

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 12, 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



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28b

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

May 11 Saturday – Sobota

10:30AM LM *First Holy Communion Mass

1:00PM LM *First Holy Communion Mass

5:30PM JN In Thanksgiving req. Cindy Zitny

❖ In Thanksgiving req. Kola Gojcaj

❖ For Jennifer & Family

❖ For Norman, Linda & Baby Grace Kaji

❖ For Celisa Rolling req. Family

❖ For Nic Spanos eq. Wife

May 12, Fourth Sunday of Easter – Nedela

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rv 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 1:27-30 (51)

7:30AM JN For Firas (B'Day)

❖ For the Gamo & Gill Families

❖ †Ascenzio Accomando (10th Ann.)

❖ †Anthony M. Yanik req. Family

❖ †Jean Saari

❖ †Josephine Davis

9:30AM JN For the Intentions of all Mothers (Natural & Spiritual)

11:30AM JN (Slovak) Na úmysel všetkých matiek

1:30PM ML For the Intention of all Parishioners

6:00PM PC (Latin) - Tridentine

For the Lydia Bazger Family

8:30PM PC In Thanksgiving req. Kola Gojcaj

❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family

❖ For Kevin & Yvette Berman (25th Wed. Ann.)

❖ For Angie Smith & Baby Gabriel

❖ †Mary Manning & Family

❖ †Paul & Geri Buss ❖ †Zygmunt Linowski

May 13, Monday – Pondelok

6:00AM JN For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

9:00AM JN For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

12:00PM ML For Fr. Ben Kosnac

❖ For the Members of the Blue Army of Fatima

❖ For Judy Pawlowski req. Family

❖ For Xhulio Frangaj

May 14, Tuesday – Utorok

6:00AM JN For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

❖ For Fr. Paul Czarnota

❖ For John Spriet (B'Day)

❖ For Steve Jr. & Melissa Mazurkiewicz (Wed. Ann.)

9:00AM JN For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

12:00PM ML For Stephanie Fayad (B'Day)

❖ †Josephine David (B'Day)

May 15, Wednesday – Streda

6:00AM PC For Samuel Hines (B'Day)

9:00AM JN (Latin) For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

12:00PM JN For Denise Pepin (B'Day)

❖ For the Mazurkiewicz Family

❖ †Sr. Mary King req. Cousin

❖ †Walter & Eleanor Jurewicz req. Family

May 16, Thursday – Štvrtok

6:00AM PC For John & Sandi Brady

9:00AM JN For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

12:00PM JN For John & Sandi Brady & Family

❖ For Matthew Margiewicz req. Parents

❖ †Christina & Family

❖ †Robert Stout Sr. Req. Family

7:00PM VP For the Holy Souls in Purgatory

❖ For a Special Intention req. Cecelia Bustamante

❖ For Seminarian Patrick Blenman req. Grandparents

❖ For Jim Weil

May 17, Friday – Piatok

6:00AM PC For Richard Haynes (B'Day)

9:00AM JN For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

12:00PM ML In Thanksgiving req. Cindy Zitny

❖ For Nadine Nelson (B'Day)

❖ †Ann Schefke

❖ †Milagros Sunga

7:00PM *Bilingual Rosary

May 18 Saturday – Sobota

9:00AM VP For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

11:00AM *Baptisms:

Aidan Daniel Logan & Zoey Elizabeth Zaverin

5:30PM LM For the Intentions of the Members of the O. L. Mother

of Mercy Secular Discalced Carmelites

❖ In Thanksgiving req. Cindy Zitny

❖ In Thanksgiving req. Schefke Family

❖ For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family

❖ For Troy L'Esperance (B'Day)

❖ †Charles & Theresa MacDonald req. Family

May 19, Fifth Sunday of Easter – Nedela

Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35 (54)

