



# VESTNIK

SLOVENSKA ŽUPNIJA SV. GREGORIJA VELIKEGA | ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SLOVENIAN CHURCH

11/56

Številka - Number / Leto - Year

15.3.2020

**3. POSTNA  
NEDELJA**

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

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## Odžejati se pri pravem vodnjaku

*Izkušnja žeje, ki jo ima vsak izmed nas, nam priklič v spomin tudi potešitev. Hujša ko je žeja, večja je želja po potešitvi. Ob žeji po resnici, smislu, dragi bratje in sestre, pa mnogokrat ne storimo veliko. Zato se nam lahko zgodi, da kljub svoji veri, ki jo redno izpovedujemo, ne moremo živeti iz nje. Prav je, da skupaj s Samarijanko, ki jo bomo srečali v današnjem evangeliju, prosimo Kristusa, naj nam da žive vode, vode resnice in ljubezni.*

V Prvi Mojzesovi knjigi (33,13) je opisano, kako se je Jakob vrnil iz Mezopotamije, kjer je služboval pri Labanu, kako je došel do Sihema, v osrčju obljubljenega dežele, kako je tam »postavil oltar in izkopal vodnjak, iz katerega je lahko s svojimi sinovi in s svojo čredo pil.« Nad tem vodnjakom se vzpenja zelena gora, Garizim, ki je sedež kulturnega dogajanja majhne skupnosti Samarijanov. To so potomci mešanega ljudstva, nasprotni Hebrejcem, ki so se kot ljudstvo vzpostavili po padcu Samarije (721 pr. Kr.). Gre za mešanico različnih ljudstev, to je za Hebrejce, ki so tja pobegnili, in asirske kolone, ki so bili tja nasilno preseljeni. Samarijani na tej sveti gori praznujejo svojo veliko noč in svoje praznike.

Ker je tako imenovana »skrivnost prostora«, značilna za četrti evangelij, se današnje besedilo »o Samarijanki« odvija med velikimi znamenji, ki prav zaradi tega postanejo znamenja neke višje skrivnosti. Prvo znamenje je voda v vodnjaku, stvarnost, ki jo človek v Vzhoda neprestano išče. Voda pa ni samo sredstvo za očiščevanje in osvežitev, ampak je predvsem vir življenja in plodnosti. Voda je potrebna, da vzklje zeleno brstje; voda naseljuje življenje in preprečuje smrt v puščavi; voda okrepi človeka v njegovi vsakdanji hoji. V tej luči besede Samarijanke »Gospod,



The woman of Samaria by Harold Copping

daj mi te vode, da ne bom žejna», vsebujejo temeljno vprašanje kristjana, ki ne išče tiste sveže in svete vode iz Jakobovega vodnjaka, ampak živo vodo-Kristusa: »Če je kdo žejen, naj pride k meni in naj pije« (Jn 7,37).

Tudi drugo zemljepisno znamenje, sveta gora Samarijanov, se pri Jezusu spremeni v pravi kultni simbol. Jeruzalemski Sion in samarijski Garizim sta bila dva altarja, ki sta se potegovala za skoraj magično in izključujočo božjo navzočnost. Jezus oznanja, da gre popolno čiščenje, čeprav se odvija v templju, skozi neko drugo razsežnost, ki je razsežnost »duha« in »resnice«.

Kult, ki ga Kristus vzpostavlja, je tisti, v katerem (Sveti) »Duh« deluje v verniku in ga spreminja v božjega otroka; je tisti, v katerem se razodeva resnica, to je evangelij, ki je razodetje odrešenja. Ta stavek je bistveni povzetek naših nedeljskih praznovanj: v njih se Sveti Duh spusti na darove kruha in vina in jih spremeni v evharistijo, ki nas postavi v polno skupnost z Očetom, medtem ko je poslušanje in premišljevanje božje besede izvir našega upanja in je hkrati resnica, ki vodi naše korake.

Na koncu je še tretje topografsko znamenje: Samarija in njeni prebivalci. Jezus odpravi vse puritanske ovire in predsodke, sprejme dialog s to ženo, ki jo uradno judovstvo razglaša za nečisto, hudičevo in heretično. S pogovorom jo privede k okušanju vode, ki odžejja za vedno, in jo povabi k obredu praznovanja v duhu in resnici.

Ta stran postane torej klic k Cerkvi naj odstrani ogrado, predsodke in strahove, ter naj vsem oznanja s spoštovanjem, ljubeznijo in veseljem »veselo novico« evangelija.

Ta stran je tudi klic vsem, ki se počutijo nekoliko odrinjene, odtujene, vsem, ki imajo »samarijansko« oziroma ne »pravoverno« preteklost: naj vedo, da je vedno nekdo, ki jih pričakuje in sprejema, tudi pod soncem, v hrupu vsakdanjega življenja.

(Prim. Oznanjevalec 2005)

### Response:

**O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts!**

### First Reading Exodus 17:3-7

The Israelites, dying of thirst in the desert, begin to doubt God's love for them. At God's command, Moses strikes the rock with his staff. Out gushes water.

### Second Reading Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

God's love is overflowing: that is why Christ came to save us, and not because we deserved it. Trusting in God's love, we face the future with hope.

