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"By the time my grandson is ready for college, the money will be ready, too."

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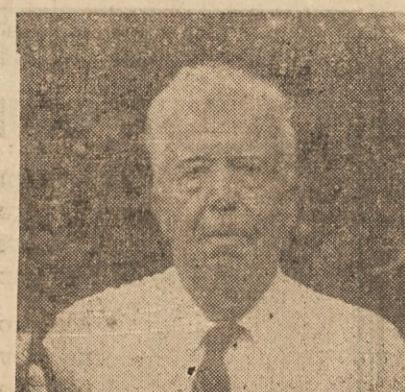
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**Posebno pozimi dobri čevljiv varjejo zdravje**  
Imamo novo zalogu najnovejših čevljev, copat, snežk, galoš in škrbni. Strokovno primerimo in priredimo čevlje po nogi. Prodajamo samo kvalitetno obutev.

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Veseli prazniki vsem!

### OPASKAR MARKS 100th



By JOSEPH GORNICK

It was Frank Opaskar Day at the Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Rd., last Friday, Dec. 10.

The family and several hundred friends were on hand to join in the celebrating the hundredth birthday of Mr. Opaskar, a resident of the home.

Frank Opaskar was born in Gorjusa, Village of Dob, at that time Austria-Hungary.

He attended elementary school and served four years as an apprentice in Ljubljana and received his diploma as a brick mason. He worked on the summer home of Emperor Franz Jozef at that time.

Soon after his marriage in 1903, he came to America, and made his home in Cleveland on East 64th, south of St. Clair where he raised his family. He had three sons and a daughter. A widower, his wife passed away 10 years ago.

His eldest son Frank V. Opaskar, a trial attorney, passed away last year at age of 73.

Dr. Carl G. Opaskar is presently Directory-Supervisor of health services for Cleveland Board of Education. Dr. Vincent Opaskar has his dental office at 6402 St. Clair. His daughter, Stanisla is a retired school teacher.

Mr. Opaskar's motto is "Keep busy and you will never get in trouble".

He misses driving his car. Had to give it up in 1971.

He still reads the American Home newspaper.

In the contracting business for many years, he built homes in Cleveland Hts., East Cleveland, Collinwood area, and also worked on the stonewall that borders the present Beaumont High School, until his retirement at age 75.

Letters of congratulations were received from President Gerald Ford, Congressman Jim Stanton, and Congressman Charles Vanik.

Cleveland Councilman Robert Novak of the 23rd ward presented a plaque from the City Council and Mayor Ralph Perk.

Present were High Court Trustees John Spilar, and Bernie Milota of the Catholic Order of Foresters, including Ohio State Treasurer Anthony Urbas, and officers of Baraga Ct. 1317 of which Frank Opaskar has been a long time member.

Refreshments were served and musical entertainment by Joe Skrabec on his piano accordion, button box by John Mauvic, and joined by junior button box Kim Vogrig, age 12, and Michael Turk, age 13.

Joining in song, the honored guest, a Grand Guy Centenarian Frank Opaskar, and two week old great grandson Vincent Joseph Benander.

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POLNOČI V SOBOTO, 25. DECEMBRA.

# NA WQAL 104 FM

Friday, December 24

6-7 p.m.

Joy To The World—Hollywood Bowl Symphony  
Jolly Old St. Nicholas—Chet Atkins  
It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas—Andre Kostelanetz  
Twelve Days Of Christmas—Beecham Choral Society  
Silent Ride—Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops  
The First Noel—Virgil Fox  
The Christmas Waltz—Mantovani  
The Christmas Song—Nat King Cole  
Skater's Waltz—Mantovani  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem—George Greeley  
While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks—101 Strings  
Christmas Waltz—The Lettermen  
Up On The House Top—Jingle Bells—Floyd Cramer  
The Little Donkey—Sound '70 Orchestra  
Silent Night—Alexander Schreiner  
Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town—Hollyridge Strings  
Deck The Halls—Roger Wagner Chorale  
Winter Wonderland—Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing—Roger Williams  
Christmas Bells—Mantovani  
What Child Is This—Gregg Smith Singers

7-8 p.m.

Here We Go A-Caroling—Philadelphia Orchestra  
Angels From The Realms Of Glory—The Ambrosian Singers  
It's Home For Christmas—Living Strings  
In Dulce Jubilo—E. Power Biggs  
Toyland—Doris Day  
Carol Of The Bells—Wayne King  
Skater's Waltz—Ferrante & Teicher  
Angels In Our Fields—Leroy Anderson  
Carol Of The Star—Harry Simeone Chorale  
Away In A Manger—Percy Faith  
I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day—Bert Kaempfert  
Christmas Is A Comin'—Angels We Have Heard On High—David Rose  
Let It Snow, Let It Snow—Sound '70 Orchestra  
Coventry Carol—Charlie Byrd  
Here Comes Santa Claus—Knightsbridge Strings  
My Favorite Things—Herb Alpert  
It Came Upon A Midnight Clear—Billy Vaughn  
We Need A Little Christmas—Percy Faith Chorus  
Good King Wenceslas—Frank Chacksfield  
Parade Of The Wooden Soldiers—Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops  
Happy Holiday—Living Voices  
Blue Christmas—Nashville Brass

8-9 p.m.

Carol Of The Bells—Percy Faith  
O Holy Night—Eric Roger  
Adeste Fideles—Frank Chacksfield  
It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas—Andre Kostelanetz  
Do You Hear What I Hear—Living Voices  
Joy To The World—Mantovani  
Toyland—Ronnie Aldrich  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem—Lawrence Welk  
Merry Christmas Darling—Carpenters  
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen—Philadelphia Orchestra  
Little Drummer Boy—Norman Luboff Choir  
The Christmas Song—Al Hirt  
Silent Night—Paul Mauriat  
I'll Be Home For Christmas—Wayne King  
I Saw Three Ships—Mantovani  
First Noel—Andre Kostelanetz  
Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town, Here Comes Santa Claus—Liberace  
Home For The Holidays—Living Strings  
Holly And The Ivy—Jack Halloran Singers

9-10 p.m.

Deck The Halls—Percy Faith  
Silver Bells—Ray Conniff Singers  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing—Alexander Schreiner  
Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer—Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops  
Jingle Bells—Hollyridge Strings  
Snowball—Tony Bennett  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem—Mantovani  
Let It Snow, Let It Snow—Peter Fountain  
Do You Hear What I Hear?—Anita Kerr Voices  
Joy To The World—Philadelphia Orchestra  
Twelve Days Of Christmas—Ferrante & Teicher  
Christmas Song—Robert Goulet  
O Holy Night—Raymond LeFevre  
Happy Holiday—Percy Faith  
Mary's Little Boy Child—Living Strings  
I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day—Bert Kaempfert  
We Wish You A Merry Christmas—Jack Halloran Singers  
Jingle Bells—Waldo De Los Rios  
Once In Royal David's City—Frank Chacksfield

10-11 p.m.

