

25. NEDELJA MED LETOM

24. september 2023 Leto A Št. 39

Nedelja, 24. sep: 25. NEDELJA MED LETOM

SLOMŠEKOVA NEDELJA

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

ODPEV: »Gospod je blizu vsem, ki ga kličejo.«

The Lord is near to all who call on him.

Župnija Brezmadežne s Čudodelno Svetinjo:

8.30 + Marijana Coprisi, *sestrična Kathy*

+ Chris, Adrienne in Matteo Nesich, *Neška Grenc*

+ Frank Levec – 50 obl., *družina M. D. Baša*

+ Alojz Gomizelj, *brat Jože z družino iz Slo.*

+ Vera Zupčič, *sestrična Helena Horvat*

10.00 *For parishioners - za župljane*

+ Mia Ferkul, *family Ferkul*

+ Marija and Valentin Lavriša, *family*

+ Jernej Fale, *Ana Fale*

+ Frank Tomšič, *Rolland and Maria Tomšič*

Župnija Marija Pomagaj:

10.00 *For parishioners - za župljane*

+ Lojze in Leopold Petek, *Slavka Levstik*

+ Janez Muhič, *otroci*

+ Tine in Minka Turk, *Zdravko z družino*

+ Terezija in Karel Kromar, *otroci*

+ Alexandra Bajt, *Anica Bajt-Kranjec*

+ Marija Franc in Drago Gelt, *Agata Žoldoš*

+ Ana Reiter in družino, *družina Frieda Kokal*

+ Reska Seršen, *Francka Potočnik*

+ Tilka Grajzar, *Francka Potočnik*

+ Tončka Baumar, *Francka Potočnik*

11.45 am *Letovišče*

+ Kristina, Janez in Fred Vičič, *družina Podobnik*

+ Carl in Frank Koščak, *družina M. Ulčar*

12.00 pm *Simon Gregorčič, Newmarket*

Ponedeljek, 25. sep: SERGIJ, menih

8.00 am + Mimi Hudovernik, *Silva Hudovernik*

V dober namen, *Ivanka*

Torek, 26. sep: KOZMA IN DAMIJAN, mučenca

8.00 am + Frank Krmelj, *družina Krmelj*

+ John in Cecilia Bain, *J.C.B.*

Sreda, 27. sep: VINCENCIJ PAVELSKI, ust. lazaristov

8.00 am + Peter in Ana Kotze, *hčerke*

+ Ivana Pecek, *Maria Dejak z družino*

Za naše duhovnike, *K.Ž.L.*

8.30 – 6 pm *Celodnevno češčenje - All day adoration*

Četrtek, 28. sep: VENČESLAV, mučenec

8.00 am + Manja Erzetic – 1 obl., *Carla z družino*

+ Tom Tekavčič, *družina Ferkul*

Petek, 29. sep: MIHAEL, GABRIJEL, RAFAEL, nadangeli

Župnija Brezmadežne s Čudodelno Svetinjo:

8.00 am + Nikolaj Žunič, *žena z družino*

+ Konrad Žurbi, *hčerka*

+ Rafko Rezar, *S. Mirta*

Župnija Marija Pomagaj:

10.00 am + Miha in Beverly Kumprej, *Lucas Kumprej*

+ Ivan in Frančiška Preželj, *oporoka*

Sobota, 30. sep: HIERONIM, duhov.-cerk. učitelj

8.00 am + Viktor in Pavla Trček, *V.P.T*

+ Marija Šteblaj, *Mary Hozjan*

5.00 pm + Dora Marn, *družina Ferkul*

+ Jože, Barbara in Stanley Berkopec, *R.C. Perko*

+ Marija Lavriša, *S. S. Medved (née)*

+ Karen Petrač, *Will Petrač*

+ Ančica Lesica, *T. M. Špehar*

+ Cilka Plut, *družina Krmelj-Rozman*

+ Štefan Serec, *Ilijana Žižek z družino*

+ Mimi Seničar, *mož*

+ Frank, Rose in Eddie Jarkovič, *Marian Jarkovič*

+ Iz družine Žunič, *Matija in Marija*

+ Vinko Povše, *Matija in Marija*

Nedelja, 1. okt: 26. NEDELJA MED LETOM

ODPEV: »Spomni se, Gospod, svojega usmiljenja.«

Lord, be mindful of your mercy.