### Gospel John 4:5-42

The conversion of Samaria begins when Jesus stops by a well, where he meets a woman coming to draw water. She gives him a drink; he, in turn, offers her the living water of God's Spirit.

*"The water that I shall give will turn into a spring... welling up to eternal life."*



### Illustration

Husbands and wives often recount the story of how they first met. In the middle of the twentieth century, it was once estimated that seventy per cent of couples met at dance halls. Those were the days before online dating. Journeys away from home occasionally offered romantic possibilities too. A famous British film of the 1940s, *Brief Encounter*, tells of such a romance that begins with a meeting at a railway station; though as one of the couple is married already, it does not lead to a lasting relationship.

In biblical times the romantic setting was more likely to be a well. There, farmers watering their animals might catch glimpses of local women. Isaac's wife Rebecca and Moses' wife Zipporah were first encountered by their future husbands at wells, and it was at a well that the patriarch Jacob met his wife-to-be. Weary from his journey, he rested in the midday heat, to see a beautiful shepherdess coming at this unexpected hour to water her flock. The encounter ended with a kiss, though Jacob had to wait years before finally making Rachel his bride.

God is patient, too, and not interested in brief flirtations with us. God desires close and enduring relationships. The prophet Hosea described God's continuing love for the chosen people, despite their unfaithfulness to the covenant, as like that of a husband still in love with his unfaithful wife, always trying to win her back.

### Gospel Teaching

Although they worshipped the same God, and shared many of the same beliefs, Jews despised Samaritans, in large part because the Samaritans believed that Mount Gerizim, rather than the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, was the correct place to worship the Lord. Many Jews avoided travelling through Samaria. Jesus, however, felt impelled to go there. The verse just before our Gospel reading says, "he had to cross Samaria". That intensity of desire to win back the people of Samaria reminded the Gospel writer, perhaps, of Jacob's unquenchable love for Rachel. Jacob's well was deep, as wells are in that region, and it was the hottest hour of the day. What a perfect setting for the story of God's burning love for us and of our deep need for God.

One can imagine the travel-weary Jesus asking humbly for hospitality wherever he went, including on his journey through Samaria. No doubt he often encountered people at wells. Samaritans might be



reluctant to talk to a Jew, but Jesus could quickly turn everyday chatter into heart-to-heart encounters. We hear echoes of such conversations in today's Gospel. He started off by asking for a drink; soon Jesus was saying, in effect: "Come to know the living God. Let God's Spirit become a source of life within you."

The Samaritan woman in our story evidently had a colourful past, which Jesus was quick to recognise. The meeting with

Jesus turned out to be no brief encounter, but a love that would never die. The woman at the well, who was probably looked down on by the other residents of her town because of her troubled marital history, would go on to take Jesus' words of life and love to them. And as the Gospel writer tells us, "Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony."

### Application

The woman's request of Jesus, "give me some of that water", can be our prayer too. Many are still thirsting for an experience of God that makes them feel truly loved and known, like the Samaritan woman in her encounter with Jesus. It is easy to be seduced by worldly attractions. Just as the woman kept having to go back to the well, some people find the happiness the world promises illusory and short-lived. You don't have to keep coming back for more, Jesus assures us. He offers us himself as the true source of life and joy. Drink of God's Spirit, he says, and you will never be thirsty again.

How refreshing a message this is for Lent. Perhaps we are weary of the penitential journey, or ashamed that we have not taken it seriously enough. Whatever our past story, God longs to win us back. This Mass is an invitation to enter into deeper communion. And if we are tired of encounters that are only ever brief ones, Jesus offers eternal union. He is waiting for each one of us at the well.

# St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Parish – Občni Zbor – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019

## Draft minutes

### Council members present:

*Father Drago Gačnik, Tony Horvat, Sonya Podrebarac, Heidy Novak, Mary Ann Demšar, Sidonia Poppa, Steven Horvat*  
40 parishioners in attendance – including council members.

**Welcome:** Parishioners were served coffee and sweets prior to the formal meeting starting at 11:15 am. Heidy welcomed everyone and reminded those present of the contributions made to the success of the parish by former priests and parishioners.

A moment of silence was observed in their honour. Father Drago led the opening prayer.

### Acceptance of the proposed agenda:

Proposed by Marina Štefanec  
Seconded by Rosemary Sušteršič  
All in favour.

### Approval of minutes of March 11, 2018 Občni Zbor:

Proposed by Milan Ferletič  
Seconded by Marina Štefanec  
All in favour.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Catholic Women's League – reported by Rosemary Sušteršič

Current Members: 90  
Spiritual Advisor: Father Drago Gačnik  
Current Executive:  
President: Rosemary Sušteršič  
Past President: Sidonia Poppa  
Vice President: Milka Ferko  
Secretary: Pamela Gosgnach  
Treasurer: Mary Ann Demšar  
Our Katoliška Ženska Zveza or Catholic Women's League includes women aged 16 years and older. We meet at least once per month usually on the first Wednesday of the month, excluding the months of July and August. The Catholic Women's

League is the only voluntary organization that is allowed to lobby Parliament so our voice matters! We make an effort to attend regional meetings and diocesan conventions and share key ideas and information at our regularly scheduled meetings.

