomnosti
Štefán Ďuraňa, Dominik Olekšak,
Bella Tarabek, Štefán Cenklér, Tomáš Vojtašik
pri tejto príležitosti, zme sa dohodli, ponajprv ist
oznamit bratske spolki, I.K.S. Jednotu, a Penn. slov. Jednotu
jakú vec mi tuna na East side steme začat.
v prípade nás budú podporovat, ze slovom, a
peňažite, potom sa obrátíme o pomoc v Redakcii
Jednota, o lepšie vysvetlenie, potažne da do
vzvaňania, ktorého sa nám bude hlásiť niekteri
slovenski kňaz, a zavita kunám,
ktorij príležitosti nám bude na pomoci, zorganizovat
národ Slovensky, a privede ho k láske, pracovat
všemožnu silu pre Kostel,
dóhoda je ponajprv medzi nami,
pisat do novin dopisi, o simpátii národnu,
a pomoc,
stím toto končíme, Dúfajuc pomoc Božiu ženám
popraje pekni výhľad v budúcnosti. budúce
sa zeideme u Brata Cenklera # 930 Trombly
o dva tizne tojest 31-ho Dec, 1915,
na tomto prvem zasadani zme zvolili Úrad dôčasni
kteri ma mat na starosti, a dbat o zveladeňie Osadne
kteri; predsedava Dominik Olekšak, Predseda,
-Štefán Ďuraňa zapisnik
-Štefán Cenklér, Pokladnik.*

Štefán Ďuraňa doč. zap. osadni

Začiatky Slovákov v Detroit

Aj keď oficiálna história kostola Sv. Cyrila a Methoda začína zaregistrovaním a otvorením v roku 1918, v skutočnosti sa dejiny tejto farnosti začali odohrávať už v roku 1915. Pravdepodobne sa táto myšlienka začala ako krásny sen, ale vďaka iniciatíve malej skupiny Slovákov žijúcich v Detroit a okolí sa tento sen začal aj pomaly realizovať. Bolo to v období prvej svetovej vojny a mnohí emigranti prichádzali v dôsledku politickej situácie v Európe a v Rakúsko-Uhorskej Monarchii. Väčšina emigrantov pochádzala z chudobných vrstiev obyvateľstva a začiatky v novej krajine boli veľmi ťažké. Viera bola pre mnohých z nich jedinou oporou, a preto sa už od počiatku usilovali združovať a navzájom si pomáhať. Mnohí určite ani nevedeli písať. Napriek tomu máme zachované písomné svedectvo z týchto čias, keď sa pár Slovákov spolu zišlo a rozhodli sa, že začnú organizovať Slovákov žijúcich na východnej strane Detroitu. Ich cieľom bolo založenie slovenskej farnosti.

Z tejto prvej základajúcej schôdzy sa zachovalo aj dobové svedectvo vo forme ručne písanej zápisnice. Uvádzame ju v prepise bez gramatickej opravy a s následným anglickým prekladom.

Detroit Mich dňa 16-ho Decembra 1915.

Začínáme z Božiu Pomoc!

u brata Olekšaka Domiňika, ohľadom sa založenia slovenskej Osadi, a postavením slovenského Kostola tuna v Detroit. pri tomto začiatku zme sa zešli tuna v prítomnosti Štefán Ďuraňa, Dominik Olekšak, Bella Tarabek, Štefán Cenklér, Tomáš Vojtašik pri tejto príležitosti, zme sa dohodli, ponajprv ist oznamit bratske spolki. I.K.S. Jednotu, a Penn. slov. Jednotu jakú vec mi tuna na East side steme začat. v prípade nás budú podporovat, ze slovom, a peňažite, potom sa obrátíme o pomoc v Redakcii Jednota, o lepšie vysvetlenie, potažne da do vzvaňania, skterého sa nám bude hlásiť niekteri slovenski kňaz, a zavita kunám.

s ktorej príležitosti nám bude na pomoci, zorganizovat národ Slovensky, a privede ho k láske, pracovat všemožnu silu pre Kostel. dóhoda je ponajprv medzi nami, pisat do novin dopisi, o simpátii národnu a pomoc.

stím toto končíme. Dúfajuc pomoc Božiu ženám popraje pekni výhľad v budúcnosti. budúce sa zeideme u Brata Cenklera #930 Trombly Av. o dva tizne tojest, 31ho Dec. 1915.

na tomto prvem zasedani zme zvolili Úrad dôčasni, kteri ma mat na starosti, a dbat o zveladeňie Osadne kteri pozostáva

Dominik Olekšak, Predseda * Štefán Ďuraňa, zapisnik * Štefán Cenklér, Pokladnik * Štefán Ďuraňa, doč. zap. Osadni

The Beginnings of the Slovak Community in Detroit

Although, the official beginning of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church dates back only to year 1918, in reality the forming of the parish and our written documents began already in 1915. Most likely, this idea started as a beautiful dream, but thanks to the initiative of a small group of Slovaks, who lived in the Detroit area, this dream was slowly put into action. Many Slovaks immigrated to the United States, especially during World War I, due to the political situation in Europe and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The majority of them came from poor populations and beginnings in their new country were very difficult. Faith was the only support for many of them, and they sought to come together and help each other from the beginning. We have a preserved book of meeting minutes documenting when a few Slovaks gathered together and decided to start organizing and persuading the Slovak people living on the east side of Detroit of the idea of founding a Slovak parish.

Below is a transcription of the handwritten notes from this first founding meeting.

Detroit, Michigan, December 16, 1915

We begin with the help of God!

We are at the house of our brother Dominik Oleksak, for the purpose of forming a Slovak parish and building a Slovak church here in Detroit.

For these reasons we are meeting here in the presence of brothers Štefan Durana, Dominik Oleksak, Bella Tarabek, Štefan Cenklér and Tomáš Vojtašik.

On this occasion we decided first of all to inform our Slovak organizations, the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Pennsylvania Slovak Union as to what we are trying to start on the east side (of Detroit) so that they will help us verbally and financially, then we will turn to the Jednota newspaper for help to publish an article with a better explanation and maybe some Slovak priest would respond and come to us and he would help us organize our Slovak people and bring them to love and work in all ways possible with all their power to build our church.

First of all, we agreed to write a letter to the newspaper asking our Slovak people for help. With this we are ending this meeting, hoping for God's help that he will grant us a good outlook to the future.

The next meeting will be at brother Cenklér's house at 930 Trombly Ave. in two weeks, which is December 31, 1915. At this first meeting we elected temporary officers to be responsible and in charge of working towards building a Slovak parish. They are:

* Dominik Oleksak, President * Štefan Durana, Secretary * Štefan Cenklér, Treasurer * Signed by: Štefan Durana, Temporary Parish Secretary