7:30AM LM For Kola Gojcaj

❖ For Sarmad, Rawaiya, Hilal, & Victoria

❖ For Matthew, Steven & David Foley & Families

❖ For the Gammo & Gill Families

❖ †J.R. Chamness req. Barbara

❖ †Josephine Davis

9:30AM ML For the Mother's Day Novena Intentions

11:30AM JN (Slovak) For the Bayus Family req. Janka Stewart

❖ †Jozef Pivovarnik req. Family

❖ †Fraciszek Gomolka req. Family

❖ †Maria Tokar req. Prusak Family

❖ †Bernard Ivin req. Sobolic Family

❖ †John & Agnes Kachman

1:30PM LM *Baptism: Daniel Sullivan Weil

In Thanksgiving req. Cindy Zitny

❖ For Suzanne Hana & Family

❖ For David Bieniek req. Family

❖ †Philip Cusimano req. Shirley Polakowski

❖ †Diane Foley req. Family

❖ †James Fletcher req. Rita Battaglia

6:00PM PC (Latin) - Tridentine

For the Intentions of all Parishioners

8:30PM PC For Andrew Schultheis req. Ann Marie Rooney

❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family

❖ †Elvidio Vennettilli

❖ †Linda Bohach

❖ †Paul & Geri Buss

❖ †Zygmunt Linowski

May 12, 2019 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

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 • vgsigell@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



CSA 2019

Dear Parishioners:

Church is God's work. God calls people to salvation and wants them to be actively engaged so that His salvation can reach everyone.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL While we consider SS. Cyril and Methodius our spiritual home, we are part of the local community of believers in Southeast Michigan – of the Archdiocese of Detroit. Many projects, initiatives, and programs run on a higher level and the involvement of all the faithful is needed for them to be successful: formation of candidates for the priesthood, Catholic schools and charity, social projects, evangelization, administration and stewardship, etc. None of these could be accomplished by any single parish on its own and each of these is needed in some way by all parishes.

Our annual contribution towards archdiocesan projects (CSA) benefits many programs we proudly stand behind and largely benefit from. The CSA goal (\$192,212 this year) is directly tied to our offertory collections over the past three years. The higher our collections, the higher our CSA goal.

The AOD offers each of us the opportunity to make the most of our finances by making a direct contribution towards CSA. Every dollar contributed to the CSA directly benefits our parish 100%. It helps our parish pay its mandatory target, which otherwise must come from our savings. If our CSA collection exceeds our target, the excess comes back to our parish free from the 7% diocesan assessment. In other words, if we exceed the target, the money will return to us 100% and would even lower the CSA goal for next year. If we fail to reach the target from your direct contributions, we must use the general parish funds, which are the weekly donations you give here at church. However, these donations are assessed at 7% before we can use them.

Please, keep in mind that the best way to help our parish benefit from your donations is by giving to the CSA.

I am grateful for every contribution, big or small. *Fr. Libor Marek*

May Crowning Essays ~ ~ ~ "Why would I like to crown the Blessed Mother?"

The May Crowning Court is determined by essays that were submitted by the young ladies of the Confirmation Class. Each essay is heart-felt and beautiful, making it a very difficult decision. Father Libor was asked to read the anonymous essays. The essays featured in the bulletin were composed by the young ladies given the honor of crowner and pillow bearers. The second essay is featured below.



May Crowning of the Blessed Mother

By: *Luisa Trujillo-Soto*, Pillow Bearer

I would like to crown the Blessed Mother at the May Crowning because she is my mother, and I love her. Growing up as a Mexican child involved going to the church to pray the Rosary every Friday of May. During the rosary, we would sing songs blessing Mary and Jesus, then, the children would go up to the altar to put a rose in a vase that sat in front of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This memory of going to offer her a rose has always stuck with me in a way that no other memory has. Our Lady of Guadalupe was always very welcoming to simple people like Saint Juan Diego. Saint Juan Diego was a simple Aztec man who did not believe in the Catholic Faith, but found himself Catholic after Our Lady of Guadalupe made her image appear on his cloak and roses