Our League fulfills the spiritual needs of its members through the Catechism of the Catholic Church. In 2018 focus was placed on supporting improvements to palliative care and addressing concerns associated with homelessness.

**At Our Lady of Good Counsel Mass** which took place on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 we welcomed one new member, recognized five members for ten years of service, one member for forty years of service and six members for fifty years of service. We are thankful to our members for their dedication and service.

On May 27<sup>th</sup> at a mass led by The Most Reverend Anthony F. Tonnos those receiving the sacraments of **Communion** (eight in total) and **Confirmation** (eight in total) were presented with corsages intertwined with Our Lady of Good Counsel medallions. Our League was also represented at **Corpus Christi processions** at our parish (June 3<sup>rd</sup>) and at Slovenski Park.

**A Memorial mass** to pray for and remember both deceased members of our Catholic Women's League as well as the Slomšek's Altar Society took place on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This year we were saddened by the loss of Marta Hočevar, Marija Horvat, Marinka Mestek-Žumer and Pavla Pelcar. At their funerals (with the exception of one of these ladies who died in Slovenia) we formed an honour guard, said prayers and sent flowers and a sympathy card. Memories of these ladies are etched in our hearts forever!

In December with the help of our parish community we conducted a food drive. Our ill/elderly members were visited and/or cards were sent to them.



Our family-oriented **Bazaar** took place on March 4<sup>th</sup> and again was a hub of activity, delicious food and fun. This bazaar strengthens our Slovenian parish community and builds intergenerational connections. It has become a time-honoured tradition.

The highlight of this year was our **Golden Jubilee, our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a League**. We proudly celebrated this milestone on November 25<sup>th</sup> with a special mass led by our spiritual advisor and pastor, Father Drago Gačnik, followed by a luncheon and celebrity program. We recognized our founding members, past presidents and fifty-year members and remembered our deceased sisters and members who could not be with us. We reflected on our League's work via an entertaining play and were pleased to have so many faithful supporters and members of our parish join us for this momentous occasion (about 250)! We are thankful to our CWL ladies who have recognized the need to reach out to others and have hosted events for what is now more than half a century.

In 2018 we made donations in the amount of \$7,527 and \$1,382 went to community national and international donations. We maintained votive candles. We continued our Chalice sponsorship of Guadeloupe from Guatemala and allocated some funds to masses, convention fees, visiting priests, and the Slovenian Summer Day Camp.

We are truly grateful to our spiritual advisor, Father Drago Gačnik, and appreciative of all our CWL members as well as our faithful supporters and parishioners! Prav lepa hvala vsem!

**Catholic Girl's Club** – Nothing too much to announce. It is difficult to maintain due to students in university. Will continue to run club if there is interest. Will change to Youth Club to include all youth.

**Liturgični Odsek** – *reported by Sonya Podrebarac*

The purpose of the Liturgy Committee is to en-

hance and support community prayer, and worship, in order to encourage the Slovenian Parish to grow in faith.

The committee is involved in spiritual events and celebrations such as Advent, Christmas, First Communion, Processions, Spiritual Retreats, Lent and Easter Season and in the preparation of the bi-annual mailings. Parish members continue bringing up gifts for the offertory during Slovenian mass.

One mass on Sundays were celebrated during special celebrations and festivities during the summer months. The Slovenian and English choir participate in throughout the year in the perspective masses and occasionally together.

We are grateful to all the volunteers that have participated in the spirituality of our celebrations.

Our current members include Father Drago Gačnik, Olga Glavač, Mary Miklavčič, Frank Novak and Sonya Podrebarac.

Župnijska statistika za leto 2018 - Yearly Statistics 2018:

Krsti- Baptisms: 16  
Poroke-Marriages: 0  
Pogrebi - Funerals: 13  
Prvo Obhajilo – First Communion: 8  
SV. Birma – Confirmation: 8

St. Gregory the Great Slovenian Catholic Church offers many opportunities for our parishioners to become more involved. We are always seeking people to help. Please let me know, if you or a family member would be able to spare a few hours a month.

**Slomškovo Oltarno Društvo** – *reported by Fr Drago Gačnik*

Meet once a year, first Saturday in May. Assist with church preparation/cleaning. Assist with finances/prayers.

*Suggested this be included in the Liturgical Report. Agreed.*

## Kulturno društvo:

**Slovenska šola** – reported by Sandy Ferletič –  
Head Teacher

The goal of our Slovenian school is to teach the children to read, write, to speak Slovenian and to instill into them a Slovenian identity, a feeling of love and pride for the Slovenian homeland and their cultural heritage.

There are approximately 20 students registered in the school for the year 2018 -2019 and attend regularly. There are three teachers this year: Mateja Mihelčič teaches kindergarten, levels one and two; Lorie Mramor teaches levels three, four and five; and Sandy Ferletič teaches levels six, seven, and eight. Classes start at 9:00am and end at 12:30pm.

Fr. Drago Gačnik teaches singing every Saturday and prepares the children for their singing performances at Mother's Day and Miklavž. Father Drago also celebrates Mass with the children on the last Saturday of each month.