Župnija Brezmadežne s Čudodelno Svetinjo:

8.30 + Pavla, Janez in Ivan Bučar, *družina Bučar*

+ Ani in Edi Ferkulj, *družina*

+ Stanka Babič, *družina Pečavič*

+ Frank Nagode, *žena Francka*

10.00 *For parishioners - za župljane*

+ Chris, Adrienne and Matteo Nesich, *fam. Bedernjak*

+ Emily and John Žunič, *children*

+ Karl Tratnik – anniv., *John and Martina Tratnik*

+ Vinko Povše, *John and Martina Tratnik*

+ Frank Kus Sr., *John and Martina Tratnik*

Župnija Marija Pomagaj:

10.00 *For parishioners - za župljane*

+ Vinko Levstik, *Slavka Levstik*

+ Janez in Terezija Gornik, *družina*

+ Terezija in Karel Kromar, *otroci*



- + Matilda Ludvik, *Mary Sirk*
- + Marko Skočir, *Vera Serazin*
- + Ignac Skalič, *Marjan Žejn*

11.45 am Letovišče

V zahvalo Boga za letovišče

FIRST COMMUNION - If your child is going into grade 2 then he/she should be registered for Communion Classes. Registration begins **October 1st** in the small hall after Masses.

CONFIRMATION - If your child is going into grade 5, 6 or 7 and has not received Confirmation, registration begins **October 1st** in the small hall after Masses and classes will begin **Sunday, October 15th** from 9:00-9:45 am. This is a 2 year program from October to April.

DRUŠTVO SIMON GREGORČIČ vas vabi na vinsko trgatve, ki bo danes v Newmarket. Ob **12.00 pm** je sveta maša; nato pa kosilo. Igra ansambel Šibaj. Vsi dobrodošli!

SLOVENSKA ŠOLA invites students of high school age and younger to enroll in classes, in which they will learn the basics of the Slovenian language. Classes begin on **Saturday, September 30th**. For more information contact: slovenska.sola@gmail.com or call Marta Jamnik at 416-766-4848.

BUS TRIP TO NIAGARA – Saturday, Sept. 30th - For all who reserved please come to pay the \$200 in the office either cash or cheque (cheques made out to R. Nesich). **MUST BE AT THE CHURCH PARKING LOT LATEST 6:45 am.** Bus leaves at 7 am sharp.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY this year will be on **September 24, 2023**. Stewardship Sunday is an annual occurrence in the Archdiocese of Toronto on the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time and offers a wonderful opportunity to encourage parishioners to prayerfully consider becoming more engaged in parish life.

THE 109TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

The theme announced by His Holiness Pope Francis for the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees is “Free to Choose Whether to Migrate or to Stay.” In his message, Pope Francis acknowledges that while the decision to migrate should always be free, in many cases it is not. This point was reflected by St. John Paul II in his message for the 90th World Day of Migrants & Refugees, in which he wrote, “building conditions of peace means in practice being seriously committed to safeguarding first of all the right not to emigrate, that is, the right to live in peace and dignity in one's own country.” As he concluded his message, Pope Francis referenced the words of the Lord when He said “...I was a stranger, and you welcomed me” reminding us that the Lord's words are a “constant admonition to see

in the migrant not simply a brother or sister in difficulty, but Christ himself, who knocks at our door.”

NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA COLLECTION is **September 24th**. Your gifts are used by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to represent Canadian Catholics in national and international pastoral activity. Envelopes are in your weekly collection boxes or at the back of the Church. Thank you for your support.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION – September 30, 2023 The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation takes place each year on September 30. At St. Ann's parish in Toronto, home to the Native People's Mission, a special Mass will be held on October 1, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. - all are welcome to attend. The Archdiocese of Toronto will hold a special collection the weekend of **September 30 / October 1, 2023** to support the Indigenous Healing & Reconciliation Fund. The fund will support both local and national programs proposed by Indigenous communities to nurture the ongoing reconciliation journey.

LIFE CHAIN is a prayerful and peaceful witness of the sanctity of human life and the evil of abortion. Participants pray and hold non-graphic signs such as “Life, the first inalienable right” and “Abortion kills children” at hundreds of locations across North America for one hour, a much needed message of love, hope, and truth. United by the Holy Spirit, we hope to touch hearts and save lives. Please join in the Life Chain on **Sunday, October 1st** from 2 pm to 3 pm. Location to stand closest to us is Queensway and Kipling Ave.