We Three Kings—Hollywood Bowl Symphony  
I'll Be Home For Christmas—Hollyridge Strings  
It Came Upon A Midnight Clear, Away In A Manger—Hans Christian Andersen  
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas—Percy Faith  
Here We Come A-Caroling—Al Caiola  
Parade Of The Wooden Soldiers—Living Strings  
Ave Maria—Barbra Streisand  
Sing We Now Of Christmas—E. Power Biggs  
Home For The Holidays—Johnny Douglas  
Pat-A-Pan—Regency Chorale  
White Christmas—Ron Goodwin  
Jolly Old St. Nicholas—Chet Atkins  
I Saw Three Ships—David Rose  
O Come, O Come Emmanuel—Mormon Tabernacle Choir  
Toyland, Parade Of The Wooden Soldiers—Living Strings  
Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town—Roger Williams  
Christmas Is—Percy Faith  
O Tannenbaum—Paul Mauriat  
Silent Night—Al Hirt  
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen—Roger Wagner Chorale  
Silver Bells—Sound '70 Orchestra

11-Midnight

Hallelujah Chorus—Mormon Tabernacle Choir  
Winter Wonderland—Ronnie Aldrich  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem—Hollyridge Bowl Symphony  
Carol, Caroling—Fred Waring & The Pennsylvanians  
Bring A Torch Jeannette, Isabella—Percy Faith  
Sleigh Ride—Bert Kaempfert  
Happy Holiday—Jackie Gleason  
Deck The Halls—Philadelphia Orchestra  
Away In A Manger—Hollywood Bowl Symphony  
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas—Hollyridge Strings  
O Holy Night—Philadelphia Orchestra & Temple University Choir  
Blue Christmas—Chet Atkins

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks—101 Strings  
Silver Bells—Ronnie Aldrich  
Mister Santa Sam—Ronnie Aldrich  
Do You Hear What I Hear?—Living Strings  
Joy To The World—Charles Smart & James Blades  
Christmas Is—Percy Faith Chorus  
I'll Be Home For Christmas—Johnny Douglas

Saturday, December 25

Midnight-1 a.m.

Cesa Bambino—Percy Faith  
Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer—Perry Como  
O Tannenbaum—Paul Mauriat  
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen—Charlie Byrd  
It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas—Andre Kostelanetz  
Angels We Have Heard On High—Choir of the Carolers  
The Christmas Waltz—David Rose  
Santa Claus Is Coming To Town—Bert Kaempfert  
Ring Christmas Bells—Jolly Old Saint Nick—Frank DeVol  
The Holly And The Ivy—Mormon Tabernacle Choir  
White Christmas—Ron Goodwin  
We Three Kings—Charlie Byrd  
Twas The Night Before Christmas—Harry Simeone Chorale  
I Came Upon The Midnight Clear—Hollyridge Bowl Symphony  
I Heard The Bells—Alexander Schreiner  
The Real Meaning Of Christmas—Ray Conniff  
Silent Bells—Percy Faith  
Frosty The Snowman—Sound '70 Orchestra  
Deck The Halls—Hollywood Bowl Symphony  
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas—Barbra Streisand

1-2 a.m.

O Come, All Ye Faithful—Raymond LeFevre  
My Melody Of Love—Roger Williams  
White Christmas—Silver Bells—Henry Mancini  
I'll Only Hold Time—Nick DeCaro  
Silent Night—Felix Slatkin  
Mandy—Floyd Cramer  
I'll Be Home For Christmas—Al Martino  
I'll Never Fall In Love Again—Frank Chacksfield  
We Three Kings—E. Power Biggs & Vienna Chamber Orchestra  
Jingle Bells—Andre Kostelanetz  
There Is No Christmas Like A Home Christmas—Perry Como  
Yesterday—James Last  
In Dulce Jubilo—Leroy Anderson  
For Unto Us A Child Is Born—Philadelphia Orch. & Chorus  
Lot Horizon—101 Strings  
Toyland—Ronnie Aldrich  
Gesu Bambino—Percy Faith  
Love Theme From "The Godfather"—Tony Moltola  
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas—Ron Goodwin

2-3 a.m.

The First Noel—Hollywood Bowl Symphony  
Three Wise Men—Reverend Choir  
Killing Me Softly With His Song—Ronnie Aldrich  
Santa Claus Is Comin' To Town—Nashville Brass  
Clair—Werner Müller  
O Tannenbaum—Percy Faith  
Give Me Your Love For Christmas—Johnny Mathis  
It—Tony Moltola  
It Came Upon The Midnight Clear—Percy Faith  
Yesterday Once More—Floyd Cramer  
Send This Holiday With Me—Anita Kerr Singers  
Misty—Manuel  
Christmas Is, We Wish You A Merry Christmas—Al Caiola  
Song For Anna—Andre Popp  
O Holy Night—Ed Ames  
Leavin' On A Jet Plane—Mantovani  
The Little Drummer Boy—Ron Goodwin

3-4 a.m.

Joy To The World—Mantovani  
Sing—Roger Williams  
Twelve Days Of Christmas—Ray Conniff Singers  
Sieghrafe (Mozart)—Boston Pops  
Without You—Sounds Orchestral  
Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer—Ron Goodwin  
Once In Royal David's City—The Ambrosian Singers  
White Christmas—Chet Atkins  
Ben—Percy Faith  
Do You Hear What I Hear?—Hollyridge Strings  
Goodbye To Love—Johnny Pearson  
Pat-A-Pan—Gregg Smith Singers  
What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life—Manuel  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo—Paul Mauriat  
The Little Drummer Boy—Bert Kaempfert  
We Need A Little Christmas—New Christy Minstrels  
Love Theme From "Starburst"—Norman Newell  
Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas—Ronnie Aldrich  
Angels We Have Heard On High—Mormon Tabernacle Choir

4-5 a.m.

Jingling Brass—Nashville Brass  
We've Only Just Begun—John Gregory  
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks—Mormon Tabernacle Choir  
Cesa Bambino—Floyd Cramer  
Deck The Halls—Billy Vaughn Singers  
Here Comes The Sun—Hollyridge Strings  
Joy To The World—Alexander Schreiner  
Snow, Snow, Beautiful Snow—Harry Simeone Chorale  
Stranger On The Shore—Frank Chacksfield  
I Saw Three Ships—Mantovani  
Mistletoe & Holly—Jack Jones  
Adeste Fideles—Frank Chacksfield  
You Are The Sunshine Of My Life—Peter Nero  
Jingle Bells, Sleigh Ride—Henry Mancini  
I Can't Stop Loving You—Kookie Freeman  
It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas—Andre Kostelanetz  
I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing—Chet Atkins  
Here We Come A-Caroling—Perry Como  
Seasons In The Sun—Botticelli  
Twelve Days Of Christmas—Ferrante & Teicher  
Spanish Flea—Manuel

5-6 a.m.

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear—Alexander Schreiner  
Hello Dolly—Franck Pourcel  
Do You Hear What I Hear?—Percy Faith  
What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life—Ronnie Aldrich  
Silent Night, O Little Town Of Bethlehem—Henry Mancini & Chorus  
Follow The Colours—Colours  
If I Ever Would Leave You—Andre Kostelanetz  
The Christmas Song—Living Voices  
Les Bicyclettes de Belfort—Mantovani  
Blue Christmas—Living Strings  
Proud Mary—Ferrante & Teicher  
Mary's Little Boy Child—Harry Simeone  
I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song—George Greeley Orchestra

5-6 a.m.

Jingle Bells—Mantovani  
Christmas Song—Percy Faith Chorus  
If You Could Read My Mind—Now Cascading Strings  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem—George Greeley  
Do You Hear What I Hear?—Anita Kerr Singers  
Day By Day—Franck Pourcel  
Winter Wonderland—Bert Kaempfert  
Close To You—Frank Chacksfield  
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Mary's Little Boy Child—Harry Simeone  
I'll Have To Say I Love You In A Song—George Greeley Orchestra

5-6 a.m.