bloom in December. I want to crown the Blessed Mother at the May Crowning because she has done so much for me. If you think about it, she said yes to God when he asked her if she wanted to bear a son for the saving of the human race. She said yes to God even knowing that she was going to be judged; she trusted in God and was able to give birth to the Son of God. She loved humanity enough to go through the pain of seeing her Son be sacrificed on a cross for humanity's salvation. We really owe the Blessed Mother, but she did this out of love. I want to crown the Blessed Mother at the May Crowning as a thank you for all that she did for you and me. My very own mother loves me so much that she spends every day cleaning up after my family and making sure that we eat healthy and have a clean home. If my earthly mother does all of that, imagine how much the Blessed Mother would do for us who are her children. I want to crown the Blessed Mother at the May Crowning because I want a strong bond between me and the Blessed Mother; I would also want to crown her in honor of all those babies who are aborted every day. Our Blessed Mother would never abort a child; therefore, I thank her and want to crown the Blessed Mother at the May Crowning. God bless you and your family.



Claire Mazurkiewicz
CROWNING MARY
MAY 5, 2019



2019 CROWNING COURT (Left to Right):
Luisa Trujillo-Soto (PILLOW BEARER), *Claire Mazurkiewicz* (CROWNER)
Violet Potempski (ROSARY), *Julia Robertson* (SCAPULAR)



Mary Catherine
Lamerson
(BOUQUET)



Life Teen High School Youth Group • Monday, May 13

Life Night: Senior Goodbye

*A Night of Fellowship for All Teens and a
Time to Pray for the Graduating Seniors*

7:00PM – 8:45PM • Fr. Mikus Parish Hall

All teens and incoming freshman (fall 2019) are invited to join us next week, on Monday, May 20. It will be our last night of the year. We hope to see you there!

New teens can register at tinyurl.com/lifeteencontact.

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, May 16

The Gospel According to You

A Night on Being a Part of God's Story

7:00PM – 8:45PM • Activity Center

REGISTRATION for the 2019-2020 Edge year is OPEN. Register at tinyurl.com/cyrilparent. The registration fee goes up in June. Join us next week for an end-of-the-year summer Game Night. Please wear old play clothes that can get dirty.

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

Catechism Schedule

Wednesday, May 15: Last Class for All at 6:15PM
(Benediction at 6:30PM for all classes)

Wednesday, May 22: Parent Meeting for 8th Grade Confirmandi
in Fr. Mikus Hall at 6:30PM

Wednesday, May 29: Parent Meeting for 7th Grade Confirmandi
in Fr. Mikus Hall at 6:30PM

Questions:

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

Our Lady's Rosary Makers • Friday, May 17

The Rosary Makers will meet this Friday, May 17, from 1:00-3:00PM in Room #113. We welcome newcomers and meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.

For more information, please call:

Jo Ann, (586) 979-1078 or *Helen*, (586) 469-3181

VBS Summer 2019 Meeting: Friday, May 17

The dates for VBS are June 24-28. This year's theme is "Marvelous Mystery: The Mass Comes Alive." Registration has begun.

Planning meetings will be on May 17, 22, 29 and June 5, 12 and 19. All meetings will begin at 7:00PM and run until 9:00PM. To register:

<https://form.jotform.com/sscyrilVBS/vbs-registration>

Questions, volunteers and concerns please contact:

Moe Jones, (586) 219-6678 or moeprays@gmail.com

Monthly Bilingual Rosary • May 17

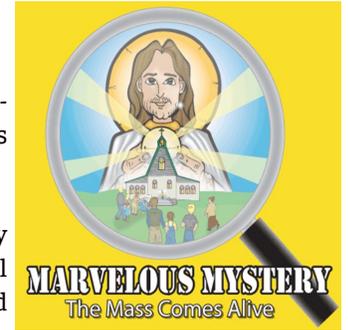
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2018! In honor, appreciation and service to our Lord Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother, we welcome all parishioners and guests to pray one Rosary in two languages--Slovak and English. Prayer intentions for these Rosaries will focus on our parish and respective countries. We also ask that you send us special prayer requests which will be lifted up during each Rosary. Prayer requests may be sent either by emailing 100rosary@gmail.com or calling or texting (586) 413-4050.

We will pray this centennial Rosary in the Church at 7:00PM on the following days: May 17, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13.