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON we celebrate at the Slov. Summer Camp on **Sunday, October 8th**. Mass is at 11:45 am. Lunch in the hall after Mass. Entertainment by Ansambel Šibaj. Tickets Adults- \$50., 12 and under-\$25. Tickets to be ordered from tickets@sloveniansummercamp.com. Instructions for payment will be sent back. They are looking for members to bring desserts as well to be brought to the kitchen a few hours before the lunch.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE- From **October 1st** to the **8th** we will be holding a food drive for the Daily Bread Food Bank. To help provide meals for homeless and at-risk individuals in our community. Items that are needed the most are: canned tomatoes, canned vegetables, canned fruit, mustard, beans, chickpeas, canned fish (tuna, salmon, sardines), oatmeal and peanut and almond butters. Donation boxes will be at the back of the Church.

SLOVENIAN CHOIR FROM ARGENTINA-SLOVENSKI MENDOSKI OKTET will be singing at Mass **Friday, October 6th at 6pm**. Concert will be in the church after Mass with special guests Plamen.

ŽAREK- THE RAY

INSERT TO THE PARISH BULLETIN
ŽUPNIJA BREZMADEŽNA S ČUDODELNO SVETINJO
ŽUPNIJA MARIJA POMAGAJ



NOVO ŠOLSKO LETO...

NEW SCHOOL YEAR...

“Starši in vzgojitelji; dajte si dopovedati z znamenji časa in spoznajte, da človek, ki je vero izgubil, ne pozna več nobene postave in nobenih mej”.

Anton Martin Slomšek

Picture: Istock.com/KaraGebhardt

***Dear parishioners,
We have begun a new school year and as pastor of our parish, I feel it is my duty to remind you of the religious education of our children.***

School is an important educational institution, but it will never replace what a child learns at home.

The family is the first educator of values such as love, forgiveness, reconciliation, and religion as well. A child will know how to pray, if we pray at home, love God, if we love Him at home, go to Mass, if we go to Mass together and not because I have to, but, instead because it is a sign of our inter-communion love and love for God!

If we love children, then we, as Catholics, also wish them heaven! We will all achieve this more easily if we help each other to discover Christian values, love them and, more importantly, live them. That is why the example of parents and educators is also necessary. When I ask what is a Christian value for you? I often hear "love". It is true, but that is not enough, because non-Christians also love...

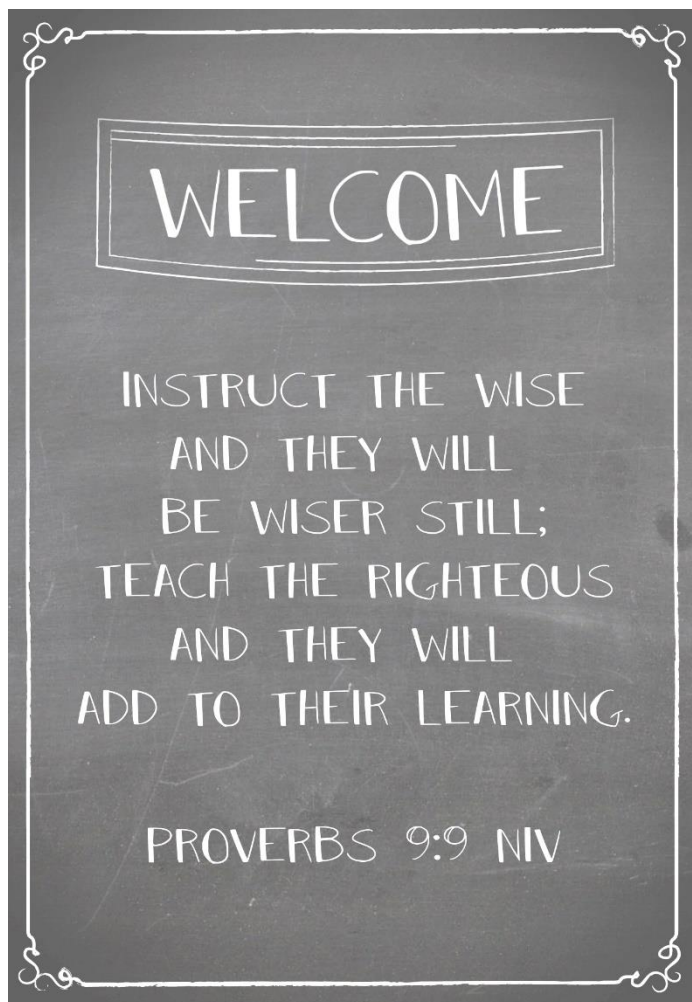
So, what is a Christian value? Perhaps what I do for the love of God! There is no Christian life without a personal relationship with God! This is what makes our love be different from the unbeliever, that our forgiveness is different, etc... We look in the light of eternity, in the light of the salvation of our souls.