Jingle Bells—Mantovani  
Christmas Song—Percy Faith Chorus  
If You Could Read My Mind—



A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND HEALTHFUL  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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239 Baraga Avenue

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Miss Agnes Rufus, Secretary

Fr. Charles Strelick, Executive Director

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from

**RALPH & ELEANOR  
LOCHER**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!



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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



JOHN, CANDY AND  
MATHEW JOHN URBANCICH

TONY and MARY KOMOROWSKI

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

7213 Rathbun Ave — Cleveland

## Important Notice To All Lodges and Clubs

Many local and out of town clubs and lodges run a regular monthly ad in our newspaper containing all such information as: Names of officers, time and place of meetings, etc. This lodge roster is published once or twice a month. The price is \$15 per year, which is low considering the service it renders your group.

Lodges which run such ads usually get free publicity announcing their meetings and other similar short notices.

Yearly meetings are usually held during December. We suggest that all lodges and clubs vote for this monthly ad.

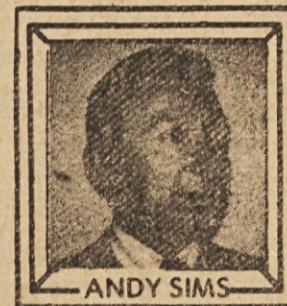
## St. Vitus Events

Dec. 19 — Sun. "Božična" (Traditional Slovenian observance of Christmas) sponsored by the DSPB — 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Jan. 14 — Friday — Fish and Shrimp Dinners — Dad's Club — Serving from 5 to 7 p.m.

Jan. 16 — Sun. — Card Party — Mother's Club — starts at 3 p.m. on

Jan. 23 — Sunday — Dinner — Our Lady of Fatima KSKJ No. 255.



ANDY SIMS

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yours is the happiest imaginable.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from

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SEASON'S GREETINGS



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AND HAPPIEST OF NEW YEARS!

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# Ho Ho Ho Merry Christmas to All

your ethnic forum

the latest news and views

AMERICAN HOME  
newspaper

YOUR VIEWS -  
OUR NEWS

COMPLIMENTARY

James V. Debevec, Editor

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, DECEMBER 17, 1976

## REMEMBER THE GREAT CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS?



By FRANK ZUPANCIC

The happy season of Christmas is again almost upon us and for many of our more mature readers, it is a time for reminiscing and indulging in nostalgic flashbacks.

Especially vividly remembered are the agonizing depression years of the early thirties, when money was scarce, jobs were impossible to secure. For many, the Yuletide was a bleak and dreary time.

Somehow, however, the human spirit prevailed and there was always a measure of happiness and joy despite the dismal economic conditions. Christmas preparations were always eagerly and enthusiastically initiated.

In today's world of plenty and affluence, the real spirit of Christmas has somehow been clouded in the materialistic scramble for wealth. Contrasted with those days of economic recession, I think the comparisons would be interesting to our young readers while those of us in the afternoon of life might find some pleasure in looking back upon those deprived but

yet unique, simple and cheerful times.

In the 1930's nearly everyone would purchase a potted or cut REAL Christmas tree (prices ranged from 50 cents to \$2.00).

The most popular was the short-needed Norway spruce which was always perfectly shaped, but alas, the needles would be gin to shed almost as soon as it was decorated. Any heavy-footed entrance into the room would send a shower of needles to the floor. About New Year's

the once majestic ornate evergreen would be transformed into a bare pyramid of empty, dry branches.

The artificial trees available in those days were scrawny and small, and ranged in price from 75 cents to \$1.50. The imitation trees did not sell very well then.

In illuminating the Christmas tree, strings of lights, wired in series of eight bulbs were used. If one lamp burned out, the entire set would extinguish. Find the defective bulb presented a real challenge.

By a process of trying each lamp, one would finally discover

(Continued on Page 2)

## CHRISTMAS POEM

By MARY KOMOROWSKI

Over 55 years ago, while I was in Elementary school, we learned and sang a beautiful Christmas Lullaby song. I don't remember the title of it, but the words and melody have remained etched in my memory. Here it is:

The Winter Sun has gone to bed,

Jack Frost is everywhere. And mama's little sleepyhead Is nodding in her chair. Come, climb into my arms so tight,

To Dreamland sail away, For Santa Claus will come tonight,

And bring us Christmas Day. So drift to sleep, on angel's wings,

While Mother softly sings, Chorus

T'was the Night before Christmas, the night before Christmas,

The Snow's like a Big Wedding Cake,

And everyone's sleeping, and nobody's peeping,

Not even the mice are awake. Hark! There's a jingle of bells,

And a stamping that tells, That Santa Claus must be near,

And in the morning, we'll find,

That he's left us behind gifts and toys,

For all of the good little girls and boys.

Happy Holidays, everyone!



## A Day without American Home

By FATHER EDWARD PEVEC

A Slovenian community without the Ameriška Domovina is hard to imagine.

It seems that one was always a part of the other. We can have a day without sunshine; we can have a field without a flower; we can even have a morning without a cup of coffee. But these just don't seem to be the same as our community without our Slovenian daily.

For many, many years this little newspaper has brought the world into the lives of countless people. Sometimes the news was good; at other times, it was not so good. At times we smiled and maybe even laughed, but there were times when we could not help but cry. This was the story of life about us — the story of the life of our people, our parish, our community — brought to us in a language that is a tie with our ancestry.

All of us at St. Vitus are proud of what the Ameriška Domovina has done for our parish, for our people, for our community. We assure the editor and his staff of our continued support. We are grateful to them and to those who preceded them for their excellent efforts.

We now lend our voice to their appeal to all Slovenians everywhere to help keep the Ameriška Domovina in existence.

Remember: a Slovenian community without the Ameriška Domovina would not be the same.

We would have a tomorrow far different from the yesterday we knew and loved so much.

## CHRISTMAS BEFORE 1920'S

By JOSEPHINE TRUNK

Christmas Season memories, before the 1920's from the old 1015 E. 61 St.

Those special days were centered around St Nicholas (Miklausov večer). What excitement the eve of Dec. 5th.

We put the biggest plates available on the kitchen tables with our names written on a slip of paper and hoped for the best.

We had to retire real early, and even had the scare of the devil put to us. It's a wonder we didn't wake up with nightmares.

We were up very early the next morning, happy, pleased, and satisfied for our plates were filled with assorted whole nuts, various candies, orange with a coin in it (found out later that the cash was usually a present from one of the boarders). Also received a brand new pencil and tablet.

I remember only about one doll and treasured it. In those days, as soon as you went to school, it meant your playing days were a thing of the past.

Oh, yes, those who were exceptionally bad, were rewarded with a piece of coal or a stick. Many a tear was shed over this, too.

Then as the Christmas holidays were nearing, we were wishing for Santa's visit, too. But of course, this was taboo. Preparation for this holy season began early.

Everything had to be spic and span, one dreaded chore was helping with the starched curtains. These were put on stret-

chers, which had sharp and very pointed pins sticking upward. Many, many a sore finger was nursed for days.

We loved helping with the baking, etc.

Christmas eve, after a meatless supper, rosaries and the litany were prayed. To bed early and to Mass the next morning.