As an additional treat, we will have a social after each Monthly Bilingual Rosary in the Slovak Heritage room. Bring a snack to share if you wish.

Organized by:

Maria Lamerova and Cindy & Dennis Zitny



Young Catholic Professionals Networking Opportunities Happy Hour • Tuesday, May 14

Young Catholic Professionals' Detroit Chapter is inviting all 20-39 year old adults both single and married to join us for an exciting evening at Detroit Shipping Company, 474 Peterboro, Detroit, on Tuesday, May 14, starting at 7:00PM.

You will enjoy an evening of networking with other young professionals in a more casual setting. Hope to see you there!

Inspiring Speaker • Wednesday, May 29

Young Catholic Professionals' Detroit Chapter is inviting all 20-39 year old adults both single and married to join us for an exciting evening at Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, on Wednesday, May 29, starting at 7:00PM.

You will enjoy an evening of networking with other young professionals, complimentary food, beer, and wine followed by a very inspiring speaker, Pamela Good (CEO of Beyond Basics, a literacy nonprofit) who will leave you feeling inspired and challenged as she shares her professional and spiritual faith journey!

For more information about these events, please visit our Facebook page at: YCP Detroit or www.ycpdetroit.org

Additional questions can be sent to:

Francesca Montana at: francesca.montana@ycpdetroit.org



Youth Dance • Friday, May 17
7:00PM - 11:00PM
 \$7 per person, Pop and Pizza
 Bring Board Games & Cards
MODEST DRESS
IS REQUIRED AND ENFORCED
NO Short Shorts, NO Tank Tops,

NO Tight Fitting or Revealing Attire

WE ARE IN NEED OF CHAPERONES

Questions: Call Mary Hale, (586) 773-8261

May Celebration • Saturday, May 18, 6:00PM

Májová Veselica

Guláš—Goulash Dinner
Dessert, Coffee, Beverages
DJ Dance Music Selections
Adults: \$15 in advance or
\$20 at the door

Kids (ages 6 through 17 years old): \$8

Kids (under 6 years old): Free

Tickets Available:

Parish Office (Weekdays), (586) 726-6911

Jozef Krajcovic, (248) 363-6560

Jozef Kovac, (586) 943-5615



Pancake Breakfast



Pancake Breakfast * Sunday, May 19

The Men's Club is hosting another great Pancake Breakfast in the Fr. Mikus Hall next Sunday, May 19, after the 7:30AM, 9:30AM and 11:30AM Holy Masses.

Menu Includes: homemade buttermilk pancakes, fresh scrambled eggs, baked red-skin potatoes, sausage links, toast, orange juice coffee!

Prices: Children (12 and under): \$4

Adults (over 12 years old): \$6

Family Max: \$25

Mobile App

We have launched a Church App to be used on mobile devices. You will be able to access things like daily readings for Mass, a digital Bible, weekly bulletins and our electronic giving page. As we continue to work to add to the app we hope to include access to event information, homilies and other recorded talks and more.

To download the app, you can either text "SSCyrilApp" to 77977 to receive a text with a link to the app or you can go to your Mobile App Store and download the "My Church by Pushpay" app and search for SSCyrilApp or you can select "Find my church by name" and search for SS Cyril.

Online Giving

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.church and select "GIVE" on the homepage.

**If you decide to use online giving and no longer need your envelopes, please send an email to business@saintcyrils.org requesting they be canceled.

What If I Already Give Using The Old System

If you have been using the ACH giving system and we have your email address on-file, we sent an email to you outlining the new Pushpay on-line giving program. The email included a link to set up your gift using Pushpay. Once you sign up for Pushpay, we will then cancel your old ACH gift. If we did not have your email on file or you did not receive the email, you can simply set up your gift using the new online or mobile platform and contact the Parish Office or send an email to business@saintcyrils.org requesting the old gift be canceled. We will discontinue the current ACH giving system on May 31, 2019.