"*Slomšek Sunday*" is upon us. As a priest and later as a bishop, Slomšek worked hard for the preservation and growth of Slovenian culture, language, and education. He knew how to appreciate the beauty and gifts of creation. He worked for the social equality of all people and for unity among Christians. But, in all this he always had his eyes fixed on God as he wrote in the song "*V nebesih sem Doma*": "I am at home in heaven: this is what the earth and the sky and every beautiful thing calls me. I am at home in heaven, I am not of this world, I look forward to heaven, I want to go to heaven." May our education be directed towards this!

If we want to have a living Christian community, we need to involve young people and children in the life of our parish. I invite you to take this seriously. If there are no children in the preparation for First Communion, Confirmation, Slovenian school, choir, altar group, our parish will phase out. I call on everyone to do what he or she can to enliven the life of our parish.

For some children this is the first year of school, for others the last, but for all it is a year of learning about the closeness of God in daily life. I wish you to have open hearts and eyes, to recognize God in every step of your life.

Fr. Leopold Valant CM



DRUŽINSKA MAŠA ***Vsaka tretja nedelja*** ***v mesecu***



We invite the families to participate in ALL MASSES and in particular the »**Family Mass**« which is **every third Sunday of the month!**



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – FIRST CONFESSION

REGISTRATION FOR 2023-2024 FIRST COMMUNION CLASS IS NOW OPEN. PLEASE APPLY AT THE OFFICE, OR AT REGISTRATION DAY OCTOBER 1ST, AFTER MASSES

If your child is approaching second grade, or a little older, we want to assist you in raising your child in the faith. Below are some of the frequently asked questions to help you understand the process of having your child receive First Holy Communion.

Along with the Sacrament of Baptism, First Holy Communion is one of our three sacraments of initiation. It is through these sacraments of initiation that we become full members of the Church. We receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time during the First Holy Communion. The Holy Eucharist refers to Christ's body, blood, soul, and divinity that are truly present in the consecrated host and wine (now called the Body and Blood of Christ) on the altar. For us as Catholics, there is nothing greater than to receive Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist at Mass.

First Holy Communion is considered one of the holiest and most important occasions in a Roman Catholic person's life. It is the first time that a person receives the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, which is the eating of consecrated bread and drinking of consecrated wine. Most Catholic children receive their First Holy Communion when they are 7 or 8 years old as this is considered the age of reason.

WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR MY CHILD TO RECEIVE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION?

At a minimum, your child must:

- Be baptized in the Catholic Church, or another Christian denomination recognized by the Catholic Church. They must have been baptized with water and "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
- If your child is older than second grade, we may require completion of the Order of Christian Initiation of Children.
- Have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Instruction for this sacrament will take place with the instruction for First Holy Communion. The reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place a few months before First Holy Communion.

WHEN DOES THE INSTRUCTION OF THE CHILDREN BEGIN?

All Catholic children, even if they are not attending Catholic schools, are welcome to participate in our parish program. The instruction will start with 2 informal – social meeting on the last Saturday of October and last Saturday of November (6 pm). From January 7 forward, they will be regular weekly meetings on Sundays.

The parents, with help from the program coordinators, prepare their child for First Holy Communion.

WHEN DOES FIRST HOLY COMMUNION TAKE PLACE?

First Holy Communion will be: on May 5th 2024.