We held our annual **Fish Fry** on Good Friday March 30, 2018 and are in the midst of planning this year's event. We held our graduation at our annual **Mother's Day** program on May 13, 2018 and celebrated our mothers with plays, poems and songs. We had three graduates (Ava Bosiljevac, Rok Curkovic and Marcela Milosavljevič). We had an end of the year party and went to a trampoline park.

The school year started up again in September 2018. We currently have 14 students enrolled in grades Kindergarten to Eight. We celebrated **Miklavž** with a luncheon in December 2018. At the conclusion of the first term we had a Christmas renewal, decorated the Christmas tree in the atrium of the church, and had a party for the entire school with pizza and a movie. We are currently preparing for our Fish Fry and Mother's Day events. Several of our past graduates will also be attending Poletna Šola in Slovenija this coming summer.

As teachers, we are constantly rewriting and eliminating teaching material from our curriculum to

adjust to the needs of the children. We also try to make our lessons as fun for the children as possible so that they enjoy coming to Sola. We are continuously working on updating the curriculum.

The number of students attending sola has been steadily dropping over the years. Due to our low numbers, in 2017 we lost funding for one teacher through the Hamilton Catholic District School Board. We now fund our third teacher from our own account to provide the best learning environment for our students.

We are always hopeful that each new school year will bring new students, but this isn't always the case. And despite remaining optimistic that things will change, we can't increase numbers if the families of our parish no longer think it is important to keep our Slovenian language and culture alive. There are a great number of children in our parish, but it is sad that a very small number of these children actually attend. We have teachers who are happy and willing to attend Sola every Saturday morning, but it is hard to be optimistic about the future of Sola when only a handful of children show up.

So, if you have children or grandchildren from Kindergarten to Grade 8, please consider signing them up for Slovenian school. We know that children have many activities in their lives, and we can work around that. Many children arrive late or leave early, and we are happy and willing to accommodate that. The will is there on the part of the teachers, but the important question is: Is it there on the part of the families in our parish?

We would like to thank our current parents for their cooperation and for bringing their children to Slovenian School faithfully every Saturday; for having the foresight to have them learn our Slovenian language which helps to preserve our language, culture and heritage.

At the same time, we would like to thank the parishioners for their help, their support and cooper-

ation at all our events. We really appreciate it and know we could not do it without you.

### **Pevski zbori** - reported by Frank Novak

Active Parish singing groups are: Parish Mixed choir, Majolka, women's choir, Parish English Choir and Slovenian school choir. The teachers are Fr. Drago Gačnik and Ivan Mertuk, John Horvat is the parish choir director and Carl Vegelj is the accompanist.

The Parish has a regular English choir at each Sunday English Mass under direction of Ivan Mertuk and Fr. Drago Gačnik. During the season, the Choir practices Wednesdays. Lately, the English Choir is singing more songs in three-part harmony.

The Slovenian Children Choir is practicing each Saturday during Slovenian school and performing at Mother's Day and Miklavž celebrations.

All choirs are practicing regularly during the season from September to June each year, preparing for regular or special events.

The Slovenian and English Choirs are singing at regular Sundays as well as at all major holidays such as Easter and Christmas.

The Slovenian choir sings at Slovenian Mass and at Parish cultural programs and are an integral group at each Slovenski Dan in the past 28 years.

In the past few years, Fr. Drago added our own young musicians to accompany the church choirs at Christmas celebrations.

Now days, we have many more bilingual single Sunday Masses through the year with Slovenian and English choirs sharing singing participation.

*Suggested this be included in the Liturgical Report. Agreed.*

**Plesni skupini:** *No report.*

### **Summer Day Camp:**

Moya Financial will be sponsoring a Robotics Day for children between the ages of 8-12. Will open this up to all interested people up to a maxi-

mum of 30. If interested, please contact Heidi.

### **St. Joseph's Society** - submitted by Jerry Ponikvar

The following is a summary report on the activities and programs of the Slovenian Society of St. Joseph / Društvo sv. Jožefa for the year 2018.

Paid membership in 2018 were: 86

Membership List: 128

The Board of Directors met monthly except in July with representatives from Active Management (TAG) to discuss and address matters relating to the operations of the Villa and held a separate meeting to discuss business relating to the Društvo – there were a number of vacancies and we were pleased to see that the number of members of our Slovenian community have taken up residency in the Villa is the highest it has been since we opened the Villa. Another special project which we undertook was the renovations – painting, new carpet and furnishings to the Residents' Lounge on the main floor. We also had a special dedication and blessing of the Lounge naming it: "Father Charles Ceglar Lounge". Father Drago officiated.

The Annual Slovenian Society of St. Joseph **Banquet** was held on March 2018. Entertainment was provided by the Lipa Park Drama group under the direction of Francka Seljak.

Weekly **Tuesday Social evenings** were held at the Villa for residents, members and spouses.

Weekly **Monday bingos** were held during the months of October – May. Deep appreciation is expressed to Frank Erzar, coordinator of the bingo and Slava Gomboša for her assistance.

No trips were taken this year.

The Društvo hosted summer bocce playing which has decreased due to declining numbers. **The Annual Fall Bocce Tournament** was very successful. The teams included a mixed group of members and a number of younger future members who enjoyed the fun competition. It was followed by a roast

pig dinner and celebration of the victorious teams with a good attendance of member guests.