Attention Graduating Seniors of 2019

You are invited to participate in the Holy Mass being celebrated for all graduating seniors from public school, private school, and home school! Please join us on Sunday, June 9, at the 9:30AM Holy Mass.

Please meet in the vestibule at 9:00AM to begin lining up for the entrance procession. Please wear your high school cap and gown and all cords/medals of honor from your respective schools. Seating will be reserved for all graduates.

Also, you are all invited to submit a graduation photo for our display board! For those interested in having their picture displayed, please provide the following:

Photo of Graduate (approximately 2" x 3" size)

Graduate's Name / Parents' Names / School of Graduation

Brief description of plans following graduation

Please drop off the picture and information in the Parish Office or mail the above to:

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church

ATTN: Heidi Wiegand

41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Please submit the photo and information by Thursday, May 23. (Sorry, photos will not be returned.)

If you have any questions, please contact:

Heidi Wiegand, wiegand.gang@sbcglobal.net

ADORERS NEEDED

Monday
1-2AM

Tuesday
1-2AM

Thursday
11PM-12AM

Saturday
1-2AM

Questions, please contact: *Jenn Dopke*
586-530-3674, jdopke13@gmail.com

First Holy Communion



May God bless all the students who received their First Holy Communion at our parish on Saturday, May 11. As they begin their newfound personal relationship with Our Lord, we pray that they will always receive the Holy Eucharist with great faith, love, reverence, and devotion!

We extend our gratitude to their teachers for their patience, diligence, and handwork in preparing each and every student to receive not only Our Lord's Body & Blood but also His grace and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Penance. On behalf of the Communicants' parents and parish family, we would like to thank their teachers: *Sylvia Bieniek, Richard Baker, Heidi Wiegand, Marcy Lamerson, Kimberly Ambrosio, Emily Chudy, Thalia Lamerson, and Ava Lamerson* for their dedication to our faith.

Those who received the sacrament include:

Ella Bailey, Christopher Baltrinic, John Beck, Sophia Blaski, Julius Boisvert, Elijah Botwinis, Vincent Brancaleone, Alaina Brannigan, Chloe Bui, Cassie Cabrera (2nd), Maria Camaj, Michael Camaj, Alan Camargo, Gabriella Dailey, Lillyanna Doerflinger, Elijah Dolinshek, Elizabeth Durkee, Xander Dushaj, William Eastburn, Michael Evans, Angelina Gielegem, Rianna Hana, Holly Haynes, David Honce, Victoria Hopkins, Adam Ivezaj, Joshua Kanan, Angelina Kehrig, Brayden Koziol, Avila Kramer, Augustine Lamerson, Kateri Langbeen, Michael Manni, Thomas Manni, Zoe McCloskey, Darci Anne Niksa, Nolan O'Brien, Isabel O'Neal, Vito Oddo, Dominic Pearson, Diana Potter, Clare Propson, Nora Robinson, Isabella Sa'Pereira, Penelope Schlaud, Thaddeus (Max) Schlaud, Jenna Faith Schmidt, Larissa Stec, Julianna Stewart, Emeric Szczerba, Garrette Teeter, Josephine Teslak, and Nic Varchetti

Confirmation with Bishop Donald Hanchon • May 3

Zachary Alindogan, Samantha Babbie, Abigail Bartold, Thomas Belej, Gillian Cabrera, Alaina Camaj, Alexander Camaj, Gabriella Camaj, Suzana Camaj, Valentina Camaj, Jordan Cruz, Nathan Czach, Olivia Dickerson, Lucas Dubon, Kristijan Dushaj, Benjamin Eck, Thomas Edmunds, Nicholas Flockhart, Elizabeth Freeman, Simon Freeman, Sophia Garnczarski, Joseph Giannone, Julia Giroux, Mason Giza, Davis Gjinaj, Louis Gjinaj, Julia Heilman, Luke Heintz, Gabriel Honce, Jack Hopkins, Lucas Jones, Tina Kehrig, Magdalena Kortebein, Benjamin Langlois, Benjamin Malysz, Joseph Manczuk, Liljana Margiljaj, Claire Mazurkiewicz, Aaron Mira, Gabriella Mitchell, Olivia Mulka, Benjamin Muter, Alyssandria Natzke, Aoife Newell, Felicity O'Brien, Natalie O'Neal, Madeline Opatik, Melissa Opatik, Michael Opatik, Michael Opatik Jr, Violet Potempski, Julia Robinson, Gibson Rodriguez, Michael Saad, Andrew Stewart, Scarlett Rose Suchland, William Szczerba, Xavier Tacderas, Nicholas Teper, Monika Torkos, Luisa Soto-Trujillo, Isabella Varchetti, Francesco Ventimiglia, Anthony Wieggers, Michael Wojciechowski, Benjamin Yarbrough & Special Blessings for Kaylee Gorial & Michael Louis