A nice feast waited for us when we came home: homemade bread, ham, zelodec, potica, but the day itself was very solemn.

However, the following day St. Stephen was the day for celebrating and we had a lot of company, and fun, too. In fact, the whole week had its many surprises. The day was really enjoyed by all was Tepiški dan, you could hit (lightly, of course ha! ha!!) even your elders and they had to give you cash. Some made quite a lot that day.

New Years eve, we had permission to stay up to midnight so that we could hear the whistles blow in the area of old E. 61st Street. We were surrounded with factories, and the sound was really thrilling. Yes, those were some of the memories before the 20's.

In 1921, after we moved to 613 E. 200 St. (this was called Cut Road at that time), things and customs really changed for us. Still celebrated St. Nick and as many of our new friends did not, we sort of leaned toward celebrating more at Christmas time. We had a tree, candles, small and all colors were put on the tree and lit Christmas eve, while the rosaries were

(Continued on Page 4)

## To our readers...

We are sending a copy of this week's daily Ameriška Domovina to persons who subscribe to Fridays only so everyone will see who our advertisers are and patronize them now and all year through.

Today's 6-page English supplement is also being distributed FREE in ethnic communities to give our non-regular readers a glimpse of the American Home and hope they will become regular subscribers.

Enjoy the paper and have a Happy, Healthful and Joyous Holiday Season.

James V. Debevec, Publisher

## To our advertisers...

The Management and Advertising Departments of the American Home Daily would like to thank all the business firms, enterprises and individuals who advertise in our Slovenian newspaper throughout the year.

We are especially gratified by the overwhelming response in advertising which appears in this week's and next Christmas issues.

Our Christmas combined editions are the biggest ever in both advertising and reading material.

Since the American Home is the oldest Slovenian daily still in existence anywhere, we son stars around the outside and on the inside was a crudely penned drawing of a smiling bottom of a shoe done in royal blue ink. On the other side is a picture of a man reading the paper.



"What do you make of this, my good fellow?" Homes asked.

(Continued on page 4)

## S.H.A. RADIOTHON SAT.

By TONY PETKOVSEK

The Collinwood Slovenian Home at 15810 Holmes Avenue is the host hall this year for the Radio Club's annual Christmas benefit marathon.

The past four years have brought in over \$100,000 to the building fund of the Slovene Home for the Aged on Neff Rd., the beneficiary of the annual project.

WXEN Stereo 106 Radio will offer coverage through our polka programming during the regular times plus featured times throughout the day and night.

The following orchestras are donating their services: 4 p.m. The Madisons; 5 p.m. Jeff Pecon; 6 p.m. Eddie Andres; 7 p.m. Markie-Zagger; 8 p.m. Ray Champa; 9 p.m. Joe Lizar; plus a variety of many other artists like Frank Yankovic, Eddie Keneik, the Slogars, button box players led by John Perrotti, and cultural group performers.

There will be a "Jam Session" throughout the day.

A special "Bake Sale" is being coordinated by Jean Krizman of the Old Age Home Auxiliary. Local cooks, lodges, and church groups are invited to donate their talent, time, and energy to this worthwhile cause by contributing home baked goods and participating in the sale.

Ladies are welcome to come in groups or as individuals as the Auxiliary will attend to this

(Continued on page 4)

## CHRISTMAS WISH

In the quiet of this hallowed eve,  
Fondly gazing on your loved ones,  
May a gentle flutter stir your tender heart,  
With Christmas joy,  
And the years succeeding prove to be,  
Happier than you've ever known before.

—Joseph Zelle



SEASONS GREETINGS

# TONY'S POLKA VILLAGE

TONY PETKOVSEK'S WXEN STEREO STUDIO

AND

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Daily Stereo broadcasts on WXEN (106 FM) — "Tony's Polka Party" direct from Tony's Polka Village, Monday thru Friday 11 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:00 till 2:00 p.m. Saturdays at 12 Noon till 1:30 p.m. and 7 till 8 p.m.

The Community Box Office which broadcasts all activities also has tickets for the various functions. Greatest selection of Polka and Ethnic Recordings, Tapes and Cassettes.

Unusual imported items from Europe and Hawaii — acquired during Tony's travels. A varied selection of books and maps from Yugoslavia, and new line imported Music Boxes. All-occasion Greeting Cards, including the Slovoeian Line, Art Work and many other Gift Notions.

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CHRISTMAS AND THE HAPPIEST OF  
NEW YEARS!

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

# JOSEPH FARRELL AND FAMILY

EUCLID, OHIO

HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
VESELE PRAZNIKE  
**WILKE HARDWARE**

809 East 22nd Street

731-7070

# Memo... From Madeline

By

Madeline  
Debevec

Enjoying a delightful Florida vacation were: Frank and Molly Hribar, Detroit, Michigan, Andy Artel, Frank and Mimie Mahnic, Lojze Delač, Al and Rose Intihar, George Bock, Ron Weissac, Kay Sutkow, Helen Majka, Eddie Stampfel, Johnny and Jane Vadnal, Corky Godec, Ed Grosel, Kenny Bass and Beanie Zimmerman.

Beanie said they are playing golf every day and being entertained royally.

There is plenty of good music with all the musicians aboard! The weather is a balmy 77°.

Branch 41, Slovenian Women's Union will meet Tuesday, Dec. 21 at the Waterloo Slovenian Home at 1 p.m. Members are urged to attend the meeting. There will be an election of officers.

Please support the Radio-Thon for the Slovene Home for the Aged, Saturday, Dec. 18 from noon until midnight. Tony Petkovsek and his entire Radio Club will accept your donations for our Slovene Home for the Aged.

Ladies, please bring pastry to sell at the bake sale stand from noon thru midnight. We are counting on the support of our entire Slovenian community to make this a huge financial success!!!

Happy Birthday to Sue Kastelic (Dec. 6) from dad and mom (Malt and Margaret Kastelic, Wickliffe, O), friends and relatives.

Congratulations to Martha and Fred Blatnik, 261 East 248 St., Euclid on the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth, on November 18, weighing 8 lbs.

Diane Chukayne recently submitted an essay, "What America means to me" for a contest at Notre Dame Academy. The Voice of Democracy contest was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Diane, a junior at the academy, received the first prize award and became the top winner in Geauga County. Congratulations, Diane!

During the recent earthquake in Italy, many Slovenians were left homeless and without funds. A group of concerned Slovenians began a drive to raise funds and aid our Slovenians in Italy. You may send your contributions to:

Helen Klesin  
1930 Himrd St.

Brooklyn, N.Y. 11237

This will be used for providing food and shelter for these unfortunate victims.

A speedy recovery to Al Sajevic! Al is a regular contributor.

of articles pertaining to the activities of Federation of Slovene Pensioners Club and Euclid Pensioners Club.

He had open heart bypass surgery December 10th at the Cleveland Clinic.

Al extends best holiday wishes and a healthful New Year to all our readers.

Jeannie Crehok of Lake Shore Blvd., celebrated her birthday this week by dining at the Charthouse restaurant.

She is the daughter of Betty and Al Orehek.

Congratulations!

Happy First Birthday (Dec. 13) to Christine Handler from parents Bob and Karen Handler, grandparents — Ed and Betty Kirchner and great grandma Josephine Klemencic.