The Society expressed their appreciation to our pastor for his spiritual leaderships and Slovenian community commitment - Fr. Drago Gačnik. A gift of appreciation was presented for his annual summer visit home to Slovenia and at Christmas

Financial assistance and contributions were made to: Visiting Priests from Slovenia, St. Gregory Children's Summer Camp, and St. Gregory Parish "Raise the Roof" renovation fund.

A donation of \$100. was made to the Parish towards the flowers for the Procesija sv Rešnjega Telesa

**Christmas Turkey Dinner Party** was held for the residents with an excellent & most appreciative turn out.

**Members' Christmas Party** was held in December with the dinner prepared by Milena & Ivan Krusic & featured entertainment by a "Magician". Sale/Draw of poinsettias and Društvo donation netted \$640.00 and were presented to Fr. Drago for the Church roof renovation.

During the year, we had four members serving on the Board – Jerry Ponikvar, chair, Peter Novak, secretary/treasurer, Dan Demšar (newly appointed) & Tony Ferko. The Board is two members short and needs to fill the vacancies.

Parish offering of fifty dollars and 5 Masses were requested and offered for the following deceased members of our Društvo in 2018: +Joe Hanc, +Štefan Ray, +Mary Zabukovec, +John Krenos, +Alois Sampl. May their souls rest in peace with our Lord, Jesus Christ!

Board of Directors: Jerry Ponikvar, pres.; Peter Novak, sec. & treas.; Tony Ferko, membership convener; Dan Demšar, Trustee.

I am pleased to present this report to the members of our Društvo and to the St. Gregory Slovenian Parish Council Annual Meeting. I am thankful to

the dedicated and committed Društvo members on the Board, who work diligently to serve our members in all of the activities of our Društvo & Villa Slovenia. We continue to seek new Board members as we are presently two members short. We encourage younger members of our Slovenian community to become involved & join us with organized activities in our Villa Social Room.

On behalf of the Board, Thank you, Jerry Ponikvar, president.

### **Canadian Slovenian Scholarship Foundation** - *Reported by Heidy Novak*

No formal report has been presented. The Scholarship Foundation will continue to happen at the Fall Banquet. The Committee members will continue to allocate funds to recipients until depleted.

### **Gospodarsko poročilo:** *Reported by Mirko Zorko*

Mirko provided a report of all regular monthly, quarterly and annual maintenance tasks.

### **Finančno poročilo:** *Prepared by Theresa Farbotko and read by Heidy Novak.*

The financials were included with the agenda. The floor was opened for discussion.

Bequest Income – a parish member donated funds to church in their will.

Indirect Expenses – cleaning supplies, removal of garbage, etc.

### **Župnijski Pastoralni Svet** - *Heidy Novak*

Your Parish Council is always working hard to find the best ways to do what is in the best interest of our parishioners and the future of our Slovenian community. We have over the past 3-4 years identified that change is a must to attract all generations of our community.

The Face of **Martinovanje** has changed slightly – we integrated our grand traditions of this festive event with a reunion styled event. We will continue



to do so and are continuing to come up with new ideas to make even more changes to enhance our traditions with modern times.

St. Gregory's has been working diligently with SCCN (the Slovenian Canadian Coordination Committee of the Niagara Clubs) and are proud to have put together our **second annual events calendar** and hope that everyone uses it as a resource for all events within our Slovenian communities within the Niagara Region.

Our parish was host to **Slovenski Dan 2018** and I must say that it was very successful. Our intentions of creating a fun energetic event, while keeping it a "not too long" program yet maintaining the flavour of celebrating our great culture got great reviews. Members from all our partnering clubs even gave it the compliment of being the best Slovenski Dan ever. This is something we should be proud of while we appreciate the work of many volunteers to make it happen.

As discussed, and agreed at our Občni Zbor last year, your halls, entrance ways and Fr. Drago's rectory received a facelift. We painted, updated arborite, made some repairs, created a safer foyer walkway replaced the stage curtains, refinished the stage floor and after all that ... this is what you have. Our hall is fresh, neutral and welcoming. We already have secured many rentals for 2019 and are booking well into 2020. So, I guess you can say the purpose of the updating is seeing results.

We celebrated **New Year's Eve** jointly with Slovenski Park and feel that it was a great success. The theme, the music the food made this a wonderful evening, and your parish council feels it reinforced the thought that clubs need to work together in order to continue to build on our already strong foundation.

We changed the **Raise the Roof** event to something a little more social and low key. Parish Council felt that there are already too many events and although fundraising is always important, creating a

time for all of us to get together without the push for always having to spend a lot of money was something we wanted to focus on. For this reason, we created our "soups, suds and cards" event where members can just come together in the dead of winter to just enjoy some comfort food and the company of good friends. We feel with a little more advertising we would have had a better turnout, but for those who did attend, there was only positive feedback. We will continue with this one again next time.