No Time for Laziness

After the first successful and encouraging parish meeting, where many Slovaks expressed their excitement for and declared support of the new Slovak church, a lot of hard work was still ahead in order for this dream to come true. Lack of experience with administrative issues, limited language skills and insufficient funding were offset by enthusiasm, faith and trust in God – as well as help from certain benefactors.

Once the first official committee, which would be comparable to the present-day Parish Council, was formed (see the committee members' names at the end of this article), a few positive initiatives were undertaken. Although no one really knew what it takes to “start a church,” they knew they had to do something.

We must imagine that they had no access to reliable census data, and that word of mouth must have been their primary source of information. Therefore, they sent out volunteers to crisscross the streets and neighborhoods west of Woodward through Hamtramck and east as far as Jefferson, to visit Slovak families and sign up as many as possible to join the new parish. As the numbers continued to grow, the committee began looking for lots on which to build the new church. The process was as simple as walking around the area and finding lots for sale. Nine lots near Harper and Helen streets were available for the price of \$4,400. Once the deposit of \$100 was paid, it seemed that Parish would soon have its physical home...

In these early stages, as well as many times later on, they learned that a Parish cannot rely only upon physical structures, but on people: those who are members as well as those who support the parish from the outside.

The Slovaks in Detroit were not the first in the U.S. and therefore were able to use some previous know-how and connections (we would call it lobbying today). A friendly visit of Rev. Jan Liscinsky (Slovak priest) from Cleveland resulted in a strong push for their effort, eventually bringing this brave Slovak initiative to the attention of the Bishop of Detroit, Most Rev. Bishop Foley. And this logical and necessary step could have easily gone the wrong way! The Slovaks in Detroit at the time enjoyed close relations with the Czech people who were already well established in the city. The similarity of the two languages and partially shared history (both nations being part of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy until 1918) made the Slovaks and Czechs like “siblings” in both a good and bad sense, with concern for one another, but also a strong rivalry at times.

The Slovaks in Detroit gladly accepted help, especially from Rev. Jozef Janecek, pastor of St. John Czech parish on Detroit's west side, who proved very helpful by offering them meeting rooms, encouragement and even direct help by coaching them on how to talk to the bishop. On the other hand, Rev. Hajek, pastor of St. Wenceslaus parish reportedly told Bishop Foley that it would not be necessary for the Slovaks on the east side to have their own church, and that they could attend the Czech church. Was this the old rivalry flaring up, a personal whim, his understanding of the situation, a genuine effort to gain and keep parishioners for his church...? We can only speculate as to his motives. Nowadays, Detroit area Slovaks and Czechs enjoy much friendlier relations than sometimes in the past: the languages are similar and Ss. Cyril & Methodius currently has some Czech parishioners. On the other hand, the 1910s perspective was different: people spoke with much stronger dialects (both Slovaks and Czechs), and the Slovaks, being the “younger sibling,” felt the need to establish their own identity. Therefore, they declared: “We Slovaks on the east side are not satisfied going to the Czech Church because we want and need our own Slovak Church, so that we can hear the word of God in our mother tongue into which we were born. At the Czech church we are strangers; we need our own church -- not just for us -- but for our children's religious upbringing. We are only asking for what is rightfully ours!”

How did the communication with the bishop further evolve? To be continued...