WHAT ELSE IS NEEDED FOR MY CHILD TO RECEIVE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Traditionally, young Catholic children will make their **first confession** before receiving their First Holy Communion. But confession is not the only requirement for receiving the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist; the Sacrament of Baptism must have been received as well. A child, or any person, who has not been baptized cannot receive communion.

At your child's Baptism, you reaffirmed your belief in the Catholic Church and promised to raise your child in the Catholic faith. This is what the Church calls our "founded hope" that your child will be raised in the Catholic faith. Today, if this "founded hope" is in jeopardy because your faith as a parent has changed and you no longer believe in the Catholic Church, or you attend another Christian Church, or for whatever reason you are not willing to ensure that your child will have opportunities to learn the faith and attend Sunday Mass, there may be reason to delay First Holy Communion. These are serious issues and will need the pastor's determination to proceed. If you are in a similar situation, please contact the priest early to discuss your options.



A Student's Prayer

(by St. Thomas Aquinas)

Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator, true source of light and fountain of wisdom! Pour forth your brilliance upon my dense intellect, dissipate the darkness which covers me, that of sin and of ignorance. Grant me a penetrating mind to understand, a retentive memory, method and ease in learning, the lucidity to comprehend, and abundant grace in expressing myself. Guide the beginning of my work, direct its progress, and bring it to successful completion. This I ask through Jesus Christ, true God and true man, living and reigning with You and the Father, forever and ever.

Amen.



CONFIRMATION

REGISTRATION FOR 2023-2024 CONFIRMATION CLASS IS NOW OPEN. PLEASE APPLY AT THE OFFICE, OR AT REGISTRATION DAY OCTOBER 1ST, AFTER MASSES

If your child is in grade 5 or 6 or even older (has not receive the sacrament), we strongly encourage you to register at our Church!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TEACHER ANDREJ ZUNIC

Greetings to all!

Let me start with a question: why is Confirmation a big deal?

Many of us began our journey in walking with Christ when we were so young upon this earth that our parents had to speak for us - acting as parents do out of love for what they see is best for us. That's when we were baptized. Our original sin was washed away then and we were first initiated into the mystical body of Christ, which is the Catholic Church.

Yet we didn't stop there. We were growing up. A little bit older we had to take some classes and learn somethings about our faith, some prayers, and got to know Jesus and the cool things he did which were hard to forget - like when He walked on water and fed thousands on a few leaves of bread and fish, and when He was crucified and rose from the dead. We received First Holy Communion and that brought us closer to Jesus.

Now we haven't stopped growing up, and we are little older than we once were. We're curious about the world and asking a lot more questions.

I invite all parents who have a child in Grade 5, 6, or 7 who hasn't received Confirmation to register for preparation classes with the Parish. I feel it's important that they prepare for Confirmation with the Parish as it will build new friendships and fosters a sense of community in their place of regular worship. I will also be teaching them about the Faith and answering their many tough questions.

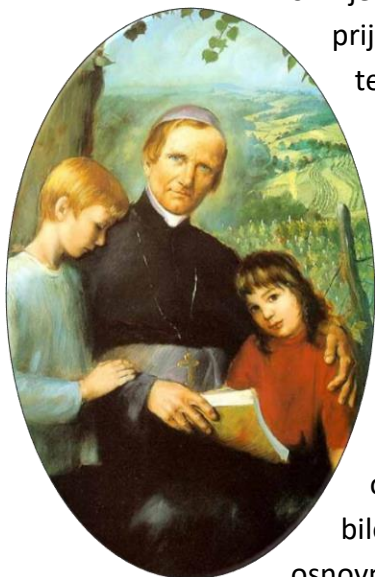
So why is Confirmation a big deal?

Simply, it completes our initiation into the Catholic Church and deepens our understanding of ourselves in this messed up world as we are called to know, love, and serve God.

Slomškova nedelja 2023

Letos obhajamo 170-letnico izida Slomškove mladinske pesmarice »Šola vesela lepega petja za pridno šolsko mladino«, Mohorjeva družba Celovec, 1853. Ta spomin je hkrati pobuda, da obhajanje letošnje Slomškove nedelje posvetimo razmišljanju o glasbi, prepevanju ter o pomenu vpletenosti kulturnega udejstvovanja za svoje izobraževanje in za versko življenje. Hkrati pa je praznovanje letošnje Slomškove nedelje tudi zahvala za dokončno rešitev Zavoda A. M. Slomška v Mariboru. Praznovanje letos poteka pod geslom: "Šola vesela".