Christine A. Shiran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Shiran of Euclid became the bride of Donald M. Novak, son of Mrs. Julia Novak of Euclid and the late Mr. Anton Novak, in recent ceremony at St. Christine Church.

The Rev. Francis M. Paik oficiated.

Cindy Shiran attended her sister as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Sue Mrazek and Sherri Skala, cousins of the bride, Joan Mervar and Char Young.

The bridegroom's cousin, Mike Gerl, served as best man. Ushers were Wayne Lackner, Ken Peterson, Rich Scott and Mark Resnick, the bridegroom's nephew.

The reception was held at Recher Hall.

The newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Aruba, and are now residing in Willoughby Hills.

The bride is employed by Man II. Mr. Novak is a Mayfield City School District employee. Congratulations!

## KALAN'S WARES and GIFTS

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Season's Greetings —

STAN &amp; MARY KALAN, prop.

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

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Cleveland, O. 44103

John Remsey

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CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR OLD-FASHIONED REVERIES,  
OF OLDEN DAYS, OLDEN FRIENDS AND OLDEN MEMORIES,  
ALL IN ALL, IT IS A MOST PLEASANT INTERLUDE,  
A HOLIDAY — TO PUT ONESELF IN A REMINISCING MOOD.

# FRANK ZUPANCIC

AD DEPT.

AMERICAN HOME DAILY

BEST WISHES FOR A NOSTALGIA-FILLED CHRISTMAS  
AND A MEMORABLE NEW YEAR

# THE DAY RUDOLPH'S

## RED NOSE BURNED OUT!

By JIMMY DEBEVEC

Late one foggy Christmas eve Santa came to say, "Rudolph! — Your nose isn't so bright, anymore! What's happening?"

All of a sudden Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer's nose blinked, waivered, and conked out.

Santa said, "I can't see in this



terrible fog. Rudolph, put another light in your nose."

But Rudolph huffed and puffed, but the red nose just would not turn on.

"Oh, no," lamented Santa. "What am I to do?" He had a bright idea. He hung a flashlight around Rudolph's neck. But, it kept jingle-jangling around, and then the battery went dead. It was no use. Santa couldn't find his way Christmas eve.

Comet and Cupid flew up and exclaimed, "Rudolph has been acting strange lately. Maybe he snuck behind the barn and was smoking and flew a fuse!"

Dancer, who was very athletic, said, "He was probably talking so much that the red bulb blew out."

Hugh, a dwarf, thought he solved the problem. "When I was reading the American Home, the bulb could not take it for long and blew out."

Finally, it was Dasher who solved it. They took his advice, and it worked.

What was the solution?

The problem was that Rudolph when putting on his nose that evening had accidentally taken a 150-watt bulb, and his nose was only wired for a 60-watt. Consequently, the bulb was too much for the socket and kept blowing fuses.

So everything worked out OK and now Santa will be here soon!

The printed word goes where you go. Subscription for a whole year is only \$7 for the English section on Fridays. Call 431-0628 or write AMERICAN HOME PUBLISHING CO.

6117 St. Clair Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

From

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
From

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AND FAMILY

Wife Shirley and children Douglas, Laurie, and Janet

EUCLID MUNICIPAL COURT

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CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!



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775 E. 185 StreetSEASONS GREETINGS  
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THADDEUS JANAS — VICKIE KMET



SEASON'S GREETINGS

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Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Tel. 432-1322

AL DAILIDE, Realtor  
TONY NIKOLIJUNAS, Realtor - Associate  
JOHN LORENZ

This year we shall not send Christmas cards. We are wishing all our friends through the American Home a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The money usually spent for cards shall go to our missionaries.

**K. KLESIN FAMILY**

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Oetaoi shrdlu mē

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JENNIE MEDVED and JEAN SADOWSKI, Owners

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

TO ALL MY FRIENDS AND RELATIVES — from

**MR. AND MRS. ANTHONY KAPLAN**

19309 Preston Rd.

Warrensville Hts., Ohio 44128

HEARTIEST GREETINGS TO ALL  
IN THIS BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS SEASON

JOSEPHINE A. TRUNK

**REMEMBER THE GREAT  
CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS?**

(Continued from page 1)

the faulty bulb. If, however, two of these lamps failed at one time it was an evening's labor to locate them. Sets of these lights sold for about \$1.00 and the bulbs, if American made, were 5 cents. If they were Japanese produced, they would sell as cheaply as 2 cents each. But their life expectancy was rather short.

It was also customary to use many yards of gold garland, and also lead-foil tinsel. Also swatches of white cotton were placed inside the spreading branches to create a snow effect (and to hide the bare spots of the tree).

The ornaments were mostly imported from Czechoslovakia and Germany and were masterfully colored. They were not simply round as today, but were shaped into birds, merry-go-rounds, angels, etc.

Also tiny globular ornaments of all colors forming a beautiful chain and held together by a string, would be strung on the tree in the same fashion as garland.

And the final decorative touch was the putting of "angel hair" (spun glass threads) over the entire tree from top to bottom. The spun glass threads would be very itchy to the skin and it was most annoying feature of the "angel hair".

It was all well worth it when the lights would be glowing and shimmering through the net of fine strands, creating a unique and indescribably beautiful effect.

And every tree would have a crib underneath, with the usual, Virgin Mary, Joseph and the

Babe, along with shepherds and mand for them would be satisfied the Magi. Most were plaster fied. Some families had the custom to hang the St. Nicholas cookies on the Christmas tree. When the sad process of dismantling the decorated fir took place around the feast of Three Kings, Jan. 6, the small tots would consume the gingerbread cookies.

On the old cathedral type radio we listened with anxious emotions to such classics as "The Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens starring Lionel Barrymore and the readings of "The Night Before Christmas".

All radio programming would incorporate a Yule theme, whether it was a drama, comedy or musical presentation.

Contrasting it with today's TV the crime-depicted, violence shows and sleazy drama shows that must go on without any deference to the Holy Season.

Of course there are many other memorable and unique differences in the Christmas celebrations of 40 years ago, too numerous to note here, but what has remained constant throughout the years has been the simple message brought to the world more than 1900 years ago by the Infant in Bethlehem, "Peace on earth to men of good will".

May you and yours have most joyous Christmas and Healthful, Happy New Year.

Also gingerbread St. Nicholas cookies were very much in evidence in every bakery and grocery store. Every such establishment would amply stock them in order that the huge de-

mand for them would be satisfied.

During the holidays, every family would have on hand an assortment of mixed nuts, such as hazelnuts, Brazil, filberts and walnuts, all still in their shell.

Nut-crackers were very necessary equipment to enable one to feast on these tantalizing goodies.

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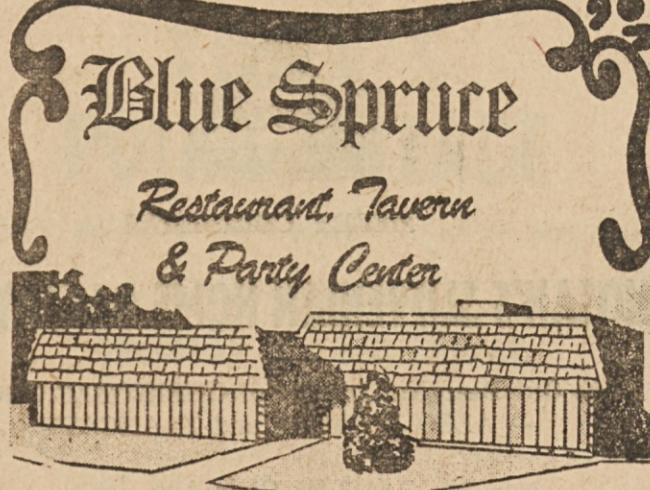
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Christmas Cheer



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## THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT

By JOANN BIRSA

When I think of happier Christmases of my younger days, one remains in my memory more fondly than others.

In 1956, I was a normal, healthy teenager, and a developing musician as well. My parents knew very well what I wanted for Christmas, but I thought that such an expensive item was out of the question, and so long since had put any hope of getting it out of my mind.

Early evening on Christmas Eve, as I sat in my room practicing, my mother, getting last-minute details taken care of, came in to ask if I had any big red ribbons. Surely, I did, but little did I suspect that such red ribbon had anything to do with me.

Later on, my parents went to a party and I went to Midnight Mass at our nearby parish church. Upon returning from Mass, I found two still reasonably sober parents wishing me a Merry Christmas with a brand-new tape recorder — indeed a splendid machine for its time — decorated with a bright red ribbon.

I wasted no time in learning how to use it. Right away, my dad showed me how to record — pushing the right buttons and saying, "Of course, it isn't re-

cording now, but that's how you do it." I still play it for a fond memory.

Later that morning, I called my beloved grandma, Mrs. Ana Ponikvar, to tell her that I had received a recording machine for Christmas. She couldn't quite comprehend, so I told her she would see it when she came to visit that afternoon.

It was this precious lady who had taught me dozens of Slovenian songs, who inspired me to love every good Slovenian thing. Boy, was she in for a surprise that afternoon!

As she sat in our living room and talked, little did she realize that there was a non-human listener. After a time, I interrupted her with, "Grandma, poslušaj."

"To je zacuprano! Marija, to je zacuprano!" Over and over again, "To je zacuprano!" Then we all had a good laugh and lots of fun with the new machine.

Grandma was enchanted by the recorder, and so the next day let me record her singing. She has been in eternity now for 17 years, but those few lovely songs remain with me as a that was.

We had a long walk to St. Pauls, Chardon Rd. for the midnight Mass, but we enjoyed every bit of it, especially the snow. Rice and blood sausages were put in the oven before we left for church, so a good treat awaited us. When we arrived home cold but happy and hot tea with home made wine really hit the spot, plus all the other delicious Slovenian goodies.

Country living was very different from the city life, but we did adjust to just about everything; so we can really say those good, old days.

## CASE OF MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

wood, Home cried out once again, "Step on it driver, I entice you to hurry as fast as your swift horsepower will go."

To which the driver replied, "If one more of you characters gets on this here bus, I'm quitting."

Homes and Stout got off the bus at E. 156 St. and headed for the Slovenian Home there. Homes always goes to a Slovenian Home to solve his mystery, that's why they call him "Slovenian Homes."

Inside it was a Friday (as well as outside) and they spotted Cecilia Wolf, Marlene Perdan, Mary Dolsak and Jennie Trennel serving and cooking food to the hungry customers.

"I've got the answer," shot Homes.

"What is it?" exclaimed Stout.

"I'll tell you just as soon as I finish my polenta. If you take all the clues together, you can only come up with the correct solution."

"Which is..."

"First, you have the paper itself. It's written in blue ink, with red stars, on white cardboard. What does that suggest to you, er, ah, my good fellow?"

"Red, white and blue, say, it's America's symbols."

Jolly good. Then you combine the bottom of the shoe drawing, which is a sole. And a soul is a spirit. And the soul is smiling. And this is 1976, and therefore the card could only mean Have a happy Bicentennial!"

Clever, eh, Homes."

"Yes, indeed."

"What about the man reading the newspaper?"

"Elementary, my good fellow, I recall that man's face now. I had seen it in the Slovenian ethnic paper, American Home. It was publisher Jim Debevec."

"But what does it all mean?"

"He's wishing all readers a Happy Bicentennial before the year is finished."

But couldn't he simply do that in a headline?"

No. — Too elementary."

## R and D SAUSAGE CO. NOW HAS IMPORTED FOODS

Bill Ratajc, owner of R. and D. Sausage Co. of 15714 Waterloo Rd., announces he recently received many imported food items perfect for the Holiday Season.

The shelves in his store are filled with noodles, cookies, candies, pumpkin oil, chocolate, strawberry, hazel puddings, a variety of syrups, all organically grown and imported from Yugoslavia.

He also sells barley, roman beans and corn meal, etc.

Recently the state inspector stated he has one of the cleanest sausage kitchens in the state.

He specializes in pork products and his home made Canadian Bacon is delicious.

Stop in and visit Bill and tell him you saw his ad in the American Home.

AGED HOME  
RADIOTHON

(Continued from Page 1)  
area of the marathon. Suggested goodies include the famous Slovenian potica or nut roll, homemade breads, donuts and tortes, and of course, cakes and flancate and varieties of Christmas cookies.

Baked goods should be brought to the hall this Saturday morning between 9 a.m. and noon. For pick-up service or more information, call Jean Krizman at 692-2489 or 861-3450.

Admission will be free this Saturday, December 18th between 12 noon and 12 midnight. Tickets for a special give-away for at least 50 gifts will be available for \$1.00 each.

Those wishing to telephone their pledges on Saturday can do so at a special number (216) 249-2660.

## CHRISTMAS BEFORE

1920'S

(Continued from page 1)  
said. (Yes, as I write this, am thinking—what a fire hazard that was).

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Country living was very different from the city life, but we did adjust to just about everything; so we can really say those good, old days.

## Christmas Cheer



## Stackhouse says thanks

Editor:

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the members of Cuyahoga County's Slovenian Community for their support during the recent campaign for Cuyahoga County Engineer. Their vote of confidence in me at the polls Nov. 2, is deeply appreciated.

As I prepare to assume the duties of the office to which I was elected, I would like to renew my pledge to the Slovenian Community — as well as all other residents of Cuyahoga County — that I will be responsive to the needs of the community.

As my campaign motto said, I plan to build bridges of communications, not close them.

And, that is exactly what I and my staff will be doing when we move into the Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office on Jan. 3, 1977.

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season.

Ronald A. Stackhouse



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

from

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AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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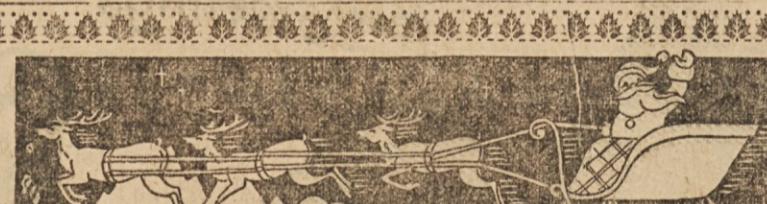
WISHES FOR A

BLESSED, JOYFUL CHRISTMAS

and

A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY  
NEW YEAR ALL YEAR LONG

JIM, MADELINE and JIMMY DEBEVEC



MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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**FAVORITE RECIPES****— NEW FEATURE —**Please send your recipes to  
"Recipes", American Home Publishing Co., 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44103.

"... the angels do sing..." Christmas arrives with the fragrance of pine boughs, the gaiety of lighted trees and glittering decorations, and the gladness of giving and receiving both tangible presents and the intangible spirit of the season.