Niet času na záhaľku

Potom ako pri prvom stretnutí Slováci vyjadrili nadšenie a podporu nového kostola, k uskutočneniu tohoto sna bolo potrebné ešte mnoho práce. Nedostatok skúseností, obmedzenú znalosť jazyka a chýbajúce finančné zdroje dopĺňali nadšením, vierou a dôverou v Boha a pomocou od dobrodincov.

Prvý oficiálny „osadný výbor“ (porovnateľný s dnešnou Farskou radou; členovia uvedení pod článkom) hneď začal podnikáť viaceré kroky. Nikto presne nevedel, ako sa „zakladá kostol“, no niekde museli začať. Chýbali im akékoľvek oficiálne údaje o ďalších Slovákoch a informácie si museli podávať iba ústne. Preto posielali ďalších dobrovoľníkov do ulíc a domov (západne od Woodward Ave., v Hamtramcku až po Jefferson Ave), aby hľadali Slovákov a získali ich pre novú farnosť. S rastúcim počtom ľudí sa postupne zamerali aj na pozemky na stavbu kostola. Hľadanie pozemku prebiehalo úplne jednoducho: prejsť sa po meste a hľadať. Deväť voľných pozemkov v blízkosti ulíc Harper a Helen s cenou \$4,400 sa ukázalo ako dobrá voľba a po zaplatení zálohy \$100 sa zdalo, že farnosť čoskoro nájde nový domov. Tak ako mnohokrát neskôr, i teraz sa ukázalo, že farnosť nemôže spočívať iba na fyzickej stavbe, ale hlavne na ľuďoch: členoch, ale aj tých, ktorí ju podporujú zvonku.

Slováci v Detroiti mali aspoň tú výhodu, že mohli využiť isté know-how a niektoré známosti (dnes to voláme lobbying). Priateľská návšteva Rev. Jána Liščinského z Clevelandu bola pre nich povzbudením a podnetom komunikovať s miestnym biskupom (Mons. Foley.) A tento logický a nutný krok takmer dopadol zle! Slováci v Detroiti boli oddávna vo vzťahu s miestnymi Čechmi. Príbuznosť týchto dvoch jazykov, ako aj čiastočne zdieľané dejiny majú za následok, že Česi a Slováci sú v „súrodeneckom vzťahu“, v dobrom i v zlom: sú si blízki, ale je medzi nimi i vzájomná rivalita. Slováci v Detroiti s vďačnosťou prijali pomoc od Rev. Jozefa Janečka, ktorý bol farárom v českom kostole sv. Jána na západnej strane mesta. Poskytol im priestory na stretávanie, povzbudzoval ich a radil im ako komunikovať s biskupom. Na druhej strane, Rev. Hajek, farár v kostole sv. Václava údajne intervenoval u biskupa Foleyho a povedal mu, že nie je nutné, aby Slováci mali svoj kostol a že môžu chodiť do českého kostola. Bol to zápal dávnej rivality, osobný rozmar, jeho chápanie reality, alebo úprimná snaha získať, či udržať si farníkov? Môžeme iba špekulovať.

Dnešné vzťahy medzi Čechmi a Slovákami sú prevažne priateľské a aj v súčasnosti sú medzi našimi farníkmi viacerí Česi. Vo vtedajšom kontexte však Slováci vnímali veci ináč: používanie dialektov (na oboch stranách) sťažovalo porozumenie a Slováci (ako „mladší súrodeneček“) cítili potrebu presadiť sa a hájiť svoje záujmy. Preto vyhlásili: „mi Slováci tuna na východnej strane sme neni spokojni s Českov osadov ponevač mi chceme naš vlastny čisto Slovenski Katolícky kostol, abi sme mohli počut slova Bože v našej materinskej reči v ktorej sme sa zrodili a tam sme len cudzincami a mi potrebujeme mať svoje abisme aj nielen mi ale aj naše dietky v naboženstve vichovali mi si len to žiadame čo sa nam aj patril!“

A ako sa ďalej vyvíjala komunikácia s biskupom? Pokračovanie nabudúce.