O PETJU V ŠOLI



Ko je pred časom v prijateljskem pogovoru tema nekako nanesla na Slomškovo ponarodelo pesem En hribček bom kupil, se je nenadoma iz mojega spomina kakor puščica izstrelila podoba iz otroštva. Mislim, da je bilo v petem razredu osnovne šole, ko nam je učiteljica pri slovenščini dala nalogo, da zrecitiramo kakšno slovensko pesem. Fantje smo zanimiva bitja; v življenju iščemo bližnjice, smo karseda praktično naravnani, potrebujemo pa tudi razne izzive za samopotrditve. Tako se je v naših bistrih glavah rodila ideja, da bi se pesmi lotili skupaj in da je ne bi recitirali, temveč kar zapeli. Če se jo naučimo skupaj, je to rahla bližnjica, ker je pač v slogi moč; hkrati je to praktično, ker se tako posamične recitacije ne bodo dolgočasno razvlekale; nenazadnje pa je svojevrsten izziv, da se skupaj postavimo pred tablo in pred razredom zapojemo, čeprav nismo bili ravno slavčki. In res – še zdaj nas vidim, kako smo stali pred razredom in na vsa grla prepevali: ... »sladko vince piti, to me

veseli, dobre volje biti svoje žive dni...« In čeprav mi takrat o Slomšku nismo vedeli še praktično ničesar, sem danes prepričan, da se nam je on nekje v nebesih dobrodušno hahljal in bil ponosen na nas – še bolj kot učiteljica, ki ni skoparila s pohvalami za našo idejo in izvedbo.

Prvi sad Mohorjeve družbe, ki je bila ustanovljena na Slomškovo pobudo, je bila mladinska pesmarica »Šola vesela lepega petja za pridno šolsko mladino«, ki je izšla pred 170 leti. Slomšek je petje spodbujal na veliko načinov in ob veliko priložnostih; je pa prav posebej pomenljivo, da je bila prva knjiga pesmarica in to za mladino.

Slutimo torej lahko, da je petju pripisoval močno vlogo v izoblikovanju identitete in gojenju kulture. Oboje tudi za naš čas ostaja zelo aktualno, saj lahko vidimo, kako v globalizacijski megli blede naša osebna, narodna in verska identiteta, kultura pa se mnogokrat napaja le še v izpraznjenosti smisla in hipnih zadovoljitvah trenutnih potreb. Slovenska pesem letošnje Evrovizije je med mladimi strašno popularna in njeno besedilo se začne takole: »Mi bomo celo noč plesali, ljubili se in se igrali, kot da nas jutri več ne bo...« Pomembna je samo ta noč, samo ta trenutek, za vse ostalo nam je vseeno.

Slomškova vizija slovenskega naroda, ki je ponosen na svojo zgodovino, kulturo in pesem, je torej še kako potrebna vnovične spodbude. Tudi pesem v šoli naj ne bo samo v obliki nastopov, ki tolikokrat služijo samo za pridobivanje pohval in priznanj, temveč naj bo v službi veselja do življenja, gojenja

duha skupnosti in sodelovanja in nenazadnje tudi slavljenja Boga, od katerega prihaja vse dobro. Kakšna škoda bi bila, če bi naša mladina v šoli glasbo prepoznavala le skozi prizmo tekmovanja in razkazovanja talentov, ne pa najprej kot nekaj, kar prihaja iz veselega srca in se dviga proti večnosti.

Lepo bo torej, če bomo za to poskrbeli tudi v naši veroučni šoli. Ne pozabimo, da je tudi lepa pesem lahko globoka molitev in da se z njo lahko globoko povežemo. Danes imamo res bogato izbiro otroških in mladinskih pesmaric, zato jih le radi vzemimo v roke in z mladimi skupaj zapojmo. Da bo šolska mladina še naprej pridna, naj res veselo in lepo poje.

Jani Družovec



NEW STUDENTS WELCOME

Slovenska šola invites students of high school age and younger to enroll in classes, in which they will learn the basics of the Slovenian language. Join us, no matter what your knowledge of Slovenian



In July we had the pleasure of accompanying 14 recent Slovenska šola graduates to Slovenia. They attended the "Mladinska poletna šola slovenščine", and got the opportunity to explore and experience the country of their roots. It was an enjoyable and fulfilling three weeks for all! It would be our wish, and that of the participants, that the trip could be repeated in years to come by others. With continued enrolment, hopefully this will happen.