Some of the best presents to both give and receive are cookies.

Whether it be the typically Christmas butter cookie or a gaily decorated plain cookie, it is certain to be the hit of the household.

The following are two favorite Christmas cookies from our home, that we would like to share with you.

**MADELINE'S BUTTER COOKIES**  
 Cream  
 ½ lb. butter (1C)  
 ¼ lb. Crisco or margarine (½ C)  
 Add  
 1 egg  
 1 cup sugar  
 1 t. vanilla  
 1 t. salt (level)  
 Cream then add:

**SI. Vitus Holy Name**  
 The Bloodmobile will make a visit to St. Vitus Auditorium on Tues., Dec. 28th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We urge all members and parishioners, in good health, between the ages of 17 and 65 to be a blood donor to the St. Vitus Blood Bank.

We wish all of our sick a rapid recovery. You will be especially remembered in our prayers during this Christmas Season. Families of ailing members are kindly asked to call Mr. Anton Oblak, Tel. 881-9947, or the undersigned at 431-7341, so that visits can be arranged if they so desire, and a Christmas card is sent to them from our Society.

Happy Birthday wishes are extended to the following members:

Ulrich Lube — Dec. 14  
 Rudolph Volcansek — Dec. 15  
 Vinko Rožman — Dec. 15  
 Henry Zalar — Dec. 15  
 Anthony Valencic — Dec. 16  
 Albert Legan — Dec. 19  
 Ivan Petrič — Dec. 21  
 Paul Žakelj — Dec. 23  
 Stephen Marolt, Sr. — Dec. 24  
 Frank Boh — Dec. 27  
 John Kerzisnik — Dec. 27  
 Rudolph Sterk — Dec. 30  
 Special good wishes go to Mr. Ivan Petric, from Norwood Rd. who will be observing his 80th on Dec. 21!

The best of wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Healthy, Holy New Year 1977 are extended to our Spiritual Director and Pastor, Rev. A. Edward Pevec, his assistants, Fathers Joseph Boznar, Joseph Simčič, Julius Slapšak, Allen Bruening, to all members, families and parishioners, from the St. Vitus Holy Name Society Officers and Board members!

Daniel J. Postotnik

**Band Pancake breakfast**

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held this Sunday, Dec. 19 from 8 am to 1 pm at St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 18491 Lakeshore Blvd.

The school band benefits.

3 cups flour (sifted after measuring)

Let batter stand about 10 min. Use cookie press (star). Squeeze and drain maraschino cherries and cut into ½ or ¾ pieces and press on top of the cookies.

Bake 425° until brown 5-7 min. — Watch closely.

(You can add lemon, almond, or vanilla flavoring. Cocoa can be added to part of the batter — put nuts on top.)

**JIMMY'S CHOCOLATE SNOWBALLS**

1 ¼ cups margarine  
 ⅔ cup sugar  
 2 t. vanilla  
 2 cups sifted flour

½ teaspoon salt

½ cup cocoa

2 cups finely chopped pecans (walnuts may be used)

Cream margarine, sugar and vanilla until fluffy. Sift together flour, salt and cocoa and add to the creamed mixture, blending thoroughly. Add pecans and mix well. This is a pastry like mixture.

Form small balls and place on well greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350° for about 15 minutes. Cool thoroughly and roll in confectioners sugar. (This dough may be kept in the refrigerator overnight.)

Madeline Debevec

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They'll think of you every time they receive the paper, and be informed of the latest ethnic news and views at the same time.

**BE A SPORT — BE A SANTA ALL YEAR THRU.**

Subscriptions: \$23 a year for the daily and \$7 a year for the English edition. — After Jan. 15 the price goes up to \$28 a year for the daily and \$10 a year for the English.

American Home Newspaper, 6117 St. Clair Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44103

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

FROM

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President: Joseph Baskovic

Vice-Pres.: Ernest Racic

Secretary: Al Orehek

Rec. Secy: Frank Zupancic

Treasurer: John Turek

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AND MEMBERS**AMERICAN SLOVENE CLUB**

SEASON'S GREETINGS

**HAPPY ELTERS CLUB**

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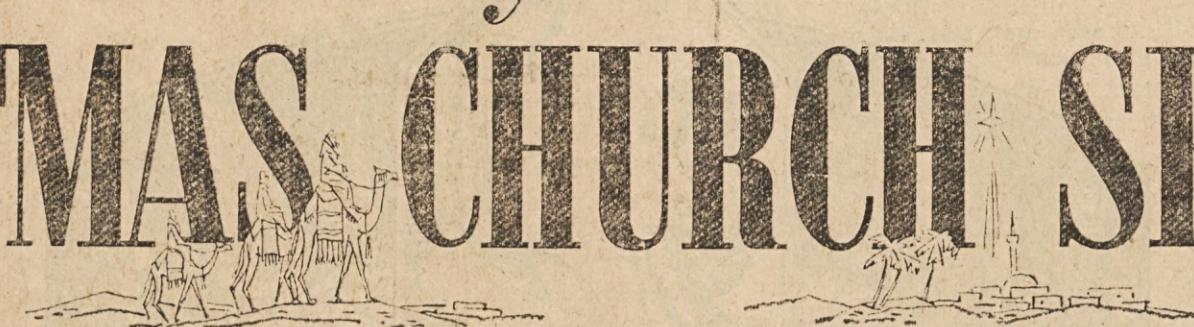
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Come all ye faithful to

# CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES



## ST. VITUS CHURCH

— 1-9-76 —

Dragi bratje in sestre v Kristusu!

Božič je bil in je še vedno čas dajanja. Začelo se je pred vekim v Betlehemu, ko je Bog dal svojega edinorodenega Sina za Odrešenika človeškemu rodu. In to se od tedaj nenehno ponavlja. Jezus je dal sam sebe za nas, in še vedno nam deli svojo ljubezen, milost in usmiljenje. Kristus Gospod in Odrešenik se danes in vsak dan znova roditi.

In kaj dam jaz Kristusu v zameno za njegovo ljubezen do mene? Mu darujem svojo življenje v živi veri, trdnen upanju in nesebični ljubezni. To je, kar prosi, naj mu dam. Svojo ljubezen mu moram izkazati le tako, da se mu izročim brez pridržka, kakor se je on ves daroval same.

Vsem in vsakemu izmed vas želimo vse najboljše in molimo, da bi vsa župnijska skupnost cenila Kristusov dar. Naš njegov mir vedno ostane pri nas in njegovu ljubezen nenehno živi v vaših srcih. Naj bodo ti božični prazniki res blagoslovjeni za vas vse in novo leto polno milosti in veselja.

Vaši duhovniki pri Sv. Vidu



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christmas has always been a time of giving. It all began at Bethlehem centuries ago when God gave us His only Son as our Redeemer. Constantly this giving goes on. Jesus gave Himself for us, and each day He continues to give us His love, His grace, His mercy. Today and every day is born our Savior, Christ the Lord!

What do I give to the Lord for all His goodness to me? Do I give Him my life through a faith that is vibrant and meaningful, through a hope that is unquestionable, through a love that is unselfish? This is what God asks of me. My love for Him can be only a complete giving of myself to Him, just as His love for me was shown in a complete giving of Himself to me.

As we extend our warmest wishes to each of you, we pray that our parish family may appreciate more deeply the gift of Jesus Christ. May His peace always remain with you, and may His love always live in your heart. May this Christmas for you be a holy one, and may the new year be filled with the spirit of the Lord.

Your priests at Saint Vitus,  
Fr. Edward Pevec  
Fr. Joseph Bozner  
Fr. Allen Bruening  
Fr. Julius Slapsak  
Fr. Joseph Simcic

## OUR XMAS TREES

By FRANK J. KRAINZ

which resulted for many years, my sister removing the puppy from the tree. She told me to get it at the tree. There was one Xmas week Sam's Hardware Store, which was located at 69 and St. Clair.

As a tot, the first Xmas tree our home had the scrungiest looking tree in the neighborhood. But what can you expect when the weather was unusually warm. Four days after the tree was decorated, all the needles dropped off the tree. It seemed like a short Xmas that year.

I remember the twinkling of the flames and the caution of my parents to prevent a fire. One year I bought a cute little white puppy for my sister for Xmas. I had it tied in the Xmas tree with ribbons. I can still hear the happy squeal of

the tree. The trees were a dollar each, but Sam would also give you a shot of whiskey with each tree. Many years ago, my brother and I were be-in-law and I went to buy a tree for I married, my mom had from a friend of ours who had

selected a fully formed tree.

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## ST. VITUS CHURCH

6019 GLASS AVE. — CLEVELAND — 361-1444

1976

\* \* \* \* \*

CHRISTMAS WEEK MASS SCHEDULE — BOŽIČNI SPORED  
Monday Dec. 20 — 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:15 - - 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Dec. 21 — 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:15 9:15 - 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Dec. 22 — 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:15 - - 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday Dec. 23 — 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:15 - - 7:00 p.m.  
Friday Dec. 24 — 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:15 - \*5:00 p.m.

\*Special children's liturgy-Posebna božična maša za šolsko mladino

SATURDAY — Dec. 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY — BOŽIČ

Midnight — Concelebrated Mass, Slovenian-English  
Polnočica — Koncelebrirana slovensko-angleška maša  
6:30 a.m. — Slovenian — Slovenska  
8:00 a.m. — Slovenian — Slovenska  
9:15 a.m. — Concelebrated Mass, English - Koncelebrirana  
angleška maša  
10:30 a.m. — Concelebrated Mass, Slovenian —  
Koncelebrirana slovenska maša  
11:45 a.m. — English Mass — Angleška maša

THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS —  
NA BOŽIČ NE BO VECERNE MAŠE

3:00 p.m. — Sung Litany and Eucharistic Benediction —  
Slovenske pete litanije Matere božje in blagoslov  
z Najsvejšim

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (PENANCE) SCHEDULE

S P O V E D O V A N J E

Thursday, Dec. 23 —

7:00 to 8:00 a.m.  
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. Slovenian Communal Reconciliation  
Service (Please be there at the beginning) —  
Slovenska spravna pobožnost (Bodite točni!)

Friday, Dec. 24 —

7:00 to 8:00 a.m.  
11:00 to Noon  
3:30 — English Communal  
Reconciliation Service  
(Please be there at the beginning) —  
Angleška spravna pobožnost (Bodite točni!)

THERE WILL BE NO CONFESSION FRIDAY EVENING —  
V PETEK ZVEČER NE BO SPOVEDOVANJA!

\* \* \* \* \*

## MIDNIGHT MASS

By JOSEPH GORNICK

The original St. Vitus Church, of frame construction, was built in 1894. Bishop Horstmann solemnly blessed the cornerstone on Nov. 4th. Right Reverend Monsignor Boff blessed the church and was celebrant of the first Mass. The name St. Vitus was given in honor of the founding pastor Monsignor Vitus Hribar.

Some years later in 1902, the church was remodeled and enlarged to take care of the increased number of parishioners.

The rectory was located at the corner of Glass Avenue and Norwood Rd. The church and school-house were to the left. Presently in that location is the auditorium-gymnasium. I attended classes in the fourth grade there. In addition to reading and writing, German and Slovenian was included in our studies.

It was a cold night on Dec. 24, 1915. Preparations began for Midnight Mass. The church doors opened at 10:30 p.m. Ushers stood at the entrance collecting 25 cents from each one. All seats were occupied within a half hour, and so were the aisles.

The altar was beautifully decorated, with an abundance of flowers, hundreds of wax candles in various colors on the Christmas trees and nativity scene.

The Lira choir organized in 1912 under the direction of Matija Holmar, sang several numbers before and during mass and were joined by all parishioners, with sounds vibrating throughout the frame church.

Mr. Ignatius Slapnik came to the United States in 1904. He graduated from Horticulture College in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. In Cleveland he opened his place of business on Euclid Ave., being one of the first five florists in this city. Later, he settled on East 39th and St. Clair and eventually near St. Vitus. For many years he donated flowers and Christmas trees to the church, and later his sons whom he tutored, followed in his footsteps, namely: Charles, Louis, and James.

Right reverend Monsignor Bartholomew Ponikvar was the pastor at the time and served from 1907-1952. Assisted by Monsignor John J. Oman, who later was elevated to pastor of St. Lawrence in Newburgh.

After Mass which lasted an hour and a half, people gathered outside the church, all in a jovial mood, and exchanged greetings.

Greetings to all my friends and readers of American Home.

a tree lot at Five Points. He charged us two dollars apiece for the tree. It was cold, so we all went to a close-by tavern, where we had a few Tom and Jerry's. We wound up with the trees costing us fifteen dollars.

There are many other stories I could relate regarding our Xmas trees. I always have the feeling that the Xmas tree represents gifts, goodies and joy for the children. In our later years, I have found peace and tranquility in our Xmas trees.

Two thousand years ago, when the Christ Child was born, it was also a time of peace and joy. Silent night — Holy Night — All is calm, all is bright. Let us always enjoy heavenly peace!



## ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH

3547 East 38th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44105  
341-0496

THE PASTOR OF ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, FATHER JOSEPH VARGA, WISHES ALL A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

CONFESIONS: THURSDAY, DEC. 23

3:30 — 4:30 p.m.

6:30 — 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 24

3:00 — 5:00 p.m.

MASSES: FRIDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24  
MIDNIGHT MASS

OUR CHOIR WILL SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT  
11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25  
MASSES

6 — 8 — 9:30 — 11:30 a.m.

Slovenian Singing of Litany of Blessed Virgin  
2 p.m.

6 p.m. — SATURDAY EVENING MASS



## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

15519 Holmes Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44110  
761-7740

Rev. Victor N. Tomec, Pastor  
Rev. Matt. A. Jager, Pastor Emeritus  
Canon Raymond T. Hobart, Associate Pastor  
Rev. John W. Vovko, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Anthony Rebol, In Residence

FRIDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24  
MASS at 6 p.m. — (Canon Hobart)

MIDNIGHT MASS for PARISHIONERS

Our Church will sing Christmas Carols at 11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25

MASSES

7 — 8 — 9:15 (Father Vovko) 10:30 (Father L. Tomz)  
12:00 (Father Rebol) and 6 p.m.

The Congregation will sing at the 8 a.m. Slovenian Mass Our Church Choir will sing at Midnight and 10:30 Masses Our School Children's Choir will sing at the 9:15 Mass The Young Adults Choir will sing on Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. A Children's Choir, under the direction of Ivan Rigler and Miha Vrenko, will sing at the Noon Mass.

Slovenian Sung Litany of the Blessed Virgin at 2 p.m.

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