We cannot forget how fortunate we are to have Fr. Drago at our helm. Thank you for all that you do. Thank you also to Gizela Hauzar and Sonja Langenfus diligently looking out for him with the upkeep of the rectory and making sure he always has a delicious meal to keep his energy flowing. We know that Gizela is constantly asking us to find a replacement for her, but Gizela, I don't think anyone feels they can fill your shoes as you've been watching out for our dear Fr. Drago so fabulously. Fr. Drago works with every club in our parish, and all our surrounding clubs. He helps with every event we hold, ensures all the electronics, equipment and even décor are up and running whenever and however needed while also fulfilling the spiritual needs of our community. So, on that note, I ask for a great big thank you to Fr. Drago for all he does for our proud Slovenian Community.

KRATKA PAVZA - 10 minutes

Open discussion regarding the reports: No comments

## **New Business**

### **Future Parish Events and formats**

Looking at having Raise the Roof fundraiser every other year. Looking at having more informal social events. Martinovanje will now have a "reunion-style" format.

The need for volunteers is reaching its critical point with the possibility of losing an event. Committed to having a sign up sheet at the back of the church for the upcoming event.

Continue to message for volunteers at the pulpit and in the Vestnik.

Marina Štefanec and Marica Majzelj have agreed to be contacted when volunteers needed.

Slovenski Dan will be held in London, ON. Looking to possibly have this event biannually.

Soups & Suds event – look at other soups that are not traditionally Slovenian and possibly use outside caterers.

Look at having some events biannually due to low attendance.

Introduce a Spiritual Event – visiting priest from Slovenia.

Moya Financial is offering seminars to interested parishioners the beginning of June. They are also working on a grant proposal and encourage parishioners to use the bank.

## Nomination of New Council Members

Current Parish Council members are staying on. No new members. If interested, please contact a member of the Parish Council.

## Pastor's Address

Fr. Drago expressed a heartfelt thank you to the following members: Olga Glavač – arranging/setting up church flowers. Gizela Hauzar and Sonja Langenfus – housekeeping and cooking for Fr Drago. Mirko Zorko – maintenance of Church and Hall

Fr. Drago also stated there are many items in need of repair; Roof (church), parking lot, Bell Tower. Looking at renovating main entrance to the Hall due to recent falls from people attending events.

The Diocese will begin campaigning in June 2019; the funds raised will help with parish needs.

Meeting Adjournment: Fr. Drago concluded the meeting with a prayer.

Refreshments and light snack provided.

Minutes submitted by Elka Peršin



Sava - Breslau - Dvorana





## SAVA - BRESLAU

V nedeljo smo imeli zopet sveto mašo pri društvu Sava. Kljub temu, da se pomlad bliža, pa je v okolici dvorane še vedno precej snega. Res da se nas trlo v dvorani, smo pa vseeno lepo zapeli postne pesmi med mašo in bralci so prebrali božjo besedo in prošnje.

Po maši, pa smo se še malo zaustavili in se poveselili z slavljenkama ob dobri torti. Fotografija pa naj pove ostalo.

Jožica Jurman je 9. marca je praznovala 87. rojstni dan (leva na sliki); desno od nje je Olga Medica, ki pa je prav v nedeljo praznovala svoj 80. rojstni dan. »V imenu vseh članov in odbora obema iskreno čestitamo za njun rojstni dan in jima želimo obilo zdravja in sreče, še na mnoga leta, da bi se še dolgo videvali na raznih prireditvah.« *(V imenu društva Marija Prilesnik).*



London - St. John the Divine Church



## LONDON

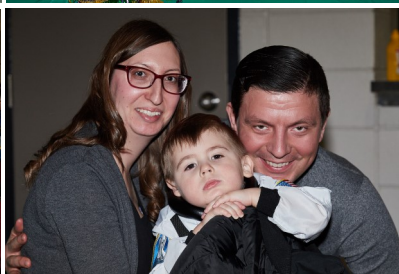
Slovenska skupnost v Londonu se v prvem delu leta kar mesečno zbora pri sveti maši v angleški cerkvi St. John the Divine. Včasih dobimo tudi kakšen obisk od bolj daleč, iz Windsorja. Slovenska beseda in slovenska pesem pri maši mnogim veliko pomeni in zato so pripravljeni prevoziti tudi 200 km v eno smer, da bi bili lahko del te skupnosti pri sveti maši.





Čeprav je tale zapis malo pozno, pa vseeno ne smem izpustiti poročila o pustovanju iz naše kronike. Pustovanje se je odvijalo v soboto, 22. februarja, z začetkom ob 6h zvečer. Člani župnijskega sveta in še kakšna pomoč se je našla poleg - so za ta večer skrbno pripravili dvorano in jo okrasili. V kuhinji so že od jutranjih ur ženske delale krofe, pozneje pa je Nancy nadaljevala s pripravo večerje. Tony je poskrbel, da je bil tudi bar dobro založen in seveda ansambel **SLO BEAT** je zasedel oder. Z glasbo so razveselili tako starejše kot tudi mlajše udeležence; vsak našel nekaj za svoje uho in tudi razlog, da se je zavrtel na plesišču. Najboljše maske is vsake skupine so bile nagrajene. Tudi krofov ni manjkalo, sicer ne bi bilo pravega pustovanja.

# Pustovanje - Mardi Gras







# OBVESTILA - ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DOGODKI V BLIŽNJI PRIHODNOSTI

- ♦ 15. marec: **Društvo sv. Jožefa**, Mass 10:00 a.m., Banquet 12:00 noon.
- ♦ 22. marec: **St. Gregory** - AGM, Mass 10:00 a.m.
- ♦ 29. marec: **St. Gregory** - Confirmation, Mass 11:00 a.m. (only)
- ♦ 30. marec: **SCCN Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. at St. Gregory the Great
- ♦ 5. april: **St. Gregory** - Palm Sunday - Masses at 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- ♦ 5. april: **Sava** - Mass at 12:00 noon, social after
- ♦ 5. april: **London** - Mass at 4:00 p.m., social after

## GIFT BEARERS - DAROVE PRINAŠAJO

- ♦ 15. mar. 10:00 a.m.: Danny Demšar & Peter Novak
- ♦ 22. mar. 10:00 a.m.: Parish Council
- ♦ 29. mar. 11:00 a.m.: Confirmation candidates

## PEVSKE VAJE

Pevske vaje za mešani pevski zbor so ob četrtnih po večerni maši, za angleški zbor pa v sredo po večerni maši. Slovenski zbor poje naslednjič v nedeljo 29. marca (Confirmation), skupaj z angleškim zborom. Maša je ob 11:00h. Maševal bo naš škof Douglas Crosby.

## CANADIAN SLOVENIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Sunday, April 19, 2020, the Canadian Slovenian Historical Society will be hosting a Luncheon and Short Program "**Remembering the Slovenian Exodus 1945 - 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**".

Tickets are on sale \$40 adults and \$25 under 18 years and can be purchased at Moya Financial during regular business hours or fol-

lowing both Masses on Sunday March 8, 29 and April 5.

## POKOJNI - FUNERAL

V petek, 6. marca 2020 je v 84. letu starosti, zaspala v Gospodu naša faranka JOYCE HELEN TOMPA. Od pokojne ste se lahko poslovili v soboto 14. marca v Thompson-Mott Funeral Home, Waterford od 11:00 a.m. do pogrebne obreda, ki smo ga opravili ob 12:30 p.m. v Funeral Home.

Pogreb z žaro bo v četrtek, 19. marca 2020, na Greenwood pokopališču. Pogrebna maša pa v naši cerkvi v petek, 20. marca ob 7:00 zvečer.

Iskreno sožalje možu Matiju in otrokom z družinami. Pokojni Joyce pa večni mir in pokoj.

## DAROVI - DONATIONS

Ob smrti Maksa Pavliča so za gradbeni sklad darovali:

- \$50 Anne in Allan Forsyth
- \$50 Katherine in dr. Lou Popović
- \$50 Lynee & Guy Cayen
- \$50 Zvonko in Anita Vuk
- \$30 Ivan Jakšič
- \$20 Steve in Anica Matko
- \$50 Family Janko Lukino
- \$20 Tony & Finka Pocrnic
- \$30 Katica & Tomo Klepic
- \$20 Family A. Benjak
- \$20 Mate in Ana Galović
- \$20 Ana Bradica

V spomin na pokojnega Maksa Pavliča je Zorka Rev darovala \$100 Oltarnemu društvu.

Ob smrti Joyce Tompa so za gradbeni sklad darovali:

## Diocesan Newsletter

For information about Activities and Events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online Diocesan Newsletter at [www.hamiltondiocese.com](http://www.hamiltondiocese.com).



- \$75 Katoliška ženska zveza
- \$100 Vera Gonza

Ob smrti Jerryja Ponikvarja je društvo svetega Jožefa darovalo za 10 svetih maš in \$100 za gradbeni sklad.

- Hvala vsem za vaše darove.

## BISHOP OF HAMILTON

*Dear Parishioners, March 13, 2020*

As the situation regarding the COVID 19 coronavirus outbreak is changing rapidly, I wish to advise you of the following measures to be taken in the Diocese of Hamilton effective today out of an abundance of caution and concern:

### Attendance at Mass

Those who are ill or who experience health concerns including compromised immune systems, flu symptoms or colds, are asked to refrain from attending Mass. There is no obligation to attend Mass when you are unwell.

### Holy Water Fonts and Stoops

The Holy Water Fonts and Stoops at the doors of our churches will be emptied until further notice.

### Handwashing

Ministers of Holy Communion — Priests, Deacons and Extraordinary Ministers — **must** wash your hands thoroughly with soap and hot water before and after Mass. Provisions for this will be made in the church sacristy. Paper rather than cloth towels should be provided beside the sink.

### Holy Communion at Mass

Until further notice Holy Communion is to be distributed **only in the hand**. Those who prefer Communion on the tongue must un-

derstand that this practice puts the person who ministers Communion, the recipient, and the person behind them in the Communion line, and so ultimately the whole community, at risk.

Parishes are to refrain from offering Holy Communion from the Chalice. Only Priests and Deacons may receive from the Chalice.

### Holy Communion to Care Facilities

Those who visit or bring Holy Communion to senior care homes and health care facilities are to follow the directives of the facility.

### Government Advisories

Please heed advisories from Government officials. These may affect parish life and liturgical events even further.

### Prayer of Pope Francis

Pope Francis has composed a prayer to Mary, Health of the Sick. We are a people called to prayer. It is available on the Diocesan website. Please pray it often.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,  
(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, O.M.  
Bishop of Hamilton

V tem tednu so obletnice smrti faranov, ki so zapisani v naših knjigah:

|          |              |                |
|----------|--------------|----------------|
| Štern    | Slavko Alojz | March 16, 2012 |
| Gimpelj  | Frank        | March 16, 2013 |
| Ferfolja | Marko        | March 17, 2016 |
| Rožič    | Boris        | March 18, 1996 |
| Lenart   | Ana Martina  | March 18, 2014 |
| Halas    | Teresa       | March 19, 2008 |
| Stergulg | Draga Emma   | March 21, 1990 |
| Kuzmič   | Josef        | March 21, 2011 |
| Stegne   | Miroslav     | March 22, 1990 |



**SVETE MAŠE - MASS TIMES:** Monday: 8:00 A.M., Tuesday to Friday: 7:00 P.M., Saturday: 5:30 P.M. (Slovenian); Sunday: 9:30 A.M. (Slovenian), 11:00 A.M. (English); From Long weekend in July to the Long weekend of the September Sunday Mass is only at 10:00 A.M. (Slovenian-English) - **KRSTI / BAPTISMS:** For an appointment, call one month before. **POROKE / MARRIAGE:** For an appointment, call one year before the wedding date. **SPOVED / CONFESSIONS:** First Friday of the month 6 - 7:00 P.M. (or by appointment) **BOLNIKI** - Sporočite, če je kdo bolan ali v bolnišnici, da ga obiščemo. You are welcome to call for a personal conversation with your priest – please call for an appointment. Tel: 905-561-5971.

DON BOSCO

od 15. 03. 2020  
do 22. 03. 2020

# SVETE MAŠE - MASSES

## 3. POSTNA NEDELJA PAPEŠKA

15. MAREC

*Klemen, redovnik*

Za žive in rajne župljane  
† Slavko Štern, obl.  
† Marica Noč  
†† Teresa, Betty Ferko, Marija Bukvič  
† Irma Dorenčec  
† Frank Gimpelj, obl.  
† Jerry Ponikvar  
† Jerry Ponikvar  
**Banquet of St. Joseph's Society**

10:00 A.M. - - - - -

Žena z družino  
Družina Rev  
Jožica Novak z družino  
Stan in Ana Gjerek (Toronto)  
Jože Gimpelj  
Pepca Hapke  
Društvo sv. Jožefa (1)

**12:00 NOON Parish Upper Hall**

## PONEDELJEK - MONDAY

16. MAREC

*Hilarij Oglejski, škof*

† Eileen MacKenzie

8:00 A.M. N.N.

## TOREK - TUESDAY

17. MAREC

*Patrik, škof*

† Karel Volf  
† Frank Gimpelj, obl.  
† Marija Bukvič  
†† Angela in Alojz Kocmut

7:00 P.M.

Žena Marija  
Žena z družino  
Elizabeth Gimpelj  
Hči Elizabeth

## SREDA - WEDNESDAY

18. MAREC

*Ciril Jeruzalemski, šk-uč.*

† Franc Marič

7:00 P.M. Alexander in Anastazija Gomboc

## ČETRTEK - THURSDAY

19. MAREC

*Jožef, Jezusov rednik  
Principal Patron  
of Canada & Patron of  
Universal Church*

†† John in Terezija Halas  
† Jožef Lackovič  
† Tilka Vengar, 4. obl.  
† Anton Vengar  
†† Jožef in Marija Heric  
† Florian Miklavčič, obl.

7:00 P.M.

Sestra z družino  
Marija Volf  
Rose Marie in Tony Vengar z druž.  
Rose Marie in Tony Vengar z druž.  
Hčerka z družino  
Družina Antolin

## PETEK - FRIDAY

20. MAREC

*Klavdija, mučenka*

**Križev pot - Stations of the Cross**

† George Klepec, obl.  
† Magdalena Smodiš  
† Maks Pavlič  
† Joyce Tompa (pogrebna maša)

6:30 P.M.

7:00 P.M. Stanka in Martin Malevič  
Olga Glavač  
Manja Erzetič  
Mož in otroci

## SOBOTA

## SATURDAY

21. MAREC

*Nikolaj iz Flüe, km-puš.  
Serapion, mučenec*

†† Pokojni sorodniki Hajdinjak  
† Josip Pleša  
† Joe Lackovič  
† Stanko Kuzma  
† Stanko Kuzma  
† Jani Senica  
† Florian Miklavčič, obl.

5:30 P.M.

Dragica in Lojze Ferenčak  
Lojze Ferenčak z družino  
Elizabeta Fotivec  
Sestra Jožica z družino  
Družina Fabina  
Terezija Prša z družino  
Družina Čule

## 4. POSTNA NEDELJA

22. MAREC

*Lea, spokornica*

Za žive in rajne župljane  
† Avgust Berkovič  
† Barbara Car  
†† Francka in Frank Krajnc  
† Jožica Gimpelj  
**Letni občni zbor - AGM**

10:00 A.M. - - - - -

Sin Zlatko z družino  
Družina Berkovič  
Jožica Novak z družino  
Mož Jože Gimpelj

**11:30 A.M. Parish Upper Hall**