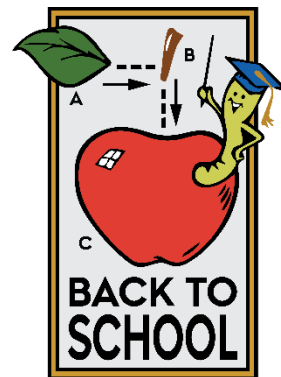
Marta Jamnik and John Plesko

For over sixty years Slovenska šola has been providing the youth of the Slovenian community the opportunity to learn the Slovenian language. It would like for this learning experience to continue, but requires involvement of the current youth, and is willing to adapt to accommodate the changing community.

REGULAR CLASSES WILL START ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH

Contact / send input: slovenska.sola@gmail.com

or call **Marta Jamnik @ (416) 766-4848**





SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

September 27

St. Vincent de Paul was born to a poor peasant family in the French village of Pouy on April 24, 1581. His first formal education was provided by the Franciscans. He did so well, he was hired to tutor the children of a nearby wealthy family. He used the monies he earned teaching to continue his formal studies at the University of Toulouse where he studied theology.

He was ordained in 1600 and remained in Toulouse for a time. In 1605, while on a ship traveling from Marseilles to Narbone, he was captured, brought to Tunis and sold as a slave. Two years later he and his master managed to escape and both returned to France.

KRATKA RAZMIŠLJANJA SV. VINCENCIJA PAVELSKEGA :

- **Boga moramo ljubiti z delom svojih rok in z znojem svojega obraza.**
- **Ni mogoče veliko pričakovati od človeka, ki mu ni do pogovora z Bogom.**
- **Čeprav zadeve ne potekajo tako, kot smo predvidevali in mislili, nikar ne dvomimo, da jih bo božja previdnost uredila tako, kot je najboljše za nas.**
- **S prepirom sogovorniku zapremo vrata njegovega srca, namesto da bi mu odprli razum. Krotkost in prijaznost pa najdeta pot do njegovega srca.**

St. Vincent went to Avignon and later to Rome to continue his studies. While there he became a chaplain to the Count of Goigny and was placed in charge of distributing money to the deserving poor. He became pastor of a small parish in Clichy for a short period of time, while also serving as a tutor and spiritual director.

From that point forward he spent his life preaching missions to and providing relief to the poor. He even established hospitals for them. This work became his passion. He later extended his concern and ministry to convicts. The need to evangelize and assist these souls was so great and the demands beyond his own ability to meet that he founded the Ladies of Charity, a lay institute of woman, to help, as well as a religious institute of priests - the Congregation of Priests of the Mission, commonly referred to now as the Vincentians.

GOD SUSTAINS US

BASED ON PSALM 145



We know God sustains us and cares for us. This is a prayer based on Psalm 145, which expressed praise to God for the way he watches over us.

When we are weary and spent and lost, God sustains us through the Eucharist and through holy scripture. He also cares for us through the people around us. By drawing us into the community of the Church, He provides for us.

GOD SUSTAINS US

Praise to you, God.

You feed me and keep me safe.

I will always praise you.

You are beyond my understanding.

Yet you see me and notice me.

Throughout all history, you have been saving us.

All of the ages have seen your generosity.

I am overcome with joy when I think about you.

You are merciful and just.

Why do you pay such attention to me?

I feel so small compared to you.

When I am in trouble, you are near.

You show such compassion to me.

You provide for all my needs.

You sustain me when I am weak.

You hear me when I pray.

You restore me when I am weary.

Praise be to you God my Father.

You sustain me and care for me.

I will always praise you.

Amen.

An Unbelievably Good God

When you come to think of it, often we cannot understand God's goodness. Why is he so patient with sinners? Why does he give his gifts to people who, in our opinion, do not deserve them, or waste them? But God's ways are not our ways, his thoughts are not always our thoughts. Let us ask the Lord Jesus in this Eucharist that our thoughts and actions may become more like those of God. Oscar Wilde reminds us:

