



Vol. 70- No. 5

WE HONOR
ST. CASIMIR

GEGUŽĖ — MAY

1984



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ST. CASIMIR Painting by sister Mercedes, SSC



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GLORIFY the LORD!

HOW THE CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF ST. CASIMIR WAS FOUNDED

Casimira Kaupas, the future Mother Maria, would have to travel a long and involved journey before she could realize her deep desire to consecrate herself to God. Casimira was born in the quiet village of Gudeliai in Lithuania on January 7, 1880. The fifth of eleven children, Casimira absorbed an atmosphere of intense piety during her childhood. From her father who was a spiritual leader not only in his own family but also among his neighbors, she learned to urge others to good. In 1897, she came to the United States to be housekeeper for her brother-priest Anthony in Scranton, Pennsylvania. It was during her four-year stay in the United States that Casimira met Sisters for the first time and was attracted to an apostolic religious life. In 1902, back in Lithuania, she resolved to become a teaching religious to help the Lithuanian Americans concerning matters of faith, since it was impossible to do so in her native land. She accepted the offer of Father A. Milukas to study at Ingenbohl, Switzerland in preparation for taking part in his "New Project" — a Lithuanian society for women devoted primarily to the press but also to teaching.

Casimira spent three years in Switzerland where the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross taught and prepared her for the work to which God had called her. During this time, she asked her brother, Father A. Kaupas, and his friend, Father



MOTHER MARIA KAUPAS

January 6, 1880 — April 17, 1940

A. Milukas, to find a priest who would assume responsibility for the Congregation. In 1905, the Rev. Doctor Anthony Staniukynas agreed to accept. In God's Providence, the new congregation received the abiding spiritual and moral support of this learned and devout priest.

Father Staniukynas succeeded in getting his bishop, Bishop J. W. Shanahan of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to sponsor the Congregation. At the Bishop's request, Mother M. Cyril, IHM accepted Casimira and her two companions into the novitiate of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at



KAUPAS FAMILY photograph taken in 1902. (From left to right): Antanina (Mrs. Krotkus), Vincent, Catherine, Mother Kaupas, Bernice (Mrs. Sabonis), Julius, Casimira (Mother Maria), Salome (Mrs. Valonis); Josephine (Mrs. Antanaitis) and Anthony (Reverend A. Kaupas),



Father Anthony Kaupas
1870 — 1913



Father Anthony Milukas
1871 — 1943



CASIMIRA KAUPAS (the future Mother Maria) in the garb of a postulant of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, in Ingenbohl, Switzerland, pictured with her youngest sister, Catherine, in 1903.

Scranton, Pennsylvania for preparation. On August 19, 1907 the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Casimir was founded. Casimira received the name Sister Maria; her two companions, Sisters M. Immaculata and Concepta. Casimira expressed her sentiments this way:

Although they were setting out to found a new congregation, although they were beginning to tread an unknown road on which, as all predict, they would encounter many crosses, they were not afraid. Having committed themselves to

the protection of God's Providence, they felt they were His beloved; and out of love for Him they desired to suffer all that would be allotted to them. They looked joyously to the future . . .

Concerned in the first place with preserving and nurturing the faith life of Lithuanian immigrants, Sister Maria and her two companions began their apostolate of education at Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania in January, 1908. In 1913, Mother Maria was elected first Superior General, an office to



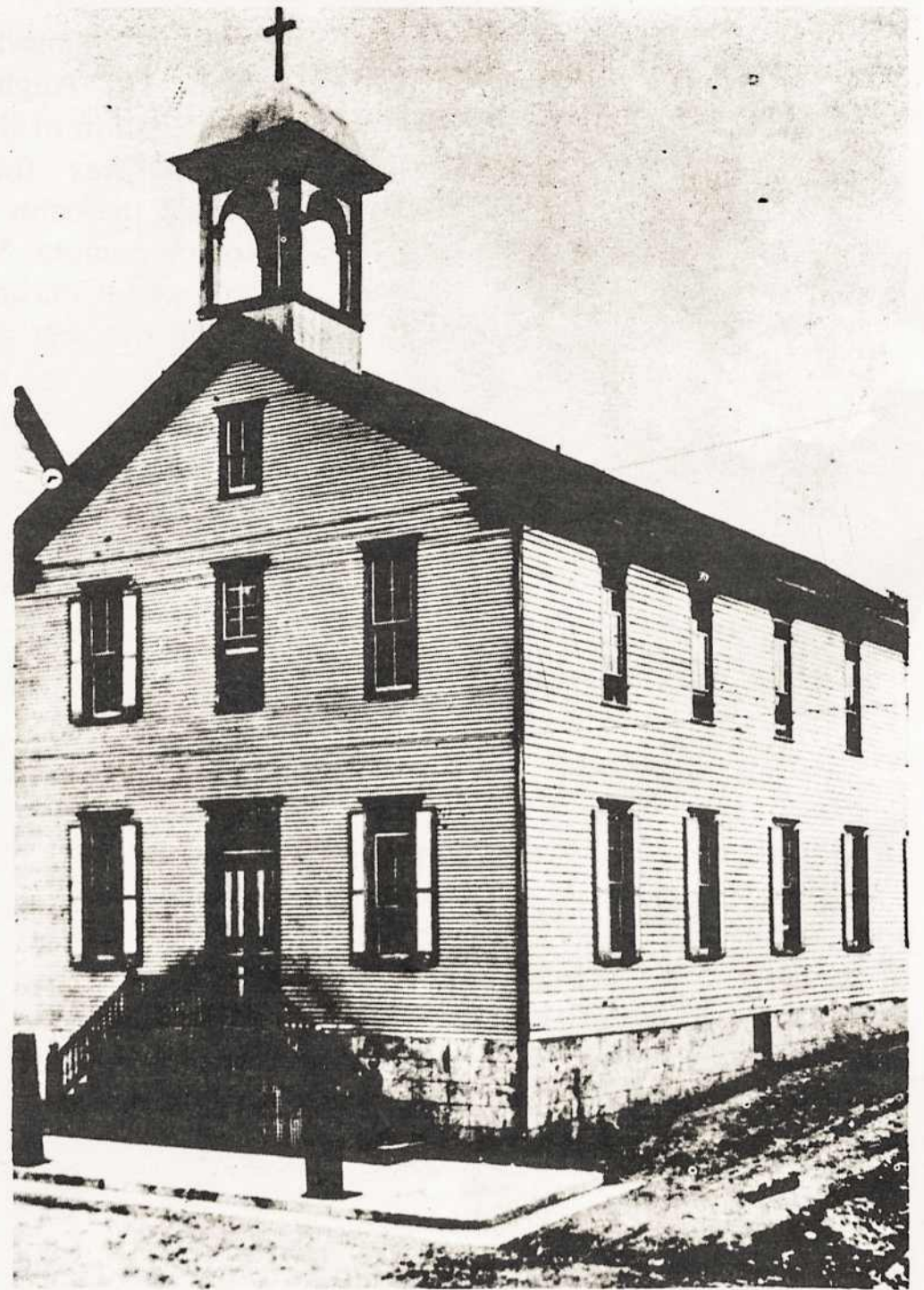
The Reverend Dr. Anthony Staniukynas
(1865 — 1918)



His Excellency
Bishop John Walter Shanahan
(1846 — 1916)
Bishop of Harrisburg



THIS QUINTET of Sisters was the first group to open the foundation of the Congregation in Pazaislis, Lithuania, in 1920. Seated (left to right): Sister M. Immaculata, Mother Maria; standing: Sisters M. Catherine, Anna Marie, and Angela (Braskiute).



HOLY CROSS SCHOOL in Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania was opened on January 6, 1908 as the first elementary school conducted by the Sisters of St. Casimir, as well as the first Lithuanian Catholic school in America.

The first Sisters to arrive at the convent preparatory to the opening were Sister Maria and Mother M. Boniface, I.H.M., on October 7, 1907; they were joined by Sisters M. Immaculata and Concepta on November 22, 1907.



STANDING and seated below a portrait of Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress of the Sisters of Saint Casimir and Superior General from 1913 until her death in 1940, are: (standing, left to right) Sister M. Joaneila, present General Superior and former Superior General Sister M. Lorenza; (seated, left to right) former Superior Generals Sister M. Adorata, Sister M. Josepha, and Sister M. Theophila.

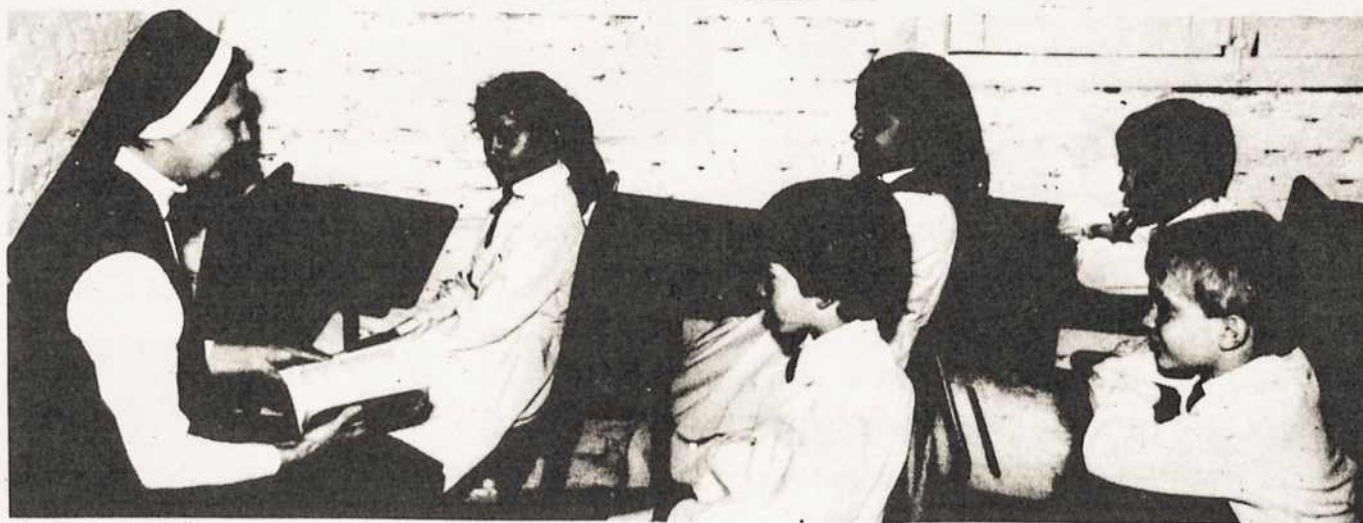
which she was re-elected until her death. For twenty-seven years, she carried out these responsibilities with great humility and charity. In 1920, Mother Maria and four Sisters established a foundation of the Sisters of Saint Casimir in Lithuania at Pažaislis. She extended the apostolate of the Congregation to care of the sick in 1928 and to what were then considered "home missions" in New Mexico in 1937. She was planning to send her Sisters to Argentina, South America, but this only became a reality in 1941 after her death. Mother Maria's apostolic endeavors were strengthened by a deep life of prayer and devotion to Christ present in the Eucharist, thus enabling her to maintain a spirit of peace and joy in the midst of dynamic activities.



STATUE OF ST. CASIMIR, a gift of long-time benefactor and friend, John Jagminas of All Saints Parish, Chicago, graces the garden of the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse to commemorate the Congregation's Golden Jubilee in 1957. A duplicate of this beautiful statue was given as a gift from the Sisters of St. Casimir that same year to the Immaculate Heart Sisters in Scranton, Pennsylvania, as a token of their abiding esteem and gratitude.



SPECIAL CHOIR of Sisters of St. Casimir directed by Sister M. Clarita, sing the Easter Sunday Mass for shut-ins via television station WGN, Channel 9, 1980.



SISTER JOYCE ANN, superior at Our Lady of Vilna convent in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and students.



FOURTH GRADERS at St. Mary School, Darien, Illinois, smile at prospects of world journey pointed out by Sister Marie Infanta.

SISTER M. GRACILDA with a group of her book-minded third graders at Immaculate Conception School in Chicago.



During the last years of her life, Mother Maria suffered from cancer. Despite her illness, she continued in her duties as Superior General as long as she was able — a true example of courage, patience in suffering and acceptance of God's will. Mother Maria died on April 7, 1940, at the Motherhouse in Chicago, Illinois surrounded by her Sisters. Mother M. Cyril, IHM summarized the sentiments of many who knew her:

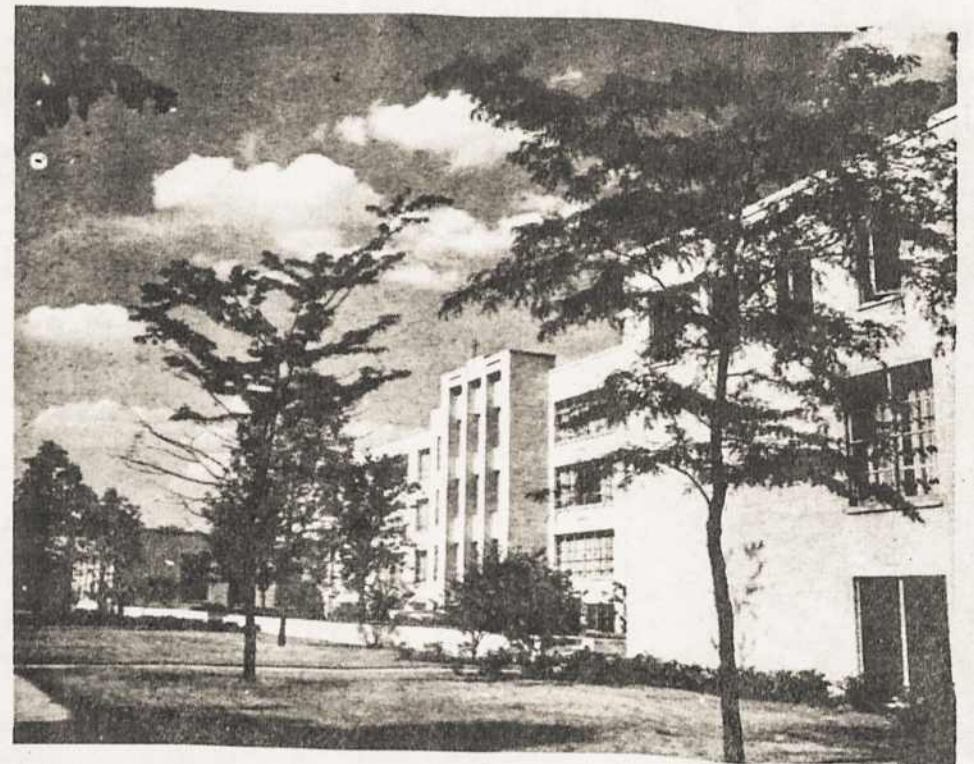
"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." She suffered and died as she lived in God's presence, and with the assurance that very soon everlasting joys would be hers — the joys promised to the life she so generously gave to God and sacrificially lived in a way to edify and spread the desire to live and work for God alone.



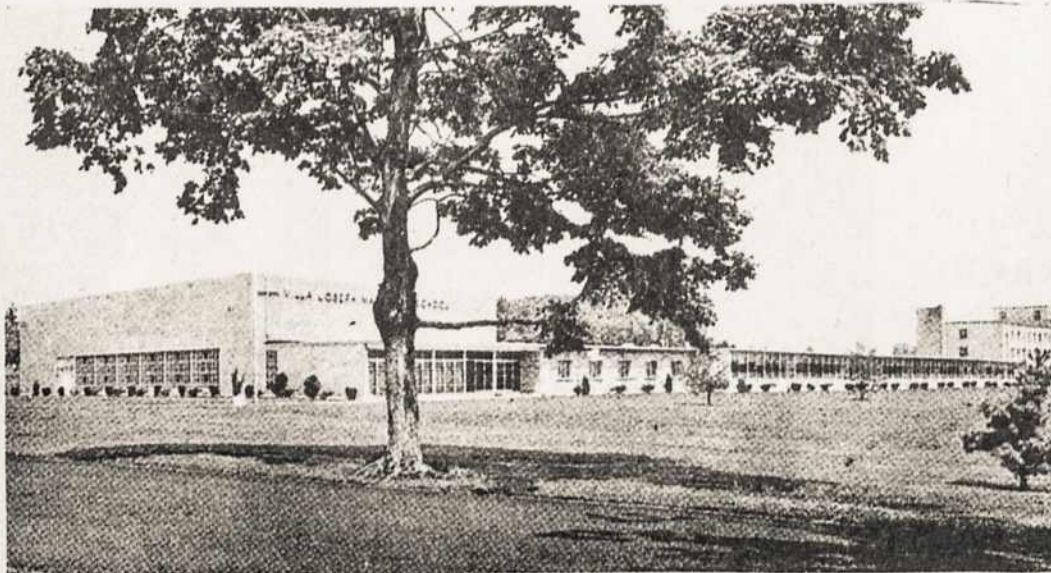
FULL VIEW of the present Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir in Chicago.



HOLY FAMILY VILLA HOME for the Aged in Lemont, Illinois gleams brightly in a sunny snowscape. Here the Sisters of St. Casimir serve the aged since 1947.



FRONT VIEW of Maria High School, in Chicago.



SUMMER VIEW of Villa Joseph Marie High School, Holland, Pennsylvania: auditorium, classrooms, convent, and chapel



LORETTO HOSPITAL, Chicago, including new wing completed in 1969.

HEAR US, O SAINT CASIMIR

O Prince!

Remount your charger
Flashing white across the battle-leaden sky,
And ride again into the fray
Unleashed in centuries' wrath
By foes of truth and trust.
Fling back the hordes that march
To sounds of godlessness unbated.
Lead us!
We follow you to vict'ry.

Patron!

Return with your largess —
We poor stand clamoring at your door again
Hungry and thirsty for justice,
Robbed of rights all men own.
Stretch out your hands once more
And fill us with your strength
Against a world of hatred.
Lead us!
We follow you to freedom.

Dear Saint!

Relight our faint faith
To burning fires of hope and charity.
The way shows clear: in God our might.
Pray for us, O Holy One —
Your crown beneath your feet,
Purity round your heart,
Your only Queen, God's Mother.
Lead us!
We follow you, to heaven.

— Sister M. Agnesine Dering, S.S.C.
SISTERS OF SAINT CASIMIR

SISTER M. MERCEDES
is caught in a reflective
moment before a painting
in progress in her
studio at the Mother-
house. Sister's numerous
illustrations in books,
periodicals, and Com-
munity miscellany, re-
dound to the glory of all
Sisters of St. Casimir.



SISTER M. AGNESINE, secretary general, is engrossed in checking copy for next publication of the Sisters of St. Casimir Newsletter.

Thoughts from the Writings of Mother Maria

I wish you many graces, but most of all, I wish you a love forgetful of self.

In all life's trials continue to remain lovers of God's Providence.

Let us leave judging and fault-finding to small minds; let our concern be the noble desire and aim: to love as the Savior taught.

What will gain results is only gentleness... So, then, why not use it?

Let us love one another, for then He will be with us in the fullness of His peace.

Without love our works and even our sufferings are worthless.

We have much for which to thank God, and with all my heart I ask you: thank Him!

Beg through Mary that the Holy Spirit enlighten us in the knowledge of what would redound to God's greater glory.

Be angels of peace, stilling through your gentle, humble words the disquiet and rancor smoldering in another's heart.

My wish for you all is a great love of God and trust in Him that is born of love.

I dare to offer you a personal motto. Fortified with a good intention, wherever you are and whatever you do, always keep it in mind: God is here — God wills this! Especially let us be permeated with the thought that God is within us, and all that He grants or permits flows from the love He has for us.

KRYŽIUS IR KALAVIJAS

K. TAUTKUS

Edited by A. K. WARGO

Geležinio vilko staugimo garsas Gedimino sapne vyriausio kunigo Krivio Krivaičio buvo išaiškintas to miesto būsimu garsu pasaulyje. Daugiau kaip 600 metų praslinko po Vilniaus miesto įkūrimo. Minių minios žmonių praėjo jo gatvėmis. Ten gyveno daug garbingų Lietuvos žmonių, karalių, kunigaikščių, karo vadų, mokslo vyrų. Istorinį garsą miestui suteikė pats įkūrėjas Gediminas ir jo du sūnu, Algirdas ir Kęstutis. Tačiau mūsų širdys linksta prie dviejų vardų — Vytauto Didžiojo ir Šv. Kazimiero. Pirmasis yra Kęstučio sūnus, antrasis Algirdo anūko. Vytautas suteikė Lietuvai politinį garsą, karinę galybę ir didžiulę teritoriją. Šv. Kazimieras gi Lietuvai suteikė amžiną ir nemirštančią garbę, kai po jo mirties jo galva buvo papuošta vienintelio Lietuvos šventojo laurų vainiku. Abu Gedimainaičiai Lietuvai teikia garbę. Pirmasis garbę pasiekė kalaviju, antrasis kryžiaus ginklu. Šv. Kazimieras mirė pačioje jaunystėje, vos 25 metų būdamas, bet savo šventu gyvenimu, dvasios stiprybe ir meile artimui, pralenkė savo giminaičius, savo kraujo brolius, senelius ir prosenelius. Jis liko nemirtingas Lietuvos globėjas, užtarėjas ir šventasis, kuris tėvynės garsą perkėlė į dvasinį pasaulį ir plačiausiai paskelbė ir tebeskelbia jį žemėje.

Pasaulio istorijoje netrūksta garsių ir garbingų vadų, karalių ir kunigaikščių, kurie ten pateko fizinės kovos ginklo, kalavijo pagalba. Kryžius ir kalavijai tai du kovos simboliai. Pirmasis vaizduoja dvasinį didvyriškumą, kai didvyris savo gyvenimą įamžina nemirštančia didybe per meilę ir šventą gyvenimą. Antrasis vaizduoja fizinę jėgą, kuri žmogui suteikia garbę per kraują ir kančią. Visi Lietuvos garsieji vadai dažniausiai buvo pasirinkę antrąjį kovos simbolį. Tik tai vienintelis kunigaikštis, Algirdo anūko sūnus Kazimieras, silpnos sveikatos jaunikaitis, palinko prie pirmojo simbolio, kuris jį nuvedė į pačią aukščiausią garbę ir nemirštančią didybę. Kazimieras irgi buvo auklėjamas kariu. Nesvetimas jam buvo ir kalavijas, karinis mokslas, to meto riterio išdidumas, praklinumas ir tenkanti tam luomui garbė. Dvaras ir karinė aplinka supo kunigaikštį. Jam pačiam teko matyti riterių kovos, mankštos ir jų garbės. Šiandieną mes galime visai spėlioti, kviesti senovės liūdinikus, istorikus ir jų klausti, kas kunigaikštį paskatino imtis kryžiaus ginklo? Jie suras daugybę priežasčių, aplinkybių. Bet tikrą atsakymą galėtų duoti tik pats šventasis ir Dievas. Jis bus jau gimdamas atsinešęs savo paskyrimą, darbą ir skirtingą kovos simbolį. Trumpas gyvenimas žemėje leido jam išgarsėti per kryžių ir meilę savo artimui, įkvėpta dangiškoji dvasia po jo mirties darė stebuklus, kurie jam suteikė

dangaus šventųjų bendruomenėj vietą. Per kryžiaus ginklą Kazimieras užsitarnavo amžiną šventojo vainiką ir suteikė savo kraštui nemirštančią garbę.

Šv. Kazimieras mirė 1484 m. kovo 4 d. Gardine. Gyvendamas žemėje, jis nepasižymėjo garsu. Bet jam mirus jo garsas ėmė kilti, augti ir plėtotis į visas puses. Čia jis žmonėms suteikia daug malonių, kurie lanko jo karstą ir prašo. Kaip karys jis suteikdavo Lietuvos kariams milžinų jėgos. Viena legenda sako, kad 1518 m. prie Dauguvos rusai sutelkė labai didelę kariuomenę ir ruošėsi užimti Polocką. Miesto įgulai atskubėjo padėti silpnos Lietuvos karinės jėgos. Karių ūpas ir kautynių moralė buvo silpna. Bet netikėtai pasirodė šv. Kazimieras debesyse ant balto žirgo Iškelęs kardą, paženklinatą vyties ženklą, jis perveda lietuvius per Dauguvos upę; jo dvasinės jėgos sustiprinti lietuviai kariai stoja į mūšį ir laimi kautynes. Padavimai iki šiandien kalba, kad šv. Kazimiero pulkai tebemiega Lietuvos piliakalniuose ir jie sunkiausią Lietuvai valandą pabus ir visus krašto priešus išvaikys. Ši dvasinė šv. Kazimiero stiprybė suteikia mums jėgų šiandien vesti sunkią ir nelygią kovą už Lietuvos laisvę. 1918 metų Nepriklausomybės Atstatymo Aktą mūsų kariai-savanoriai ir pašauktieji apgynė ir parnešė Lietuvai nepriklausomybę, stiprinami ne tik senovės Lietuvos istorinės galybės, didybės, bet ir šv. Kazimiero dangiškosios dvasios sustiprinti ir įkvėpti. Minėdami šv. Kazimiero 500 metų sukaktį, turime labai dažnai kreiptis į savo šventąjį, Lietuvos valstybės globėją, užtarėją ir prašyti jo pagalbos, užtarimo kovą sėkmingai vesti.

— KARYS



ŠVENTAJAM KAZIMIERUI

*Šventas garbingas Lietuvos Vyre,
Jaunystės kovą Dievui paskyręs!
Išmelsk malonės kovot didvyriais
Už Dievo tiesą, už širdį tyrą.*

*Šventas, šlovingas Tautos globėjau
Žiedu pražydęs baltos lelijos!
Marijos žemei giesmę sudėjai —
Žadink jos garbę mūsų širdyje.*

*Šventas, o šventas Vytauto aini,
Vilniaus altoriuj sostą atradęs!
Šviesiausios viltys tavy sueina,
Kovoj už Dievą būk mūsų vadas.*

St. Yla

LITHUANIA — THE LAND OF MARY

Anna Klizas Wargo

Lithuania was the last European nation to accept Christianity. Her people honored and showed their devotion to the Blessed Mother of God from the earliest days. She became the refuge and strength of the Lithuanian peasant.

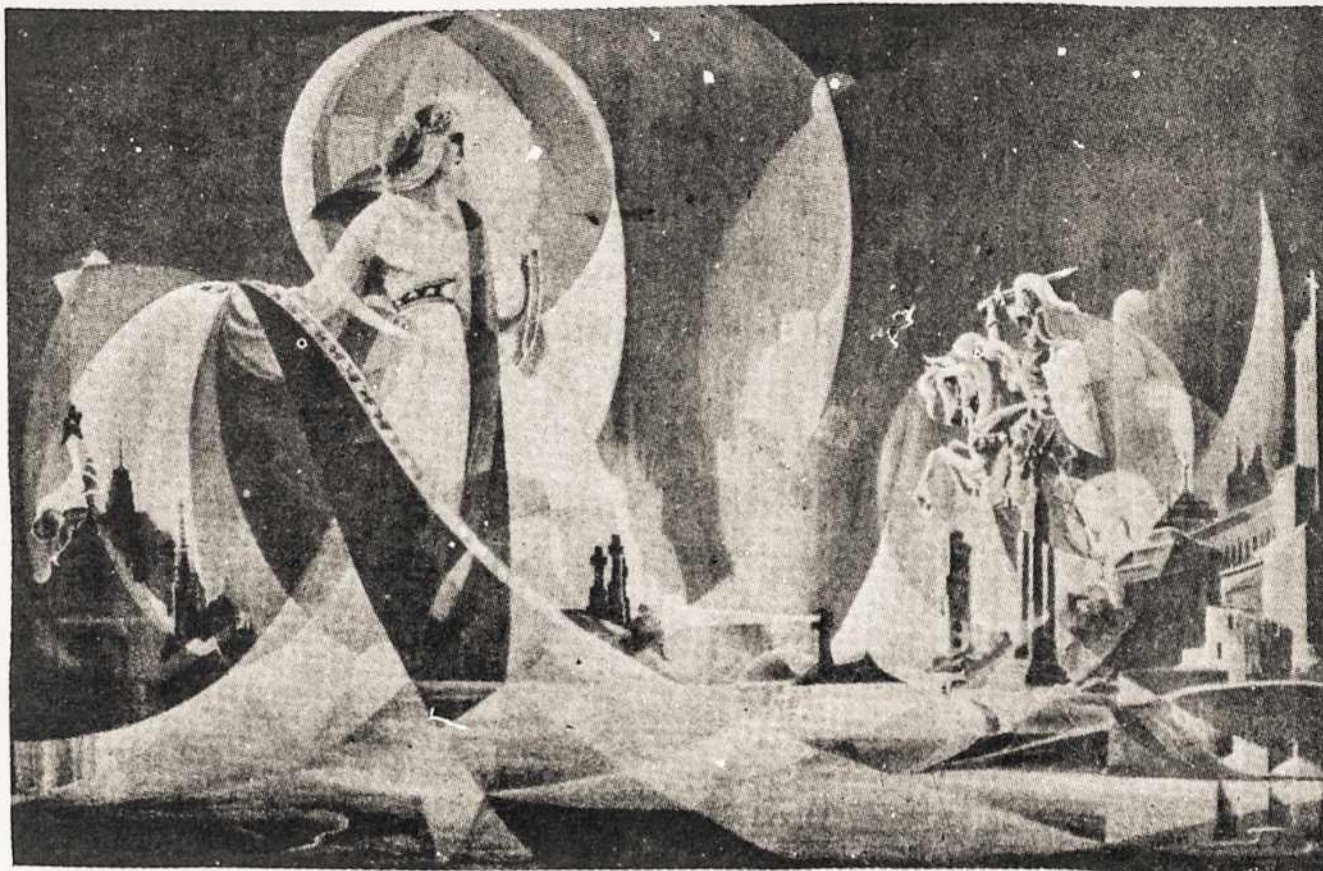
Soon after the country's baptism, Vytautas the Great erected twenty six churches for his subjects to worship in and fourteen of these churches chose Mary as their patroness. The people had deep devotion to Mary.

Every Sunday many churches had devotions to the Blessed Virgin before or after Mass. The early arrivals would sing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary. After Mass a Karunka (Crown of Prayers) devoted to her sorrows and joys were sung.

During the Month of May, the beloved May devotions were held. These consisted of praying the Rosary, reciting her litany and singing hymns in her honor. Those who lived a distance from the church would gather around the village Wayside Crosses and Shrines in the evening and there pray their devotions to Mary. They sang many beautiful hymns to Mary especially the beloved "Marija, Marija."

In October the rosary was recited daily, followed by the litany and again the singing of hymns in her honor. Neither cold nor hot weather kept the faithful from visiting her various shrines, of which sixteen were canonically recognized as miraculous by the Church.

Through out the years, Lithuanians have experienced very many disasters; foreign occupations, atrocities, enforced serfdom all of whom they associated with the Sorrowful Mother and the Pensive Christ (Rūpintojėlis) in their wood



carvings and shrines. Their deep love and devotion has sustained them in all these terrible times.

Lithuania was dedicated to Mary on two different occasions. The first time, Lithuania was dedicated to Mary together with Poland under the reign of King Jonn Kazimer on April 1, 1656. The second time was in Rome on May 13, 1951 when the Lithuanian Bishops gathered to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Lithuanian Province. Together they offered the country up and put it under the protection of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This dedication was repeated in almost all the Lithuanian parishes in the world when a travelling Madonna visited each parish.

The devotion to Mary was recognized by Pope Pius XI, who called it the land of Mary (Terra Marina).

During the course of time our Blessed Mother has shown her people that she appreciates their unswerving devotion. She has showered them with gifts and miraculous cures at the shrines of Žemaičių Kalvarija and the

miraculous picture of the Blessed Virgin at the shrine of Pažaislis. Her miraculous picture at Aušros Vartai — Gates of Dawn in Vilnius is still venerated by all Lithuanians. She appeared in Lithuania in the summer of 1608 at Šiluva.

Lithuanians in the United States erected a beautiful shrine to Our Lady of Šiluva in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Thousands of American Lithuanians have prayed at this shrine for the freedom of their ancestral home.

In these dark days of Lithuanian oppression, her people still flock to these shrines. They still have deep devotion to Mary, the Blessed Mother of God. With them we pray the famous prayer book written in Siberia, „Marija, Gelbėk Mus”, Mary, Save us. We sing the beautiful “Marija, Marija” and the favorite song of St. Casimir, “Daily, Daily Sing to Mary.”

During this month of May let us pray to Mary that one day our brothers and sisters will be able to pray to her freely and without fear. “Marija, Gelbėk Mus.”

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71st NATIONAL CONVENTION

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thru AUGUST 26th
1984**

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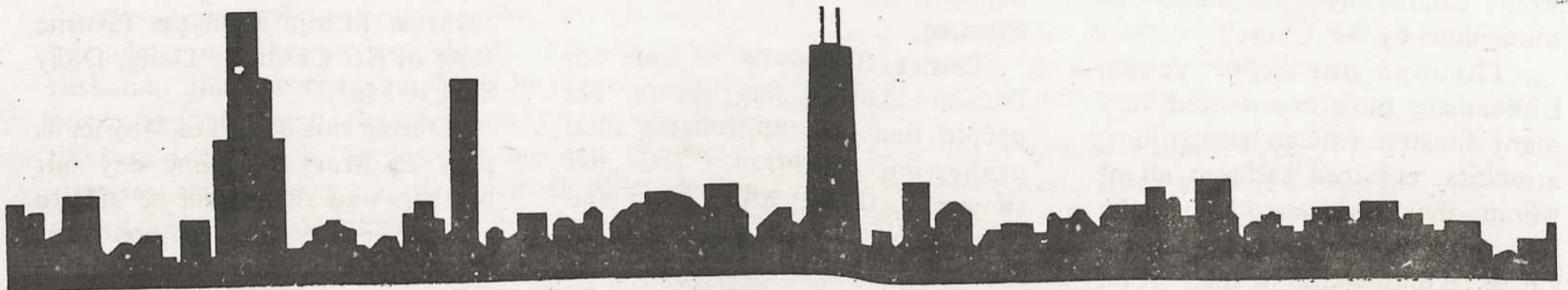
KODEL NE!

**YOUR HOSTS
COUNCIL 36
BRIGHTON PARK
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ILLINOIS**



Co-Chairmen:

**Mary F. Kincius
John L. Paukstis**



Hi, I'm Chicago.

Anxiously awaiting your arrival — there's so much to show you. Shop or just browse on State Street "That Great Street". You'll find Marshall Field's, Carson Pirie Scott, Chas. A. Stevens, Baskins, and Lyttons, to name just a few.

Then up to North Michigan Avenue, "The Magnificent Mile", where Neiman-Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue and Bonwit Teller await you. Don't miss Water Tower Place — an experience you'll never forget — Lord & Taylor, Marshall Field's, Chas. A. Stevens, and much more.

After shopping, what could be more appealing than dining in one of Chicago's fabulous restaurants.

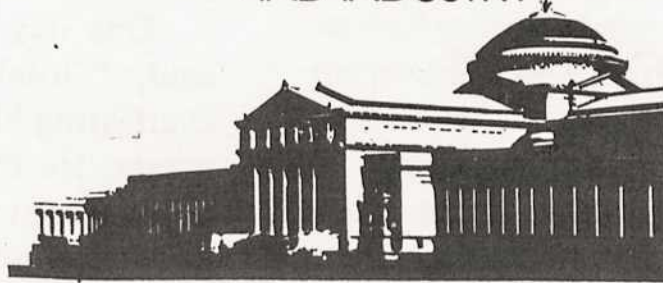
For a magnificent view of the city, try the 95th Restaurant at the top of the John Hancock Center, or Don Roth's River Plaza, Truffles in the Hyatt Regency, La Strada Ristorante on N. Michigan Ave., The Blackhawk on Wabash, Trader Vic's in the Palmer House, the Italian Village on Monroe St., or George Diamond's Steak House on S. Wabash. This is just a small sample of Chicago's many fine dining establishments. All are easily accessible from the hotel by walking or a short bus ride.



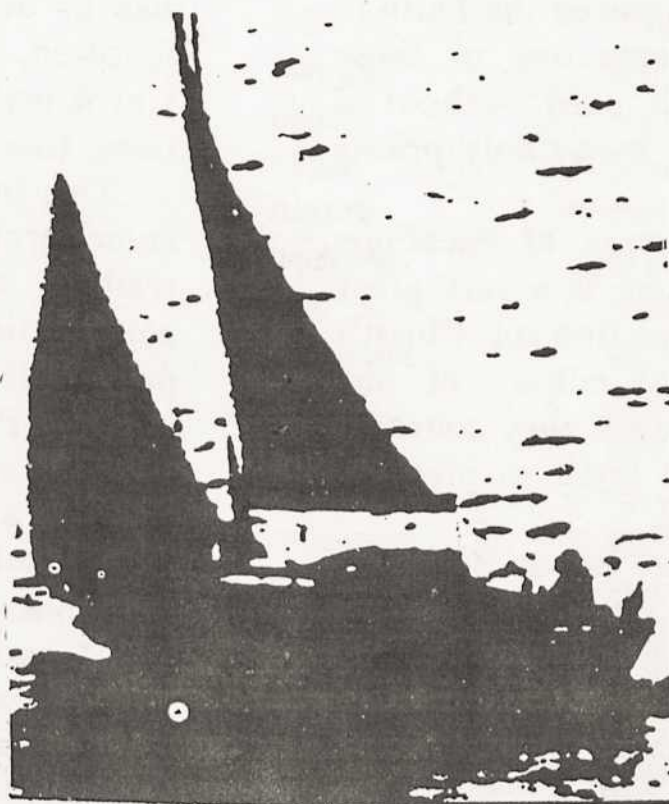
Stroll through Grant Park, right across the avenue from the hotel, and view Chicago's magnificent Buckingham Fountain — spectacular at night. Grant Park offers some outstanding lakefront concerts during the summer at the Petrillo Music Shell.



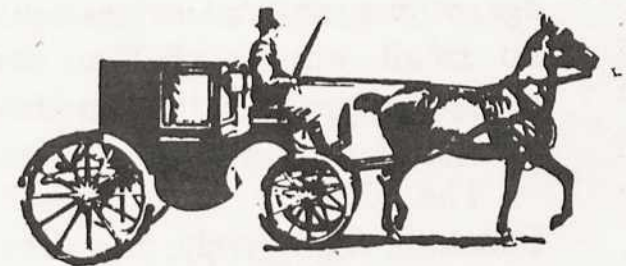
MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY



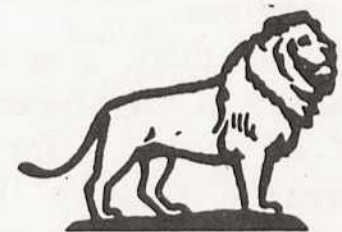
Take time to tour the Cultural Center, Art Institute, Field Museum of Natural History, Shedd Aquarium, Adler Planetarium, and the Museum of Science and Industry, all on the lakefront.



Lincoln Park Zoo is a favorite attraction within easy reach. How about a sightseeing boat tour of the lake and river, or, an old-fashioned horse and buggy ride through the city?



On Sundays and holidays, Chicago has a Culture Bus taking in some of the major museums and cultural and architectural attractions. All trips begin and end at the Art Institute.



THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

one of the nation's leading art museums

Chicago is ready to entertain you before, during and after the convention. The red carpet will be rolled out for you. Come, and enjoy!

ŠV. KAZIMIERAI, GINK LIETUVĄ NUO PRIEŠŲ!

Lietuvos Prisiminimų iškilus vakaras įvyko Vas. 5 Martinių puošnioj salėje, Chicagoje. Tai 23 toks Lietuvos Vyčių rengiamas bankietas, kuriame vis pagerbiami nauji selezantai ar organizacijos. Šiomet, švenčiant 500 metų nuo šv. Kazimiero mirties sukaktį, buvo pagerbtos seselės Kazimierietės, kurios jau 75 metai kaip veikia.

Salė pilna žmonių, ateina garbės svečių visa eilė, Illinois Ind. apskr. pirm. A. Brazio pakviesti, suskamba Amerikos ir Lietuvos Himnai, solo padedant Mary Juzėnaitei. Kun. Zakaruskas veda vikriai programą, Jo Eks. Vysk. Brizgys

skaito invokacija ir prasideda vakariene. Po jos, įvyksta garbės svečių pristatymas. Yra ir iš toli kaip p. Loreta Stukas, vyčių pirmininkė, iš Bostono ir kitų miestų, nes šeštadienį vyko Vyriausios Valdybos suskridimas. Gen. Kon. J. Daužvardienė savo žodyje sveikino Lietuvos Vyčius ir jų svečius salėje susirinkusius, priminė šv. Kazimiero kovas ir Lietuvos nelaimę. Konsulė kalbėjo ir angliškai, nes salėje buvo daugiau kaip pusė svečių nesuprantančių lietuviškai, daugumas čia gimę ir užaugę. Kalbėjo dr. Žimaitis ALTo vardu, L. Stukas vyčių, ses. M. Joaella, Marija Rudienė ir Irena Sankus įteikė seselei pagerbimo atžymėjimą. Svečių tarpe buvo daug bankierių, politikierių. Buvo perskaitytas sen. Frank Savicko rezolucija šv. Kazimierui atžymėti.

Meninėje dalyje kelias dainas išpildė sol. Al Brazis, pritariant akomponiatoriui Robertui-Mockui. Graudingą užbaigą — benedikciją perskaitė kun. Urbonas iš East Chicago. Jo paskutiniai žodžiai: Šv. Kazimierai, gink Lietuvą nuo priešų, tegu Lietuva būna laisva, tavo palaikai sugrįžta iš šv. Petro ir Povilo bažnyčios į Vilniaus katedrą, kurioj tu buvai palaidotas, o dabar pavergėjų išniekinta.

Linksmam „Aido“ orkestrui grojant, publika ilgai dar šoko ir svečiai dalinosi įspūdžiais. Nuotaiingas vakaras ėjo prie galo ir dėka veiklaus komiteto, visi dėkodami už darbą, linkėjo ateinančiais metais vėl susitikti „Lietuvos Atsiminimų“ bankete.

Balys Brazdžionis

THE FORGOTTEN VOCATION

We are living in a highly technical and sophisticated age, where material values outweigh the spiritual. It is no small wonder that so few respond to Christ's invitation to serve Him in the priesthood or religious life.

The Church is universal and for all people. Speaking figuratively, it is like a huge tree which has grown and branched out over the two thousand years. It branched out into various lands, cultures all over the world.

When the Lithuanian people embraced the Faith in the early Middle Ages, they became one of those branches. How could the Church exist without a priesthood, and so, Lithuania gave many holy priests and religious.

Today there is a cry for shortage of vocations especially in the United States. There is a very great need of vocations for this tiny portion of Christ's Church to preserve the Faith and culture of our Lithuanian ancestors. Through the ages, they courageously fought and gave their lives in order to preserve their heritage for future generations.

Christ extends the invitation today just as He did to Peter and Andrew and others. They valued His invitation. They left their fishing boats and everything they had to follow Him.

Remember the story from the Gospel about the rich young man?

One day a rich young man approached Christ and said, "Good Master, what must I do to share in everlasting life?" Christ told him to keep the Commandments. He replied, "I have kept all these since I was a boy." Christ then told him to sell what he had and give it to the poor and come follow Him. This was his invitation. When the young man heard this, he became very sad for he had some possessions. He probably had a good position, maybe owned a house, and a few other possessions of his day. It was too much for him to give up, and so he walked away. Who knows? He may have become one of Christ's apostles and did great things for the early Church. An invitation is freely given and it has to be freely accepted. No force or bargaining is involved. This young man could have been of any age. Christ invites the young and sometimes the little older ones, too.

This invitation may come in various ways. It may come through other people, a talk with a priest, friend, reading, a sermon, a line from the Scriptures, a conversation with a sister who may be working in your parish, etc. If the thought ever comes to you, don't just let it be. Pray over it, get information by sending away for some vocational literature, do something. If it is not for you, at least you have learned something about it. You will be so much the richer in knowledge about vocations. Perhaps you will be able to help others.

We wonder what will become of our Lithuanian parishes, schools, institutions, etc. The problem is not with Christ or the Church; it is with us.

K. of L'er



LANGUAGE LORE



THE LITHUANIAN VERB

Algirdas Budreckis

In Lithuanian there are three conjugations of verbs (veiksmazodziai). These conjugations are determined by the last letter of the verbal form taken by the third person (singular and plural number) in the present tense. The first conjugation ends in an „a,” the second in „i,” and the third takes the ending „o.”

Let us consider the first conjugation. There are six forms in each tense which reflect the verb form taken by aš (I), tu (thou), jis/ ji (he/ she), mes (we), jūs (you), and jie/ jos (they). As an example, we take two basic verbs: kalbėti (to speak) and veikti (to do).

The Present Tense

	Singular	
(aš)	kalbu	veikiu.
(tu)	kalbi	veiki
(jis)	kalba	veikia
	Plural	
(mes)	kalbame	veikiame
(jūs)	kalbate	veikiate
(jie)	kalba	veikia

The Past Tense

	Singular	
(aš)	kalbėjau	veikiau
(tu)	kalbėjai	veikei
(jis)	kalbėjo	veikė
	Plural	
(mes)	kalbėjome	veikėme
(jūs)	kalbėjote	veikėte
(jie)	kalbėjo	veikė

Frequentative Past Tense

	Singular	
	kalbėdavau	veikdavau
	kalbėdavai	veikdavai
	kalbėdavo	veikdavo
	Plural	
	kalbėdavome	veikdavome
	kalbėdavote	veikdavote
	kalbėdavo	veikdavo

Future Tense

	Singular	
	kalbėsiu	veiksiu
	kalbėsi	veiksi
	kalbės	veiks

Plural

kalbėsime
kalbėsite
kalbės

veiksime
veiksite
veiks

You will note that there are two kinds of verbs of the first conjugation. Some have a hard consonant before the ending (kalbu), the others take a soft consonant by inserting an „i” between the consonant and end vowel (veikiu). The first person (I) of the present tense has the ending „u,” the second person (thou) „i,” and the third person (he, she, it) „a”. The plural number is formed by taking the third person plural (they) which has the same form as the third person singular and adding -me to the first person plural (we) and -te to the second person plural (you). The first person of the Past Tense has the ending -au, and the second -ai and -ei (if a consonant before the ending is soft), the third person o or e. The first and second person of the plural number are formed by adding the same endings as in the present tense to the third person form.

The Frequentative Past Tense and the Future Tense are made of the infinitive by adding their endings to its stem, as: veik-ti — veik-davau, veik-siu.


Below you will find the third person (the singular and plural is the same) conjugation of basic verbs in their four tenses.

English	Infinitive	Present
accept	priimti	priima
approve	pagirti	pagiria
arrive	atvykti	atvyksta
ask	klausti	klausia
awake	nubusti	nubunda
beat	mušti	muša
begin	pradėti	pradeda
blame	kaltinti	kaltina
borrow	skolinti	skolina
buy	pirkti	perka
calculate	skaičiuoti	skaičiuoja
call	šaukti	šaukia
carry	nešti	neša
consent	sutikti	sutinka
continue	tęsti	tęsia
cook	virti	viria
cover	apdengti	apdengia
dance	šokti	šoka
deny	neigti	neigia
hate	nekęsti	nekenčia
hide	slėpti	slepia
honor	gerbti	gerbia

imagine	įsivaizduoti	įsivaizduoja	garbino	garbindavo	garbins
imitate	pamėgdžioti	pamėgdžioja	išvyko	išvykdavo	išvyks
insult	įžeisti	įžeidžia	nužengė	nužengdavo	nužengs
joke	juokauti	juokauja	English	Infinitive	Present
jump	šokinėti	šokinėja	die	mirti	miršta
laugh	juoktis	juokiasi	dine	pietauti	pietauja
lend	paskolinti	paskolina	dream	sapnuoti	sapnuoja
live	gyventi	gyvena	dress	apsirengti	apsirengia
lose	pamesti	pameta	drink	gerti	geria
meet	susitikti	susitinka	embrace	apkabinti	apkabina
offend	užgauti	užgauna	esteem	gerbti	gerbia
pay	užmokėti	užmoka	exclaim	sušukti	sušunka
play	žaisti	žaidžia	fall	kristi	krenta
praise	garbinti	garbina	feel	jausti	jaučia
depart	išvykti	išvyksta	find	rasti	randa
descend	nužengti	nužengia	finish	baigti	baigia
Past	Past	Future	flatter	meilikauti	meilikauja
	Frequentative		follow	sekti	seka
priėmė	priimdavo	priims	forget	užmiršti	užmiršta
pagyrė	pagirdavo	pagirs	give	duoti	duoda
atvyko	atvykdavo	atvyks	go	eiti	eina
klausė	klausdavo	klaus	grow	augti	auga
nubudo	nubusdavo	nubus	punish	nubausti	nubaudžia
mušė	mušdavo	muš	quarrel	bartis	bariasi
pradėjo	pradėdavo	pradės	receive	gauti	gauna
kaltino	kaltindavo	kaltins	rejoice	džiaugtis	džiaugiasi
skolino	skolindavo	skolins	remember	atsiminti	atsimena
pirko	pirkdavo	pirks	repeat	pakartoti	pakartoja
skaičiavo	skaičiuodavo	skaičiuos	return	sugrįžti	sugrįžta
šaukė	šaukdavo	šauks	roast	kepti	kepa
nešė	nešdavo	neš	run	bėgti	bėga
sutiko	sutikdavo	sutiks	sell	parduoti	parduoda
tęsė	tęsavo	tęs	send	siųsti	siunčia
virė	viravo	virs	sing	dainuoti	dainuoja
apdengė	apdengdavo	apdengs	sleep	miegoti	miega
šoko	šokdavo	šoks	sow	sėti	sėja
neigė	neigdavo	neigs	steal	vogti	vagia
nekętė	nekęsdavo	nekęs	supper	vakarienauti	vakarienauja
slėpė	slėpdavo	slėps	supply	teikti	teikia
gerbė	gerbdavo	gerbs	surprise	nustebinti	nustebina
įsivaizdavo	įsivaizduodavo	įsivaizduos	swear	prisiėkti	prisiėkia
pamėgdžiojo	pamėgdžiodavo	pamėgdžios	take	imti	ima
įžeidė	įžeisdavo	įžeis	talk	kalbėti	kalba
juokavo	juokaudavo	juokaus	taste	ragauti	ragauja
šokinėjo	šokinėdavo	šokinės	thank	dėkoti	dėkoja
juokė	juokdavosi	juoksis	throw	mesti	meta
			translate	versti	verčia
paskolino	paskolindavo	paskolins	travel	keliauti	keliauja
gyveno	gyvendavo	gyvens	wash	plauti	plauna
pametė	pamesdavo	pames	weep	verkti	verkia
susitiko	susitikdavo	susitiks	work	dirbti	dirba
užgavo	užgavo	užgaus	Past	Past	Future
užmokėjo	užmokėdavo	užmokės	mirė	Frequentative	
žaidė	žaisdavo	žais		mirdavo	mirš

pietavo	pietaudavo	pietaus	bėgo	bėgdavo	bėgs
sapnavo	sapnuodavo	sapnuos	pardavė	parduodavo	parduos
apsirengė	apsirengdavo	apsirengs	siuntė	siųsdavo	siųs
gėrė	gerdavo	gers	dainavo	dainuodavo	dainuos
apkabino	apkabindavo	apkabins	miegojo	miegodavo	miegos
gerbė	gerbdavo	gerbs	sėjo	sėdavo	sės
sušuko	sušukdavo	sušuks	vogė	vogdavo	vogs
krito	krisdavo	kris	vakarieniavo	vakarieniaudavo	vakarienias
jautė	jausdavo	jaus	teikė	tėkdavo	teiks
rado	rasdavo	ras	nustebino	nustebindavo	nustebins
baigė	baigdavo	baigs	prisiekė	prisiekdavo	prisieks
meilikavo	meilikaudavo	meilikaus	ėmė	imdavo	ims
sekė	sekdavo	seks	kalbėjo	kalbėdavo	kalbės
užmiršdavo	užmirš		ragavo	ragaudavo	ragaus
davė	duodavo	duos	dėkojo	dėkodavo	dėkos
ėjo	eidavo	eis	metė	mesdavo	mes
augo	augdavo	augš	vertė	versdavo	vers
nubaudė	nubausdavo	nubaus	keliavo	keliaudavo	keliaus
barėsi	bardavosi	barsis	plovė	plaudavo	plaus
gavo	gaudavo	gaus	verkė	verkdavo	verks
džiaugėsi	džiaugdavosi	džiaugsis	dirbo	dirbdavo	dirbs
atsiminė	atsimindavo	atsimins			
pakartėjo	pakartodavo	pakartos			
sugrįžo	sugrįždavo	sugrįš			
kepė	kepdavo	keps			

To reader: For a better understanding of the tenses in Lithuanian, please refer back to the article on the verb TO BE.



IN MEMORIAM
Please remember in
your prayers...

PETRONELLA WITT

Member of C-116
Worcester, MA
Died on November 22, 1983

VERONICA KOWALONEC

Member of C-146
Harrisburg, PA

EDWARD RIMELIS

Member of C-29
Manahawkin, N.J.
Died on March 3, 1984

FELIX ZALESKAS

Member of C-12
Boston, MA
Died on March 8, 1984

ISABEL DeWITT

Member of C-46
Forset City, PA
Died on March 9, 1984

Professor JUOZAS ERETAS

HONORARY MEMBER
Switzerland
Died on March 13, 1984

FELIX G. (PHIL) CARTER

Member of C-17
Boston, MA
Died on March 24, 1984

AMELIA ELSEIKA

Member of C-29
Newark, NJ
Died on March 25, 1984



REPRINT FROM CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA No. 57

FATHER ALFONSAS SVARINSKAS

Father Alfonsas Svarinskas was born January 21, 1925, in the District of Ukmergė, County of Deltuva, the Village of Kadrenai. He attended Vidiškiai Primary School and Deltuva Pro-Gymnasium. He entered Ukmergė Normal School, but did not finish, because he did not like it. In 1943, he enrolled in the first year of lyceum (three years to the first year of philosophy). However, he was unable to finish the seminary. On December 31, 1946, he was arrested, cruelly interrogated, and later was imprisoned in special camps where he worked for a long time as a paramedic. For work, Alfonsas Svarinskas was assigned to the most critical patients, but here, too, with his constant smile, he was able to find something to talk about with the hopeless cases.

He knew each one, who needed what, who was hurting, and he came hurrying with his effective assistance. He had an unusual talent for getting along with people. For his ability to share what he had and what he received, he was highly respected. In camp, he liked to associate with the erudite of all specialties, and so he obtained an unusual diploma from life. He became like a small walking encyclopedia. From early morning on (often after a conscientious night on duty), until late at night, Alfonsas Svarinskas used to be wherever anyone needed a helping hand, an encouraging word or advice. As one who was not petty and did not find fault, he was loved by all, even the thieves. When they cooked cereal, they would invite him, and they were happy to have him in their midst. On questions of principle, Alfonsas Svarinskas showed himself unbending. In the letter to his parents written November 17, 1948, from the Inta Camp, he wrote:

*"If I should die, o my homeland, please know,
That I died for freedom with a song . . .
And at my graveside please, do not mourn me,
Do not mourn, do not mourn, Mother dearest.*

After the death of Stalin, when the administration "remembered" prisoners' rights, Alfonsas Svarinskas began to demand that the well-advertised freedom of religion, till then proclaimed only on paper, be implemented in practice; all the prisoners then felt Father Alfonsas Svarinskas' unusual course. On October 4, 1954, in Abežė, in camp, having prepared and having demonstrated his spiritual maturity through painful trials, Alfonsas Svarinskas was ordained to the



Father Alfonsas Svarinskas

priesthood by Bishop Ramanauskas.

In 1956, after his release, Father Svarinskas returned to Lithuania. Some of the sticklers refused to accept the priest from the camps, but in his own words, there was also no lack of real Christians who accepted the new confrere into their family. To satisfy both the one and the other, Father Svarinskas was assigned to Kulautuva as Associate Pastor. Here he performed his duties as associate pastor conscientiously, working hard to restore the church's environment. He carried on a broad apostolate. The ample personal library of Father Svarinskas lured vacationers of various nationalities (at that time, there was an all-republic sanitarium in Kulautuva).

Seeing the young priest working around church, greeted by him pleasantly, the school children, many of whom had the Communist Youth emblem pinned on them under duress, would take a shovel or a rag for washing floors, and proceeded to help the associate pastor.

In the evening, the young people would gather in his room to talk. There developed a sincere uplifting and strengthening friendship which left an idelible impression for long years. This kind of activity on the part of Svarinskas did not please the government, but they hesitated to arrest him in Kulautuva, where everyone knew him well, and were closely bound to him, so in 1958, they transferred him to the large parish of Betygala.

Serving as Associate Pastor in Betygala, he began to go to the people, looking for souls. Following is a small example of how the priest tried to win people to God.

One time Father Alfonsas Svarinskas stopped by to see a parishioner and asked why he had not been to church. The latter explained that, not having a clock, he overslept. Quickly, the associate pastor brought a clock and gave it to him, so that he would never oversleep Mass again.

He served in Betygala barely two months. The faithful still remember how they arrested Father Svarinskas and seated him on a sleigh between two armed men. The horses unexpectedly shied, and threw one of those who had been sitting next to the priest, but the prisoner suddenly seized the militiaman and kept him from spilling out. The parishioners were surprised at the priest's beautiful love for his enemies.

The accused Father Svarinskas of anti-Soviet activity. There were supposed to be three witnesses, but two refused, and only the Secretary of the Kaunas Communist Youth Organization, (Miss) Malinauskaitė, was left. During the trial, she testified that the priest in the Kulautuva church to which she had gone, spoke during the sermon against the government, although in reality, that day there was no sermon at all, and only the gospel was read. (Miss) Malinauskaitė convinced the court that she was in the right. The court sentenced him to six years in camp.

After the decision, his mother and relatives got to speak with the prisoner, who was especially happy as though he were at the best banquet. The scene of his apostolate changed to a prison cell, interrogator's office and camp barracks. He won respect even here. The guard being relieved told the new man on the corridor, "Here in the isolation cell is a priest. Don't bother him. He's always praying."

Once when the interrogation was prolonged, Father Svarinskas told the interrogator that it was time for him to pray, and a few days later, at the same hour, the interrogator himself suggested, "And now, it seems, it is time for you to pray."

At one time, the camp administration decided to limit the scope of his apostolate, and locked him up in a small area intended for especially dangerous individuals who could have a "negative influence" on the other prisoners. Here, Father Svarinskas met a number of zealous priests, among them, the Ukrainian Uniate Archbishop, Josyp Slipyj, later to be elevated to the rank of cardinal.

Once the camp commandant asked Father Svarinskas, "Alfonsas, pray for me. It is very difficult for me at the present time."

"I always pray for you, Commandant," answered Father Svarinskas, "only, if till now I used to pray for you as an enemy, from today on, I will pray for you as a friend."

In 1964, Father Alfonsas Svarinskas was released and began to work in a small parish in Dzukija, in Miroslavas,

In 1971, he was assigned as pastor to the parish in Igliauka. Even though barely a few women came to Mass daily, in church, all the candles used to be lit, and the priest celebrated devotions with such care, one would think the church was full of people.

In 1970-71, in Lithuania, the following priests were tried for teaching children catechism: Antanas Šeškevičius, Juozas Zdebskis and Prosperas Bubnys; the atheists were triumphant. Even then, the bold words of Father Svarinskas could be heard. The faithful solemnly welcomed the priests returning from prison in the church of Igliauka. More and more young people began to gather around the altar. The KGB was fuming. A whole brigade of investigators came and accused Father Svarinskas of producing the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, "according to our information, you publish the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*," the chekists attacked him.

"And where is your proof?" asked Father Svarinskas.

"For the time being, that's a secret of our operating section," the KGB agents replied.

"So when you don't have to conceal it, then we'll talk," Father Svarinskas soothed the chekist.

The interrogation ended with strict orders not to say a word about it to anyone. Nevertheless, Father Svarinskas was unbending and straightforward: "Everyone accused has the right to defend himself. Today the whole parish will know who came to Igliauka, and for what purpose," Father Svarinskas promised the chekists. During evening devotions, the pastor openly told the faithful about the KGB's intentions. The reaction was sudden. Everyone leaped to the defense of the pastor, the best each one knew how. The next day, there were no KGB agents in Igliauka . . . however, the concern, how to get rid of the zealous priest, lingered on.

In 1976, Father Svarinskas was appointed to the large parish of Viduklė, so that pastoral work would drain all his energies and time; the church needed immediate capital improvements. Seven years later, everyone from Viduklė, no matter where they live, is proud of its famous parish. In Viduklė, as elsewhere, at the behest of Father Alfonsas Svarinskas, the martyrs of Lithuania were once again greeted solemnly and warmly on their return to Lithuania after twenty-three or thirty-five years of imprisonment . . .

"The KGB is itching to get rid of me, but what can they do? Shut me up in prison? Priests are needed there, also. Hang me? I would be closer to heaven. Most of all, we need martyrs. Ideals people die for do not die," Father Svarinskas said when he was free.

Father Alfonsas Svarinskas is a brave beacon of self-sacrifice, shining from the center of Lithuania to his whole beloved homeland.

NEWS FROM AN UNDERGROUND PAPER OF LITHUANIA

By Fr. Joseph Prunskis

The communist dictatorship is a source of new restrictions for believers. In 1983 the chancery offices of the bishops in Lithuania received instructions that it is forbidden to collect signatures under petitions or protests near churches.

In November, 1983, there was a trial of Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius, a member of the Committee for the Defense of the Rights of Believers. Officially the court session was open to the public, however, people who wanted to be present in the courthouse were detained, arrested, even fined. Bronė Valaityte and Janina Judikevičiute were taken to the police headquarters and each punished with 10 days of detention and locked into very dirty premises. They had to sleep on the floor without any bedding, without any blankets to cover themselves.

Information about the severe oppression of believers is known from the underground paper, "The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania", of which the 61st issue has reached the free world.

In this issue the text of a petition to the Attorney General of the U.S.S.R. by three dedicated young Lithuanian girls: Aldona Šukyte, Bronislava Valaityte and Janina Judikevičiute is printed. They offered themselves to accept the punishments given to Rev. Alfonsas Svarinskas and Rev. Sigitas Tamkevičius, two defenders of the rights of believers. They consented to stay in jail and be in exile for 20 years each, providing Fr. Svarinskas and Fr. Tamkevičius would be released. It is surprising that Fr. Tamkevičius, among other "crimes" was accused of having organized a Christmas tree for

children in the enclosure of his church.

The Catholics in Lithuania for more than 40 years do not have any religious press, neither Catholic newspapers nor religious books, printed except for a very scarce printing of prayerbooks — one prayerbook for 10,000 people in the country.

Believers in Lithuania are even forbidden to have processions to the cemeteries or to other churches. They have to pay enormous rent for the use of the churches which they have constructed themselves. Children cannot be taught religion even in churches.

Many Lithuanians are being interrogated by the KGB. When Genovaite Butkuvienė was called to the KGB office in Raseiniai, the red official attacked her — how could she dare to come in with a cross on her neck. Lately the KGB has been confiscating letters sent to prisoners of conscience and to people exiled to the distant regions of the Soviet Union.

Robbery of churches is increasing. On October 7, 1983, intruders robbed two tabernacles of the side altars but were unable to open the tabernacle of the main altar.

In Utena the red militia confiscated holy cards, crucifixes, rosaries from people who were keeping these articles of devotion for persons who wished to buy them on the occasion of confirmation. The red officials have taken these articles by force and have broken, destroyed them before the peoples' eyes.

Believers in other regions of the Soviet Union have the same difficulties. Sophie Bieliak, a 35 year old organist, was condemned to jail for 5 years and to exile for 5 more years because she told people about the appearance of the Blessed Virgin in Fatima.

Especially difficult is the religious situation for German immigrants. There are about one million of them

in the Kazakhstan, Kirghiz, Tadzik and Uzbek Soviet republics. During World War II and immediately thereafter they did not have neither priests nor churches. Later some priests, among them some Lithuanians also, rehabilitated from the camps were permitted to work among these Germans.

Disregarding the severe oppression, the Catholic faith is very much alive in Lithuania.

The secretary of the communist party of Lithuania, P. Griškevičius, on one occasion stated that in Lithuania there are about one and a half thousand secret members of religious communities. He expressed his desire to neutralize them so that they would not have any influence whatsoever.

KGB TORTURED A LITHUANIAN GIRL FOR HER RELIGION

By Fr. Joseph Prunskis

Through secret channels the reminiscences of a Lithuanian girl Nijole Sadunaite, who was tortured by the KGB for her struggle for the rights of believers, reached the United States. She was arrested in 1974 when police during a search, found in her home an issue of the underground "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania" in her typewriter. She was condemned to six years in a slave labor camp.

In her memoirs, recently published by the Lithuanian daily "Draugas," she describes how severe interrogations are carried out in the underground premises of the KGB. In one section there are extremely hot rooms, where a prisoner has to perspire continuously, he is suffocating from lack of air and extreme heat. This kind of torture was used against the Lithuanian prisoners of conscience Rev. Alfonsas Svarinskas and Vladas Lapienis. There are also rooms with extremely cold temperatures where water runs from

walls and where due to the frost a prisoner has joint pains and experiences a feeling as though even his bone marrow has been frozen. Such tortures were used against the Lithuanian prisoners of conscience Genute Navickaite and Onute Vitkauskaite, two Lithuanian girls, fighters for religious freedom.

Prisoners in these sections of Soviet jails suffer from continuous head pains. When they used to lie down they did not have the strength to get up, even to move their hands. Only after an elapse of time were they somehow able to recover.

In her memoirs Nijole Sadunaite says that prisoners of conscience in Soviet jails are kept together with KGB informers, mostly selected from criminals. When the prisoners realized that they are informers and confronted them with this fact, these KGB stooges became especially rude towards the prisoners.

The KGB wards usually are deep underground. In the ceiling only is a small, barred, dirty window. The prisoner could only reach such a window standing on the table and this is strictly forbidden.

After her trial Miss Sadunaite was permitted to have a very short visit with her brother. Before and after she saw her brother she was disrobed and thoroughly searched. Her brother wanted to leave her some food and clothing for her deportation to the slave labor camp in Mordovia, but he was not permitted. Before her deportation she was again disrobed and thoroughly searched.

On her journey to a distant labor camp her only consolation was that she was at last able to see nature after being kept underground for ten months. On the way, when the train stopped for a longer time, she, along with other prisoners, was taken to local jails. They were transported in small motor vehicles, congested, packed with prisoners where they were sweating, suffocating from heat. The wards in the jails were over-

crowded, dirty, full of parasites, rats. In Pskov she was detained in a solitary cell, with a cement floor and seeping wet walls. There was only a metal bed without any bedding. In the floor there was a hole for natural functions. The small window was covered with tin. The food was extremely poor: water and gruel or a piece of very low quality bread, sometimes a small piece of fish, so old that Miss Sadunaite was poisoned several times.

In the Soviet Union there are many women in prisons, some of them as young as 15 years of age. Sadunaite finally was placed in the Potma jail, together with some criminals in one big ward. Instead of beds they had to sleep on some higher sections of the floor. They were plagued by bedbugs. In jail she met Stephany Shabatura, a Ukrainian painter. She was tortured in a solitary cell because she refused to perform forced labor duties.

In jail Sadunaite was forced each day to make 60 pairs of gloves. Those who did not fulfill such a quota were locked into a solitary cell. Later that quota was increased. The prisoners had to make 110 pairs of gloves each day.

The prisoners were not permitted to buy anything with money sent them by their relatives. They could only use those scarce rubles that they were paid by the administration. Among the prisoners was a 74 year old woman. What kind of danger could be posed by such an old political dissident?

When a prisoner died, she was buried with the number of her case fixed on her hand. On the grave the KGB put a stake with the same number. When the administration noticed that prisoners assembled for prayer, immediately they were dispersed. Even sick prisoners who were not able to fulfill their work quota were placed into solitary confinement.

In jail Sadunaite met an Ukrainian girl, Irina Senik. She did not commit any crime, but her father was a military man so the communists killed him and she was beaten, burned, some of her bones broken. She was condemned to 10 years in jail, even though she was very young, not yet 20 years old. When she finished her punishment and returned to the Ukraine, the KGB found some of her poems, describing her sufferings in the concentration camps. For this she was condemned again for 6 years in jail and 5 years of exile.

In the same jail with Sadunaite was a Lithuanian woman Veronika Kodiene. She was ill. The KGB took her from a psychiatric ward and condemned her to 10 years in jail because in their family home a collaborator with the occupational communist forces was shot and she did not denounce the culprit. She knew that if she denounced him, the inhabitants of the entire village would probably be burned alive in their houses. In the same jail was Galina Silivončik, who with her husband and 11 year old son tried to leave the country. Her husband was shot, she was beaten, her teeth knocked out and she was kept in jail.

Miss Sadunaite suffered a heart attack, but even in that instance the KGB did not show any compassion. In the hospital she found that one newborn girl was thrown out to an unheated storeroom to die there.

Nijole Sadunaite was sent alone with 8 criminals to work in a very distant taiga. She would not survive alone among 8 crude men but on the way the local administration took her for other work. She was able to finish her term, returned to her native land — Lithuania. She wrote her memoirs, they were smuggled to the west and published in the U.S.A. She is now in hiding from the KGB in Lithuania. She is very religious, completely dedicated to God.

BALTIC STATES OPPOSE SOVIET NUCLEAR REACTOR, SITING OF SS-20s

The first block of what may be the world's largest nuclear power station, a 6,000 megawatt facility at Ignalina in Northeastern Soviet Lithuania, started operations on Jan. 1, according to the Soviet Lithuanian Communist Party daily Tiesa.

The nuclear reactor has been built under protest from Lithuanian and other Soviet scientists, according to Baltic exile sources. They point out that the facility lacks cooling towers to cool and contain contaminated water from the reactor core. In the event of a malfunction, hot water and radioactivity could be discharged into a nearby lake.

Julius Kadelis, who runs an information clearinghouse on Latvia and the neighboring Baltic states in Munster, West Germany, said that Lithuanian scientists had published demands for further investigation of safety measures at the plant in a limited-circulation Soviet journal.

Official publication of what amounts to a veiled protest against the nuclear facility indicates that the Soviet Union still has not achieved unanimous support for the party line that nuclear power is a natural and progressive development under socialism and that Soviet reactors are absolutely safe.

On a recent visit to Sweden, Mr. Kadelis also disclosed that at least two nuclear-tipped SS-20 missiles have been stationed at two sites in Estonia in the past six months. The timing of the deployment, near the towns of Tapa and Koppu, indicates the missiles were set up during the US-Soviet medium-range arms reduction talks in Geneva that were broken off in December.

The information about SS-20s in Estonia was released as part of a documentation on Soviet weapon and troop deployment in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania presented by Baltic émigré organizations in connection with the opening of the Stockholm Conference on Disarmament and Confidence-Building Measures in Europe.

Based on information from Western and neutral military and intelligence sources as well as reports by recent emigrants and travelers from the Baltic states, the documentation showed that an estimated 174 land-based nuclear delivery systems, including missiles and long-range artillery, are stationed in the Baltic states.

Submarine and naval delivery systems total about 140, although among land- and sea-based weapons, some, such as 203-mm artillery, or the naval SS-9 missile, also have conventional warheads.

The Baltic exile spokesmen stressed that most of the nuclear delivery systems had a range that confined their use to potential targets in Scandinavia.

But military analysts do not conclude that Soviet short- and medium-range missiles in the Baltic states are exclusively or primarily for use against targets in Scandinavia.

A Swiss analysis suggests that much of the Baltic arsenal may be a second echelon of weapons to be used in the event of war in Central Europe. However, that would make the Baltic states a prime target for preemptive or retaliatory strikes by NATO.

The threat brought on the Baltic states by Soviet military concentrations was a major motive for an open letter sent to the West in 1981 by 38 Baltic citizens asking that the three republics be included in any agreement for a Nordic nuclear-free zone.

Several of the signatories of the open letter in Latvia and Estonia have been arrested and sentenced to harsh prison terms in recent months.



With pride and reverence, we pause to remember all the brave men who gave their lives for this country throughout its history. For freedom. For human dignity. For everyone's hopes and dreams and rights. Above all, for peace in the world. We pray that the world will achieve that peace soon.

Memorial Day

THE VYTIS STAFF

THE SEVENTH LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

The Lithuanian Community of USA, jointly with the Canadian Lithuanian Community and the Lithuanian Folk Dance INSTITUTE, IS STAGING THEIR SEVENTH Folk Dance Festival on July 1st, 1984, at the Cleveland Coliseum, a modern, spacious 17,000-seat facility, with ample parking and all necessary accommodations, located in the suburb of Richfield, Ohio, about 1 mile south of Exit 11 (Cleveland interchange) of the Ohio Turnpike I-80, approximately twenty-five miles south of Public Square, the city center of Cleveland.

Some 2,000 dancers, a total of 104 groups, some from overseas, are to perform that Sunday afternoon starting at 2 p.m. Centrally situated geographically, Cleveland is expected to draw second and third generation Lithuanian crowds from the east, especially from N.Y., Pennsylvania and the New England states.

All of you are asked to arrange your vacation time so that this great festival can be worked into your schedule.

Let's prove that Cleveland is as attractive and ethnically charismatic as Chicago.

Add the customary social gatherings — preceding and following the main event — already being planned, — and you will make it a truly memorable summer weekend together.

See you at the Festival — July 1st.

F. V. Kaunas, M.D., A.B.F.P.
Chairman, Fund Raising Committee,
Seventh Folk Dance Festival
1407 South 49th Court
Cicero, IL 60650
!-312-652-1381

CAMP AUSRA PLANNED FOR ST. MARY'S VILLA, ELMHURST, PA

Plans are readied to accept applications from boys and girls from grades 3 through 8 for a week or two camping experience from July 8th through the 21st at St. Mary's Villa, Elmhurst, PA.

Since interest in ethnic cultural heritage is growing in our country, Sister Angela, C.J.C. who is presently at the Annunciation convent parish in Frackville, PA is co-ordinating a camp experience for non-speaking Lithuanian youth, as well as for those who may know the language, or for any young person who may be interested in broadening his or her knowledge of the culture of another ethnic group.

Besides offering regular camping activities such as participation in a variety of sports, swimming, nature



JULY 1st 1984
At the
COLISEUM
RICHFIELD, OHIO
(Near **CLEVELAND**)
Rt. 271-303

7th

**LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN
FOLK-DANCE FESTIVAL**

Tickets: \$5, 7, 10, 14. Organized by: The Lithuanian-American Communities of the USA and Canada, Inc.
and the Lithuanian Folk Dance Institute

hiking, and the rest, the program will include Lithuanian folk dancing, singing, and instruction in folk art. The weekly fee is \$55.00.

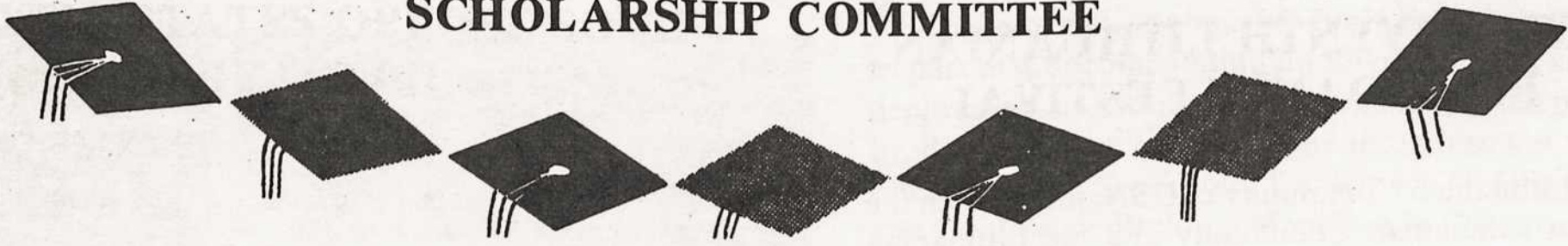
For further information and to make reservations, contact Sister Angela, C.J.C. 25 South Broad Mountain Avenue, Frackville, PA 17931 (Tel. 717-874-0351) before May 30th.

CORRECTION: We humbly apologize for the following omissions in the March issue of Vytis:

On page 16, "St. Casimir, Father of the Poor" was written by Father Juozas Prunskis

On page 21, "The Outstretched Arm - A Legend of Vilnius" was written by Paulius Jurkus

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE



The Scholarship Committee of the Knights of Lithuania is pleased to announce that the 26th Annual Scholarship Awards will be presented at the 71st National Convention in Chicago, Illinois in August of 1984. This year's presentation is significant as it will begin the second quarter century of service to the youth of the Knights of Lithuania.

As you are aware, the scholarship program of the Knights of Lithuania is intended to help worthy and deserving Knights and ladies obtain a college education. The Scholarship Committee will base its decision primarily on K. of L. activity, but will also consider scholastic achievement, financial need, and personal recommendations. If you would, please urge qualified members in your council to apply before the deadline of June 30, 1984.

The Scholarship Committee once again requests all Districts, Councils, and individual members to participate in this most commendable project of the Knights

of Lithuania. The scholarship awards are made possible each year by the generosity of each group, especially individual contributions. Donations can be made by individuals as outright gifts or in memory of (I.M.O.) a deceased K. of L. member, relative, or friend. Acknowledgement cards will be sent to all donors and donations will be acknowledged in the *Vytis*.

The need for the Knights of Lithuania scholarship continues to be great; it could mean the difference between attending or not attending college for a deserving Knight or Lady. Applications for the scholarship are available from me at the address printed in the *Vytis*. (362 not 326). Donations may be sent to either me or Secretary-Treasurer Clemencine Miller, 80 Cottage St., Trumbull, CT 06611. To save the committee postage, it is preferred that donations go directly to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Vytiškai,
William J. Piacentini

OLYMPIC TORCH SUMMER GAMES IN LOS ANGELES JULY 28 TO AUGUST 12

The Winter Olympics are over in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, so the Olympic Torch made its long journey from there to Los Angeles. When it arrived May 8th in New York, the flaming symbol of the original Greek contests was carried across the United States by changing torch bearers every kilometer — six tenths of a mile.

Joggers or runners were selected beforehand by contributions to youth athletic organizations at 3,000 per kilometer. With the cooperation of the American Tel. & Tel. Co., sponsor of the Olympic Torch Relay, each runner received a duplicate of

the torch to commemorate his participation.

To illustrate how Olympic Sport continues around the World, Konnie J. Savickus, former Chief of Ordinance Enforcement in Chicago, was contacted by Frank Lubin from Los Angeles to help promote the run. Lubin was a gold medal winner on the 1936 U.S. Olympic Basketball team as captain and then coached a team in Lithuania so that country won its second European title, whereas Savickus started basketball in Lithuania in 1935 and his team won the first European Championship in 1937. However, in 1940, the War Years, Russia occupied that Baltic state so the athletes there now participate in the Olympics as Russians. Lubin explained he couldn't get his year's salary out of the bank in Kaunas when the

Russians took over — but he was fortunate enough to get out to Los Angeles.

Organizations such as the Family YMCA's and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America will be beneficiaries of the Funds.

Participation in sports is recognized as being one of the important means of eliminating youth gangs. When youngsters participate their energy and enthusiasm is directed to channels which develop both mind and body, which in turn benefits all of society.

Thus far our athletes in Sarajevo did not fare too well in the Winter Olympics. Putting the torch to them across the country may arouse them to greater spirit and energy and victory in the Summer games. We all hope so.

Al Vaitis

**ST. CASIMIR JUBILEE
CELEBRATION
TRANSFIGURATION
CHURCH
MASPETH, N.Y.
MARCH 4, 1984**

Every Jubilee celebration has its moments of great joy, and its remembrances of sadness as well. For some it may mean unfulfilled hopes and broken dreams for the man and woman, who now in their old age can only reminisce about how diligently they fought for an idea; or it may cause pain and anguish to those who have lost a loved one who fought for a good cause. A Jubilee celebration recalls those happier days when men were freer and families were not separated. And at the same time, it may enkindle a spark of hope in a new rising leadership with fresh ideas. And as we look around, we truly witness that hope for a brighter tomorrow in each other, because we are gathered together here to celebrate a great event.

This 500th Anniversary year of the death of St. Casimir, Lithuanians from around the world are saddened by the oppressive events in Lithuania. And surely it is a sign of the sufferings and persecution of the Church in many parts of the world, as in South Africa, El Salvador and especially in Lithuania, that the remains of St. Casimir which were preserved in the Cathedral of Vilnius during many trying times over the centuries, have now, by order of the Soviet government, been moved out of the Cathedral — in 1953 — to the parish church of Sts. Peter and Paul in the nearby suburb of Antakalnis, and the Cathedral has been turned into a museum and art gallery.

Let us consider St. Casimir's life and take to heart his example that rings out through the centuries like a

bell. Young Casimir was one of the many children of King Casimir IV of Poland and Lithuania. He was born into a royal house that is Lithuanian in origin on his father's side, and to Elizabeth, a daughter of Emperor Albert II of the House of Hapsburg. His Hapsburg mother was called "the mother of kings," since four of her sons received royal crowns: Ladislas became king of Bohemia and Hungary, John Albert, Alexander, and Sigismund became kings of Poland and Archdukes of Lithuania. Another son, Frederick, became Bishop of Cracow and later the Cardinal of Poland. All five daughters were given in marriage to German princes. And Casimir was to be canonized a saint.

In his formative years, Casimir traveled with his father throughout the land because he was to succeed his father to the throne. He attended parliamentary sessions and the meetings of the State Council in order to gain experience in the affairs of state. When he was 22 years of age, his father assigned him to certain administrative duties in the government, giving him responsibilities in judicial, military and financial matters. At a later date, young Casimir represented his father in Poland for a three-year period while his father was in Lithuania. During that time Casimir strengthened the financial conditions of the state by saving resources; he repaid old debts on mortgaged estates; he improved the moral tone of the royal palace by dismissing stubborn members of the court who refused to live up to their obligations; banditry in the countryside was stopped; he improved the strained relations with the Papacy caused by his father's associations with the Hussite heretics of Bohemia. He performed all these difficult tasks while leading a strict religious-ascetical life. He fasted and did penance and acts of mortification. He helped the poor, the widows and orphans. His lifestyle was notic-

ed by many, and he was urged by his father and his doctor to give up his rigorous way of life. In 1483 young Casimir, who was now failing in health, arrived in Lithuania, his beloved land, the land of his father, his grandfather Jogaila, and his great-grandfather Algirdas. Regardless of his health, Casimir did not diminish his acts of mortification and penance. He daily meditated on the Passion of Christ, and had a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and he often recited the beautiful hymn **Omni Die Dic Mariae** — "Daily, Daily sing to Mary; sing my soul her praises due."

Casimir died at Gardinas in the presence of his mother on March 4, 1484. His body was brought for burial at the Blessed Virgin Chapel in the Cathedral of Vilnius by his griefstricken father. That Chapel of the Blessed Virgin was built earlier by his father Casimir IV who knew his son's strong and tender devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

Many years later, in 1604 the tomb was opened in a solemn liturgy and his body was found miraculously preserved, and near his head was found the text of his favorite hymn **Omni Die Dic Mariae**. Some 30 years later when a new chapel of St. Casimir was completed and attached to the Vilnius Cathedral in 1636, his remains were placed in a silver coffin and elevated above the altar. At the same time Pope Urban VIII declared St. Casimir the Patron of Lithuania. And in our own century, Pope Pius XII proclaimed St. Casimir a special patron of Lithuanian youth.

Most of the information we receive about St. Casimir has been collected by the first biographer of St. Casimir in **Vita Beati Casimiri** — 1451 — who was the papal nuncio, Zacharias Ferrerri, who also investigated the case of St. Casimir before his canonization. He describes St. Casimir's wearing a hair shirt under his royal robes as a penance, his praying at the door of the closed

church, his many acts of penance and mortification, his sleeping on the bare ground, his alms to travelers, the poor, the widows and orphans. His meditations on the Passion of Christ and his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. By his lifestyle, St. Casimir, a prince who had wealth and power in his reach, denied himself and took up his cross to give heroic evidence of his faith in Jesus Christ.

We must pause during this 500th Jubilee Celebration to reflect or consider what meaningful impact the life of St. Casimir, our patron, can have on us who live in our contemporary world. We look around us and we find that we are the American "Christians" whose faith is gone, whose God is money, and whose burning concerns, are success in competition, material prosperity, the control of others, and the "justice" only for the rich. This is indeed contrary to St. Casimir's way of life.

At the same time, we look at the daily life in Lithuania and we find a persecuted Church where priests are prevented from carrying out their pastoral duties; we find that believers are forced to resign their jobs and school children are harassed and fall into disfavor for practicing their faith, and even worse they cannot get a higher education; we find also that the necessities of life are scarce, and that not only the widows, the poor and the orphans, but all people are denied social justice and the dignity to be treated as human beings. In the persecuted churches all pastoral appointments by the bishops must have government approval. There can be no church repairs or processions without a permit, and even in death the coffin at the time of burial must be left outside the church. Torture, assassinations, and a long sentence to Siberian labor camps is not a thing of the past — it is all happening right now. The pages of the **Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania** are filled with one

account after another about the persecution of the Catholic Church and the believers. Accounts on Viktoras Petkus, Vytautas Skuodis, Dr. Algirdas Statkevičius, Mečislovas Jurevičius, all members of the Helsinki Group, who were all sentenced to terms in strict regime camps and exile. Accounts of the brave stand taken by Nijolė Sadūnaitė, and lately the arrest and sentencing of her brother, Jonas Sadūnas, in May 1983 on fabricated charges of slander for a period of 1-1/2 years in labor camp. Latest reports indicate that he is suffering from tuberculosis. And Nijolė Sadūnaitė is in hiding since November of 1982, and KGB agents are still searching for her to press new charges against her.

There are also accounts of Father Sigitas Tamkevičius who was tried and sentenced on December 2, 1983 to 6 years strict regime camp and 4 years exile. Father Alfonsas Svarinskas is serving a 10-year sentence. Both priests were founding members of the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights. The list goes on and on.

Yet most Lithuanians are ordinary people who may behave heroically but still retain the abundant good sense and enviable humor. They desperately want encouragement and publicity in the West. Perceptive Catholics realize their chief enemy now is not only the Russian Communists, but the cancer within their own people. They realize some have compromised their high ideals of democracy and human dignity and may bring even more tragedy to their nation, and this attitude too is contrary to St. Casimir's way of life.

Lithuania knows that she cannot survive without her high ideals of freedom, her love for western democracy, her insistence on social justice, and the unrestrained practice of her religion.

"Christians" realize that we must

regain our faith, put Jesus and Mary back into our lives again, and bring about the realization of social justice for the poor, the widows, and the orphans, and all members of our society. Let us look to St. Casimir.

St. Casimir calls on us in 1984. He calls on us in these western nations where persecution does not rage but where Christians are shaken by religious indifference, materialism, doubt, and even lack of faith. He calls on us in both Lithuania and in the United States where both environments threaten to suffocate or paralyze the faith of numerous young people and adults. We must look to the suffering Church in Lithuania, to the many martyrs who call us to rise up. They show us how we must behave in this world.

The papal Nuncio, Zacharias Ferrerri wrote in the biography that Casimir was "to widows, orphans and the oppressed . . . not only protector, not only guardians, but father, son, and brother as well." As Knights of Lithuania, it is clear what we must do.

organize a Day of Prayer — to be observed periodically for the persecuted Church in Lithuania.

Second, encourage religious vocation among men and women of Lithuanian descent.

Third, strongly support the Lithuanian parish, its clergy and its organizations, its song and dance festivals and picnics.

Fourth, give moral support, encouragement and publicity in newspapers to the prisoners of conscience, so that their stay in labor camps does not go unnoticed. Also, write letters of encouragement to their families. Addresses and instructions on the guidelines for correspondences can be had at the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Office at 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn.

Fifth, write letters of protest to those teachers who persecute the children in the classrooms for their faith, or letters to other officials who

deny the Lithuanians their rights. Perhaps Xerox the page from the Chronicles on which their name appears and send it to them.

Sixth, if you have an hour or two each week, perhaps donate that time to the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid Office. Any help, from putting stamps on envelopes or stuffing them, your time will be appreciated.

Seventh, on September 15, 1983, a delegation of believers delivered to Moscow a petition bearing over 123,000 signatures asking for the release of two Catholic priests. The petitions and a letter of protest was addressed to Yuri Andropov before his death. These priests, Fathers Alfonsas Svarinskas and Sigitas Tamkevičius were arrested in 1983 for their involvement in the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights. The petition drive for the release of the two Lithuanian Catholic priests was largely spearheaded by the youth of Lithuania, despite the repressive tactics used by Soviet authorities to dissuade them. Those caught collecting signatures, largely outside of churches, were taken in for questioning and fined 50 rubles.

A similar drive for signatures was started a week ago in Chicago. It is only in its beginning stage and the Knights of Lithuania could certainly lend their support wholeheartedly. One of the first to sign the petition in Chicago was Cardinal Bernardin.

Of what value is a petition drive? We can see the value from the past case that dealt with a small but determined group of people that worked for the release of Simas Kudirka.

As we continue this 500th anniversary celebration of the death of St. Casimir in 1984, we need to drive home upon our consciences the need for examining our souls according to the criterion of Jesus Christ Himself. If a man love me, He says, not that he will go to church on Sunday, not that he will give generously, not that he

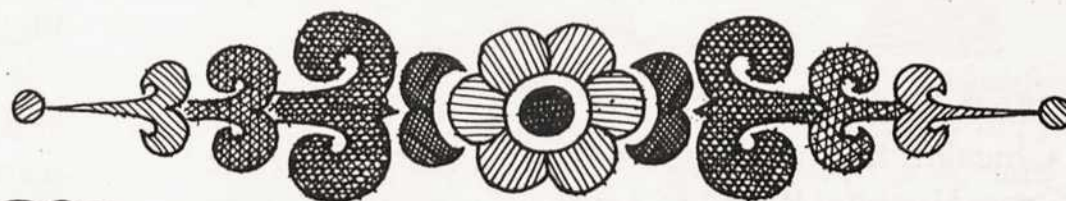
will love honor and influence and reputation, not that he will have health and power and social position, — but if any man love Me he will keep my word. And among those words are such as these: "If any man would come after Me, let him take up his cross and deny himself and follow me." And again: "Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake." In other words, we cannot be indifferent to the persecuted Church in Lithuania, not can we expect others or only a few people to work for the defense of Believers' Rights. We are all members of the one mystical body of Christ, and when the Church in Lithuania suffers persecution, we all suffer' We must all realize that Christianity is not a spectator sport. Jesus wants us **all** to take up the cross; He wants us **all** in the arena. There can be no spectators, no on-lookers, for, the crown

of glory goes to those who fought the good fight and have run the race. Truly, our patron, St. Casimir has fought the good fight, and may he come again, as he appeared in 1518 at the Battle of Palotsk near the Daugava River, and again as a white-cloaked rider brandishing a sword and seated on a white horse, lead the Lithuanian Christians to victory by again defeating the Russians. (The appearance of St. Casimir at the Battle of Polotsk well documented in the *Vita Beati Casimiri* — 1541 — by Zacharias Ferrerri; this is the origin of our Vytis.) Let us then, turn to our patron, St. Casimir, and beg his intercession, that he may come to our aid and especially to help Lithuania to regain and enjoy her freedom again.

St. Casimir, pray for us.

Brother Daniel Yenkevicius, O.F.M.

St. Casimir's Franciscan Monastery



— Mary Lucas, H.M.

COOK'S CORNER

LITHUANIAN HONEY CAKE (MEDUOLIS)

1 cup honey	12 teasp. baking powder
12 cup butter	1 teasp. cinnamon
23 cup brown sugar	14 teasp. salt
4 eggs, separated	1 cup thick sour cream
3 cups sifted flour	23 cup currants
2 teasp. baking soda	

Cream the butter with the sugar. Add the egg yolks, one at a time, keep beating till light and fluffy. Beat in the honey. Sift the flour with all other dry ingredients. Add alternately with the sour cream. Stir in the currants.

Beat the egg whites until stiff and fold into the batter. Stir into a 9" x 13" buttered pan and bake at 325' for 55-60 minutes. Cool in pan. Slice cake into 5 long lengthwise strips. Then cut each strip diagonally into diamond shapes.

Lithuanians in The News



Edited by RUTH KAZLAUSKAS



SISTER MARGARET PETCAVAGE, member of C-36, Chicago, has been appointed as a member of the Holy Cross Hospital Board of Trustees, reports the Holy Cross Hospital "Intercom".

Sr. Margaret was born in Scranton, Pa. and was educated by the Sisters of St. Casimir. Edified by the joy in their ministry and after working closely with them as a teen-ager, she came to Chicago to join their Community.

For the past seven years Sister has been the principal at Immaculate Conception School in Brighton Park. "Working with children — helping them to know God and themselves, is my joy," she states. "Being able to take a meaningful part in parish activities and seeing the Church opening up and recognizing the role of women religious gives me even a greater joy."

"Coming from a small town like Scranton, may not seem too important to many people," she added, "But for me it carries all the significance of the world. It was in my home town parish of St. Joseph's, that our foundress, Mother Maria Kaupas, as a young housekeeper for her priest brother, became convinced that the Community of the Sisters of St. Casimir should come into existence. That my roots should be tied so closely to a future Lithuanian Saint is awesome and inspiring."

* * *

"Orchids" to **MONICA KASPER**, C-112, Chicago, Mid-America District Cultural Chairlady, who was awarded a pin for 5,000 hours of service as a volunteer at Holy Cross Hospital.

When **ALGIRD BALTUTIS** goes through airport metal detectors, bells clang and security guards snap to attention — even when his pockets are empty, reports the "Chicago Sun-Times".

The retired Milwaukee machinist sets off the alarms because he has hemochromatosis, a disabling and potentially deadly excess of iron in his body. The "Iron Man", as he's called, first ran into problems when he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin's Billy Mitchell Field about two years ago. After setting off the alarms he was told to empty his pockets, resulting in setting off the alarms again. Then, stripped to the waist, the attendants went over him with a hand-held metal detector that showed high levels of metal.

A hemotologist at the VA Medical Center at Wood, Wis., linked the airport incident to the monthly blood transfusions Baltutis receives for another condition. The transfusions of iron-rich blood were turning Baltutis's organs into iron mines. It is recommended that travelers who set off airport alarms for no apparent reason head straight for their doctors.

* * *

From "The Gardner News", Gardner, Mass. — **STANLEY MISEWICH**, owner of Stanley's Lunch in Gardner, received, on the occasion of his 90th birthday and the 50th year in business, a plaque from the City presented by Mayor McKean, a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Dukakis, and citations from both Massachusetts Houses presented by Sen. Wetmore and Rep. Suhorki. He also received a citation from the Lithuanian Outing Club and congratulations for being a Charter Member since 1926.

* * *

You want Kugelis? We got Kugelis! "Oh, horror of horrors to see the Lithuanian dish 'Kugelis' described as a 'pudding of mashed baked potato, egg, and onion, fried and served with sour cream' as in the Chicago Sun-Times review of Healthy Food Restaurant," chided **PHYLLIS L. STINSON**, President of the St. George Women's Club. "We ladies of the St. George Women's Club make the best and most sought after Kugelis in Chicago. I know how to prepare this fabulous dish in 50 pound batches."



DEBRA ADOMAITIS, C-36, Chicago, daughter of **ALGIMANTAS** and **ELAINE ADOMAITIS**, also members of C-36, was 1st Runner-Up in the Miss Teen—Illinois competition for 1983. She is presently a contestant for the Miss Illinois competition, sponsored by the students of Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, Ill.



De Paul University's Lady Blue Demon volleyball team finished third in the North Star Conference this past season. But the disappointing times may be over for De Paul.

The "Daily Southtown Economist" reports that Maria High School (Chicago, Ill.) standouts **JANE KAPOCIUS**, a 5-foot-9 setter, and **DANA KALVAITIS**, a 5-foot-11 middle hitter, will be wearing Blue Demon uniforms next season. Jane and Dana have been playing volleyball together since grammar school where they were coached by **JOHN IZOKAITIS**.



Anyone who takes up residence at St. Mary's Villa in Elmhurst, Pa., a nursing home run by the Sisters of Jesus Crucified and the Sorrowful Mother, is going to find that he is constantly being offered things to do, that he's not just going to sit and be left alone, according to a recent issue of "Garsas".

SISTER BAPTISTA, the villa's administrator, believes that the senior citizens who occupy the 121 beds in their nursing home are there to live, add happy memories to their lives, and that age or disability does not have to be a barrier to an active and useful life.

Sister Baptista has been on the staff at the villa since it opened in 1962. St. Mary's Villa residents see her every day as she makes her way around the hospital, chatting with them, conferring with the staff, or joining in on one of their parties or projects, and thoroughly enjoying every minute of it.

The **REV. A. JURGEL** is Sister's brother.

* * *

The highets award in Boy Scouting, the Eagle Scout badge, was awarded recently to **NEIL F. MacDONALD**, son of Neil and Dorothy MacDonald, West Scranton, Pa., and grandson of **LEONORA GRUDIS**. Neil and his three brothers are members of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance.

* * *

An article in the "Asbury Park, N. J. Press" notes that **MICHAEL J. CEPONIS**, a plant pathologist, does research on tomato diseases at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's postharvest research center at Cook College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J.



Vyčiai Veikia



Council Activities

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Congratulations to President Anne Challan, and members of C-143ittston for an outstanding Mid-Atlantic St. Casimir's Breakfast on March 11 at St. Casimir's Church.

Delegates and guests were treated to a continental breakfast on arrival.

The Most Reverend J. Clifford Timlin, Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton, celebrated Mass. National Spiritual Adviser Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis OP was homilist. St. Casimir's Choir sang both English and Lithuanian hymns. Council members presented symbolic Lithuanian gifts at the Offertory.

Helen Cravath of C-74 Scranton was installed in the Fourth Degree by Fr. Jurgelaitis, and Auxiliary Bishop Timlin presented the medal.

In his closing remarks, Archbishop Timlin urged us to perpetuate our beautiful Lithuanian customs and culture.

Luncheon was served in the attractive setting of the church hall. Fr. Jurgelaitis was guest speaker and continued his homily in his own inimitable manner.

Larry Janonis, MAD President, presided at the business meeting. Credentials Committee reported 222 delegates and guests in attendance.

Jovita Sledér, MAD Ritual Chairman, installed 50 members in the Thrid Degree. Items of interest included continued participation in Pennies for Miss Liberty, a concert in the New York area some time in September, and a workshop scheduled for St. Michael's in Easton on May 19, hosted by Lehigh Valley Council 63.

At the close of the business meeting, a buffet was served. Everyone left with high praise and thanks for the cordial hospitality of Council 143.

HC

C-12 — MANHATTAN

We hate to brag, but our council really celebrated our patron's Feast Day with a bang. After all, 500 years is 500 years.

The celebration started with a Concelebrated Mass by our Pastor and Spiritual Advisor Rev. Vytautas Palubinskas and guest priests. During the Offertory, gifts symbolizing St. Casimir's life were brought to the altar: the Vilniaus verba, picture of St. Casimir, a lily and a gold crown. Our choir in charge of Aldona Kepalaite sang hymns written in honor of our patron, not neglecting the beautiful one by composer and honorary member, the late Alexander J. Aleksis.

A special treat was the presence of solosit Kazys Yakutis who sang three selections most beautifully.

After Mass in the church hall President Peter Zupko asked Father Palubinskas to offer the invocation. Our M-C was Jonas Tamasauskas



Famed Lithuanian baritone Kazys Yakutis, accompanied by Aldona Kepalaite, sings at the C-12 Manhattan Council's St. Casimir Commemoration Mass.

who added a touch of humor and made the program most enjoyable. We had the honor of having a member of the Supreme Council as our guest speaker; namely, Dr. Jakubas Stukas, a dear friend of C-12 who tries to visit us whenever his busy schedule from radio work at the university will permit. Jakubas had a hot news flash for us. That morning Loretta called him from Rome and informed him of all the happenings.

Honorary member and a master at reciting poetry, our beloved Joe Boley (Bulevicius) had a special treat for us — a beautiful and moving recitation of the poem "Jaunikaitis prie Katedros Durų" (The Youth at the Cathedral Door).

On the Feast Day of St. Casimir, Second Degrees are usually presented. We were lucky to have four this year — Alma Korenko, Nellie Paukstis, Ann Beard and Jonas Tamasauskas. In a moving ceremony Rev. Palubinskas accepted



Rev. Palubinskas reading the Second Degree pledges to the following C-12 Manhattan candidates: Nellie Paukstis, Ann Beard, Alma Korenko and John Tamasauskas



Honorary Member Joe Boley (Bolevicius) reciting

their pledges and pinned on each a Vyčių pin.

After the official program, Alice Zupko, the chairman for the event, invited all to the dinner table. The committee thanks our guests for making this day memorable.

Dalia Bulvicius

C-46 — FOREST CITY

Council 46 of Forest City participated in the celebration of a Mass honoring St. Casimir on March 4 in St. Anthony's Church in Forest City. Our Knights wore ethnic dress. Lithuanian hymns were sung during the Mass. All members participated in the Offertory Procession. A breakfast was enjoyed at Ron and Mary Ann's Restaurant.

On March 11, a mini-bus took us to St. Casimir's Church in Pittston. All guests were served coffee, juice and a variety of breakfast rolls. Mass was celebrated in honor of St. Casimir. A delicious dinner was served by Council 143. The Mid-Atlantic District meeting followed. A



C-74 Flag-raising Ceremony at Northeast Plaza (L to R) Marie Laske, President; Sister Virginia

buffet lunch was served after the business meeting. Sincere thanks to C-143 for their hospitality.

We were deeply saddened by the sudden death of our beloved most active member, Isabelle Kaminskas Dewitt. We pray for the happy repose of her soul.

Blanche Motsko

C-74 — SCRANTON

Council 74 celebrated Lithuanian Independence Day with a flag-raising ceremony at the Northeastern Bank Plaza in Scranton. Fr. Michael Zipay blessed the flag and led the group in prayer and the singing of the national anthems.

Mayor James McNulty escorted the group to Stamtown USA, Scranton's newest tourist attraction. They then enjoyed lunch at the old Lakawanna Railroad Stations which was converted into a beautiful Hilton Hotel and Convention Center. Sister Virginia Vytel was chairman, assisted by President Marie Laske and Casimir Yanish.

A Mass was also held to commemorate the anniversary of Lithuania's independence by Msgr. Doherty. Members presented the offertory gifts. Irene Shimkus explained the gifts and also did the readings.

Vytel, Chairman; Casimir Yanish and Fr. Michael Zipay



Members of C-74 who attended Mass on Lithuanian Independence Day

Many of our members helped the residents of St. Mary's Villa also remember Lithuania's independence. They brought a variety of Lithuanian foods. Everyone enjoyed dancing, especially "Noriu Miego." The Villa is run by Sisters of Jesus Crucified and many of the residents are Lithuanian. Marie & Dick Laske, Ann Lisowski, Jean Kavelines, Ann Galenas, Margaret Laiginas, Patsy Simms, Mary Bulger and Ann Potelunas entertained the Villa guests.

A Mass and Communion Breakfast on March 4 commemorated the 500th St. Casimir anniversary. Msgr. Michael Ozalas, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, celebrated the Mass. Margaret Laibinas was chairman assisted by Rose Stanches. Offertory procession included Ann Galinas, crown; Agatha Suetta, picture of St. Casimir; Helen Romeika, the cross; Rose Stanches, lilies; Gertrude & Frank Romeika, the host and wine. Helen Cravath was the reader. Richard Laske carried the banner and Casimir Yanish, the flag. Hymns in honor of St. Casimir were sung under the direction of Al Balavage. Prayer cards made by Sister Battista and hymn sheets were handled by Mary Bulger, Ann Patelnas and

Ann Lisowski. A wreath was placed at the wayside cross by Richard Laske and Frank Romeika.

After the Mass, a breakfast was held at Jay's Restaurant. Msgr. Ozalas led the group in reciting Lithuanian Grace. Helen Cravath and Ann Galenas were song leaders. Casimir Yanish spoke on his namesake, St. Casimir. All the members wore the MAD St. Casimir Anniversary Button.

Members traveled by bus to the Mid-Atlantic District St. Casimir's Breakfast on March 11 in Pittston. The Mass and singing were inspiring and the breakfast delicious. The following members received the Third Degree: Ann Bagdon, Ann Lisowski, Ann Matulevich, Margaret Laibinas, Ann Potelunas, Patsy Simms, Frank Romeika, Ann Romanauskas, Sister Virginia Vytel, Pranas Shimkas, Agatha Suetta, Jos Sabaitis, Ruth Yanish, Rose Stanches and Bill Grady.

Sister Virginia Vytel was contacted by Susan McKenny and Greer Warren, affiliated with the Anthracite Region Ethnic Archives, to obtain information on Lithuanian immigrants and ethnic life in this area. A published guide will be available to historians, geneologists, and other interested persons. Please

contact Sister Virginia at St. Mary's Villa Elmhurst, for further information.

Yanish

C-100 — AMSTERDAM

The 500th anniversary of St. Casimir's death and glorification was commemorated at St. Casimir's Church on March 4. A capacity crowd of worshippers attended. The Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus formed an honor guard. Bishop Howard J. Hubbard celebrated the Jubilee Mass. The concelebrants were Rev. Edward Pratt, Bishop Hubbard's secretary; Rev. Peter Jonaitis, Gloversville; Rev. Matthew Cyvas, Albany; Rev. Walter Czechowicz, pastor of St. Stanislaus; Rev. Raymond Piechowski, chaplain at Mount Loretta Nursing Home; Rev. Timothy Mangan, Bishop Scully High School; Rev. Anthony Grigaitis and Rev. Robert E. Baltch of St. Casimir's.

Greetings were extended by Willard J. Kensell, president of the Church Council. Scripture readings were by Joseph Shatas Jr., trustee, and Evelyn Rimkunas, general chairman. Edward Zakarka attended to the duties of Leader of Worship.

The homily was given by Rev. Baltch. "In Lithuania," he declared, "the celebration will be minimal. The communist regime would not permit a public celebration, but they did allow Masses to be held in the churches."

Trustee Anthony J. Radzevich presented Bishop Hubbard with a silver medallion of St. Casimir.

Vincent Rossi announced the offertory gift presenters. Among the participants were the following council members: Regina Kot, Polly Ziausys, Bernice Aviza, Eleanor Olechowski, Edmund Liberis, Mary Stanionis, Helen Hugo, Joseph Nikstenas, Frances DiBart, Sadie Karbocius, Helen Dylong and Junior Knights Kristin Olechowski and Kenneth Jasewicz.

St. Casimir's Choir, under the direction of John Nye, and the Brass Ensemble, directed by Billie Ossentfort at the organ, presented the music for the Mass. Mrs. Robert Cuzzo was the soloist. Two Lithuanian hymns, "Marija, Marija" and "Šventas Kazimierai," were sung by the choir. Guests included Amsterdam Mayor Mario Villa, State Assemblyman Paul Tonko, seminarians Robert DeMartinis and John Rossi of the Holy Apostle Seminary of Cromwell, the Sisters of Resurrection of the Mount Loretto Nursing Home, Prof. George Gravrogkas and his wife Aldona of Menands.

Church decorations were handled by Gerard Drenzek. Polly Ziausys assisted in organizing the procession. The fabulous reception in the Social Center was the project of St. Casimir's Ladies Auxiliary. A banner of St. Casimir, designed by Bernice Aviza of Albany, member of C-100, was presented to St. Casimir's parish and was on display during the services.

The Mass concluded; Bishop Hubbard thanked everyone for the medallion. He also noted the great

devotion St. Casimir had for the Blessed Virgin Mary. He reminded us of the freedom that we take for granted and that there are still many countries under communist rule that do not have political and religious freedom.

William Jasewicz and Walter Sargalis were members of the K of C Honor Guard. Other members, not previously mentioned, who participated on the committee were Sophie Olbie, Josephine Redding, Annacetta Gurzilek and Gene Gobis who handled publicity.

At our February meeting, Fr. Baltch informed us that there are seven parishes in the State of New York bearing St. Casimir's name. Of these, St. Casimir's of Amsterdam is the only Lithuanian parish. Bernice Aviza presented Fr. Baltch with a St. Casimir's banner which she designed from the stained glass window of the Glorification of St. Casimir located in the vestibule of the church. Fr. Baltch was also honored on his 60th birthday.

The 66th anniversary of Lithuania's independence was observed on February 11 with a Mass at St. Casimir's celebrated by Fr. Baltch. Readings were by Mayor Mario Villa and Edward Baranauskas of Schenectady. A dinner and program followed with approximately 100 persons attending. Mirga Bablin, the principal speaker, chose for her theme, "We Love Lithuania." She concluded with a beatitude. "Blessed are our oppressed countrymen in Lithuania yearning for freedom, for, one day, they will be free." Maryté Antanaitis Shallins of Woodhaven, Regina Kot and Rev. Baltch provided the musical program for the event.

Four new members were welcomed into membership: Stanley & Patricia Staveckis of Gallupville and Harold & Irene Tice Sr. of Amsterdam.

G. Gobis

C-110 — MASPETH

At the January meeting, Steven Thomas DDS was the guest speaker. His talk on the care of the teeth was interesting. At the February meeting, John R. Spann and Leo Horvat from Traditional Family Property spoke on the spread of Communism throughout the world.

Members attended Mass at Transfiguration Church on February 12 in commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day. Peter Yeskevicius chaired the program and luncheon which followed Mass.

Alphonse Marcel arranged for members to visit Mayor Edward Koch in New York City Hall on February 16. Jonas Adomenas chartered a bus to transport members to City Hall. Mayor Koch greeted us, made a speech and listened to the singing of the Lithuanian and American anthems. Later, it was shown on television. The Lithuanian flag was raised and flew over City Hall.

Mayor Edward Koch was cordial to Knights, greeted us, posed for photos, made a speech on Commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day. Knights sang "Tėvynė Mūsų" the Lithuanian Hymn and "Sar Spangled Banner" the American Hymn.

This was being televised and shown on Television Channel 31.

Then the Lithuanian Flag was raised over City Hall as all sang — "God Bless America".

A proclamation was given to Mayor Koch by Alphonse Marcel.

On February 19, the observance of Lithuanian Independence Day continued with a Mass at Annunciation Church in Brooklyn. A rally followed at the Lithuanian Cultural Center. The K of L flag, as well as the American and Lithuanian flags, was displayed at the church and rally.

Council 110 mourns the loss of Walter Burke and Adolph

Tyzkiewicz who died in January and Winifred Marcel on February 25. May they rest in peace!

On March 4, 1984, a Luncheon was given by the Knights of Lithuania Council 110 at Transfiguration Church, Maspeth, N.Y. commemorating the 500th year of Saint Casimir's Death.

The Knights of Lithuania on this occasion named State Senator Martin Knorr and assemblyman Fredrick Schmidt "Friend of Lithuania." This is the highest honor bestowed on non-Lithuanians. The Awards were given for their support, loyalty and sincere concern, regarding the causes of the Lithuanian people.

At the Mass, Pastor Monsignor Frank Bulovas blest a picture of St. Casimir. Rev. Stasys Raila gave the Homily.

Guest speaker was Brother Daniel Jenkevičius from St. Anthony's Friary, Kennebunkport, Maine. He gave an interesting and enlightening talk on the life of St. Casimir.

Chairlady Evelyn Walles with the assistance of Mary Johnston, Lottie Ulrich, Stasia Kraujalis, Adele Dauzickas, Theresa Dagus and Muriel Lekstutis prepared and served a delicious meal.

Anna and Charles Kubilus of Woodhaven Volunteer Ambulance Corps demonstrated life-saving efforts at the March meeting.

A bus transported K of L members to Pittston for the Mid-Atlantic District Meeting, hosted by Council 143 on March 11. Celebrant of the Mass was the Most Reverend Clifford Timlin, Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton. Homilist was the Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis, Supreme Spiritual Advisor. Host pastor was the Rev. Peter Alisaukas. Luncheon and meeting followed in the church hall.

Among the fifty members receiving the Third Degree were Iggi



C-110 Flag raising over City Hall in New York City on February 16th.



C-110 Awards luncheon on March 4th. Seated: State Senator Martin Knorr and Rev. Stasys Raila. Jonas

Adomenas and Assemblyman Fredrick Schmidt holding award



Muriel Lekstutis, Mary Johnson, Lottie Ulrich, Theresa Dagus, Evelyn Walles and Adele Dauzickas

prepared and served a luncheon on March 4th for C-110

Walles, Evelyn Walles and Karen Daxis of Council 110.

Helen Venis

C-140 — SYRACUSE

Our Independence Mass and Program was a beautiful affair. Father John Mikalajunas celebrated the Mass with Father Hearn. We followed the outline composed by Father Jurgelaitis and Nancy Miro. Those who brought up the flags and gifts were Bill Cook, Jack Brandt, Irene Petrauskas, Katherine Cravetts, Veronica Sutkus and Marija Vizgaitis. Frank Petrauskas gave the readings.

Father John gave an excellent homily on Lithuania and its independence. He also covered the Russian occupation and the oppression suffered by the Lithuanian peoples. Attending the Mass was our Congressman George Wortley. Due to a conflict in scheduling he could not attend our program.

We began our program with the reading of the original Lithuanian proclamation by Marija Vizgaitis. Our local proclamation was read by Bill Cook. Dan Fedrizzi, a member of Assemblyman Melvin Zimmer's office, then read the State proclamation. Our main speaker was Tibor Helcz, past president of the Hungarian Political Prisoners, who spoke on the conditions behind the Iron Curtain and the relationship between Lithuania and Hungary. His talk was favorably received by all in attendance.

We then retired to a delicious luncheon prepared and served by Cassie Stanley, Ruth Hare, Veronica Sutkus, Katherine Cravetts and Irene Petrauskas.

Our St. Casimir's Mass was celebrated by Father John Mikalajunas and Father Tom Kobuszewski. Father John gave a beautiful homily on St. Casimir, his short life and his influence on our

lives today. It was a very appropriate anniversary Mass.

After Mass we all went to the Top O'The Hill restaurant for our annual St. Casimir's brunch. It was a delicious affair with much good food and much good friendship. A number of our members have birthdays in March so John Stanley surprised us with a birthday cake.

On March 11 John and Veronica Sutkus, John and Cassie Stanley, Ruth Hare, Katherine Cravetts, Frank and Irene Petrauskas attended the MAD Mass and Meeting at St. Casimir's Church in Pittston, Pa. They reported a most enjoyable day as the Pittston people were excellent hosts. It was good visiting with old friends and especially Father Pete.

Our closing thought: The happiest life is that which constantly exercises and educates what is best in us.

Pusbrolis

C-143 — PITTSTON

February 16, the 66th anniversary of the restoration of Lithuanian independence, we participated in a flag-raising ceremony on the Luzerne County Courthouse lawn, Wilkes Barre. Our ladies in Lithuanian costume braved the cold air. State, county and local officials were present. Proclamations and resolutions were read. The Lithuanian and national anthems were sung with pride led by Prof. Vaclovas Romanos and the choir members from St. Casimir's and Holy Trinity Churches.

Rev. Peter J. Alisaukas, pastor of St. Casimir's, and Rev. Joseph J. Lasky, pastor of St. Mary's Annunciation Church, led us in prayer asking God to bless our brothers and sisters in Lithuania. They also asked us to pledge our support to keep Lithuania alive. After the ceremony everyone was invited inside for fellowship and refreshments.

On March 4, we joined all Lithuanians in honoring the 500th anniversary of the death and glorification of St. Casimir, our patron saint. Some Knights went to Rome to celebrate liturgy in St. Peter's Basilica. We celebrated in our parish church. Who is St. Casimir? Father Alisaukas is doing his best to familiarize us with this heroic and holy saint. In doing so, he reminds us of our founding ancestors who as a community of believers in 1869 in spite of difficulties, differences and disappointments united and built a beautiful church so that they could gather there to support each other and worship and glorify God. We might ask ourselves today "What are our priorities?"

All residents of Greater Pittston and the Knights of Lithuania of the Mid-Atlantic District were invited to attend a special Mass in honor of St. Casimir on March 11 in St. Casimir's Church. The pews were filled; flowers adorned the altar; organ music and Lithuanian hymns touched our ears and hearts. It was good to be there, so peaceful and uplifting, a united people gathered to worship and praise God in the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Most Rev. James C. Timlin, Auxiliary Bishop of Scranton, was the principal celebrant. In his closing remarks, he referred to the various ethnic backgrounds in this area. Each should maintain its faith, and its heritage should be passed on to the children. It will be difficult to do, but every effort must be made.

Rev. Anthony Jurgelaitis OP, homilist, related that our Lord was tempted, but he did not sin. He chose to do the will of the Father. St. Casimir of royal birth was tempted with power, wealth, and honor. At an early age he rejected these things and chose to seek God's will for his life. We must pray and ask St. Casimir to intercede for us.

Our thanks to Archbishop Timlin, priests, seminarians, altar

boys, organist, choir and youngsters in the offertory procession who made this Liturgy of the Eucharist a very special event for us. We are grateful to Father Alisauskas, our spiritual director, President Anna Challan and her committee who made arrangements for this day.

On this same day, we were host council for the Mid-Atlantic District Convention. We were pleased that Knights from fifteen councils were present. The early arrivals were able to enjoy a continental breakfast. After Mass, we assembled in the parish hall, and a warm atmosphere of fellowship prevailed throughout the day. Lunch was served, and the food was excellent.

Larry Janonis, MAD President, presided at the meeting. Six of our members received the Third Degree — Rosalie Kizis, Grace Kasacavage, Alberta Walsh, Mildred Walsh, John Pusavage, and Paul Patrick.

Everyone received a St. Casimir Medal and prayer card as well as an attractive MAD badge which will continue to remind us of a beautiful day.

A buffet was available for all those who could stay with us a while longer. Thanks for coming.

Anastasia Stanley

C-144 — ANTHRACITE

As the Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Death of St. Casimir started, 138 pilgrims from our council journeyed to Rome. Our "Ačiūs" go to Eleanor Vaicaitis and Elsie Kosmisky who coordinated the trip after Father Bartkus went to Rome. It was a hard task and a job well done. Thanks to Father Joseph Shelonis, Father Matthew Jarasunas, Father Gerald Gobitas and Father Daniel Yenushosky for their prayers on the way.

What a pleasure it was to greet Father Al in Rome, ever the faithful Knight and very dear to all of us. The



Members of Anthracite Council who attended luncheon honoring Archbishop Marcinkus in Rome

private audience with the Holy Father was awesome. Many of us were able to take his hand or kiss his ring. Many had photos taken with His Holiness. We were proud when he mentioned the K of L in his address.

At the Papal Mass, Anne Wargo, Helen Chesko, Bernice Mikatavage, Annie Morgalis, Eleanor Vaicaitis and Rita Shevokas were fortunate in receiving Holy Communion from the Pope. Elsie and Clem Kosmisky were seated with the honored guests. It was a great honor for C-144.

On March 11, the Allentown Diocese under the sponsorship of the Lithuanian Catholic Priests League commemorated the 500th Anniversary with a Mass at St. George's Church in Shenandoah. Principal celebrant was the Most Rev. Thomas J. Welsh, Bishop of Allentown. A Lithuanian Choir of the Allentown Diocese under the directorship of Rita Shevokas sang. It was a beautiful Mass. Following Mass, a banquet was held at Annunciation Hall in Frackville. Guest speaker was Sister Joanela, Superior General of the Sisters of St. Casimir of Chicago. Entertainment was provided by Maryte Bizinkauskas who so

beautifully sang Lithuanian folk songs. Thanks to Father Yenushosky who assumed the chairmanship of this affair.

Unfortunately, this was the same day as the Mid-Atlantic Convention so once again we had to separate the group. Those who went to Pittston truly enjoyed the day and send their thanks to Father Peter Alisauskas, to President Anne Challan and the Pittston members for a memorable day. Our members who received their Third Degrees were Alberta Bartash, Anna Bender, Anne Carlitus, Edmund Carlitus, Helen Matunis, Florence Orzechowski, Joseph Petrosky, Joni Reinhart, Helen Smulkstis, Helen Swatsky, Anna Supernavage and Natalie Yurickones.

Anne Wargo, Clem & Elsie Kosmisky, John & Mary Koons, Helen Chesko and Matilda Bonners attended the St. Casimir Day Commemoration at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul in Philadelphia. Cardinal Krol was celebrant and homilist. Organ recital by Jonas Zukas preceded the Mass. Maryte Bizinkauskas was solosit. Sisters of St. Casimir Choir sang the Mass. Thanks to HM Helen Shields for a

delightful visit at her Philadelphia home.

Sister Angela is busy preparing her Juniors for the Dance Festival in Cleveland in July. She and her young people are to be commended for earning funds for the trip. In addition, she is planning Summer Day Camp at St. George's Grove and a Stay-over Camp at Elmhurst. Interested persons may contact Sister Angela at Annunciation Convent in Frackville.

We are now preparing for the 70th Annual Lithuanian Day on August 12. Joseph Yezulinas is chairman. Joseph & Joseph Jr. are capably handling the weekly radio program.

ONA

C-147 — ST. PETERSBURG

In memory of Alexander J. Aleksis, our council donated \$50 to the scholarship fund in his name.

On February 12, we again observed the commemoration of Lithuania's Independence by attending Mass at St. John's Church in St. Petersburg Beach. A great number of women were in traditional dress which lends color to the occasion. As in the past the church was filled to capacity, about 2,000. We were fortunate to have TV coverage on two channels that evening. Thanks to Mrs. Jacobsen who always does a terrific job in organizing this event.

After Mass, many went to the American-Lithuanian Club for a delicious hot lunch. Again, Mrs. Jacobsen reserved a table for about 30 guests. Among her guests were Mr. & Mrs. Algerd Brazis who were house guests of Harry & Emily Petraitis. At Mrs. Jacobsen's request, Al Brazis, accompanied by his wife Aldona, rendered several songs. They brought joy to the hearts of all and even some tears were shed. It was indeed a special treat, a lovely surprise. Many heartfelt thanks to

this popular couple.

On February 16 we had our flag-raising ceremonies in five municipalities. The mayor or vice mayor of each municipality read a proclamation naming February 16 Lithuanian Independence Day. It is a solemn and emotional event. This year Mother Nature provided a most beautiful day. After the ceremonies, people congregated at the American-Lithuanian Club where they heard Mr. Kojelis of Washington speak. He is a liaison man for President Reagan. Mrs. Jacobsen was given recognition which she rightly deserves for her hard work.

We scheduled our annual picnic for May 16 in Seminole Park. We have more and more vacationers attending our picnic, and we do extend our invitation to them. We will do our best to accommodate them this year.

Emily Petraitis

C-133 — LOS ANGELES

Prior to our February meeting, we prepared form letters requesting the issuance of Darius-Girėnas Postal Stamp. Our council secretary handled correspondence with US Postal Service and persons interested in this matter. We are expanding our area of interest.

Finally, we made up our own stationery. Robert Novak did this for us.

At our February meeting, a special prayer was said by Msgr. Celiesius on the occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Death of St. Casimir. Msgr. Celiesius presented a study on St. Casimir. It was informative and contained many details unfamiliar to us. We are grateful to Msgr. Celiesius for his dedication to be of service to us. He had to travel from Lucerne Valley to Burbank to speak to us at our meeting.

Robert Novak displayed St. Casimir stamps issued in 1958 by the Vatican.

It was our pleasure to introduce several guests and prospective candidates for membership. We were pleased that our long-awaited guest, Stephanie Gurskis from Sepulveda, showed up. Also, her friend of the same profession, pharmacology, Terese Rudzevicius from Los Angeles, came with her. Prof. Jonas Skirius with wife Maria and Mary Misiukaite Oberfield from West Los Angeles also attended. Mr. Br. Sheppard (Seputis) and son Richrd, Russell Eckberg with wife Eleanor Gecionyte Edkberg, all from Woodland Hills, came and got acquainted with their Lithuanian neighbors at this meeting.

By now a total of 1260 signatures were collected on the Darius-Girėnas petitions. Ann Laurinaitis, Mary Kiskis, Helen Bartkus and Bernice Skirius secured the majority of the signatures. President Helen Bartkus successfully collected many signatures on D-G petitions while visiting in Arizona. With provided material and encouragement from B. Skirius, Ms. Mikulskis is campaigning in Georgia. About a couple hundred letters, signatures only needed, were distributed regarding the request for D-G stamp. Can we succeed?

BSK



**NEW ENGLAND
DISTRICT**

C-7 — WATERBURY

Hello from Waterbury C-7! We had a productive and satisfying 1983 and 1984 looks even better.

Our Christmas Cheer Raffle was a success. Thanks to all members who participated and sold tickets.

Our special thanks to Ann Cheplick who coordinated it. We also held a Christmas party, chaired by Doris Blinn. It was a sit-down dinner. The women of our council cooked and served. Everything was delicious — thanks to Alma Torre, Barbara Ricevicius, Tony White and, of course, Doris Blinn.

On December 31, we ushered in the New Year at a party at the club rooms, chaired by Barbara Ricevicius. The food was donated by the club members. Walter Kalick, president, tasted the New Year with champagne and wished us all a healthy and prosperous year.

We also held a Valentine party with all the food prepared by the men. Committee consisted of Walter Kalick, Walter Blinn and Ed White. We had homemade "Lit baloney and kugelis" made by Walter and Joe Blinn, Ziggy Matuckas with assistance of Walter's wife Doris. Ann Cheplick and Alma Torre took over the chores of serving liquid refreshments. We also had a corned beef and cabbage dinner in March.

One of our good members, Edward Bebirin, was omitted from the list of elected board members as was Father Goerge, our spiritual advisor. Apologies to both.

The Lithuanian Community of Waterbury commemorated the anniversary of Lithuanian Independence on February 16 by electing a Lithuanian Mayor for the day. This year it was one of our long-time Knights and a well-deserving man by the name of John W. Stokes. We had a flag-raising ceremony and reception at the Mayor's office. There was a large turnout to honor him. John is an asset to the Community and a local businessman of long standing. He owns and operates Stokes Funeral Home. Congratulations from the K of L go out to John.

Council 7 cooperated with the Lithuanian Community in the annual observance of Lithuanian In-

dependence Day. Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Church at 11 a.m., and at 3 p.m. there was a program in the school hall. Bronislaw Lazauskas, a life member of C-7, and his young son David represented the Knights and carried the flags for both events. There were speeches and salutations from prominent people in the Lithuanian Community. Local dignitaries included the Mayor of Waterbury.

A particularly interesting talk was given by Ginte Damusis from the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid of New York. Ginte is a dedicated young person and is an inspiration to both young and old. Her talk was both knowledgeable and inspiring. We need a lot more individuals like her.

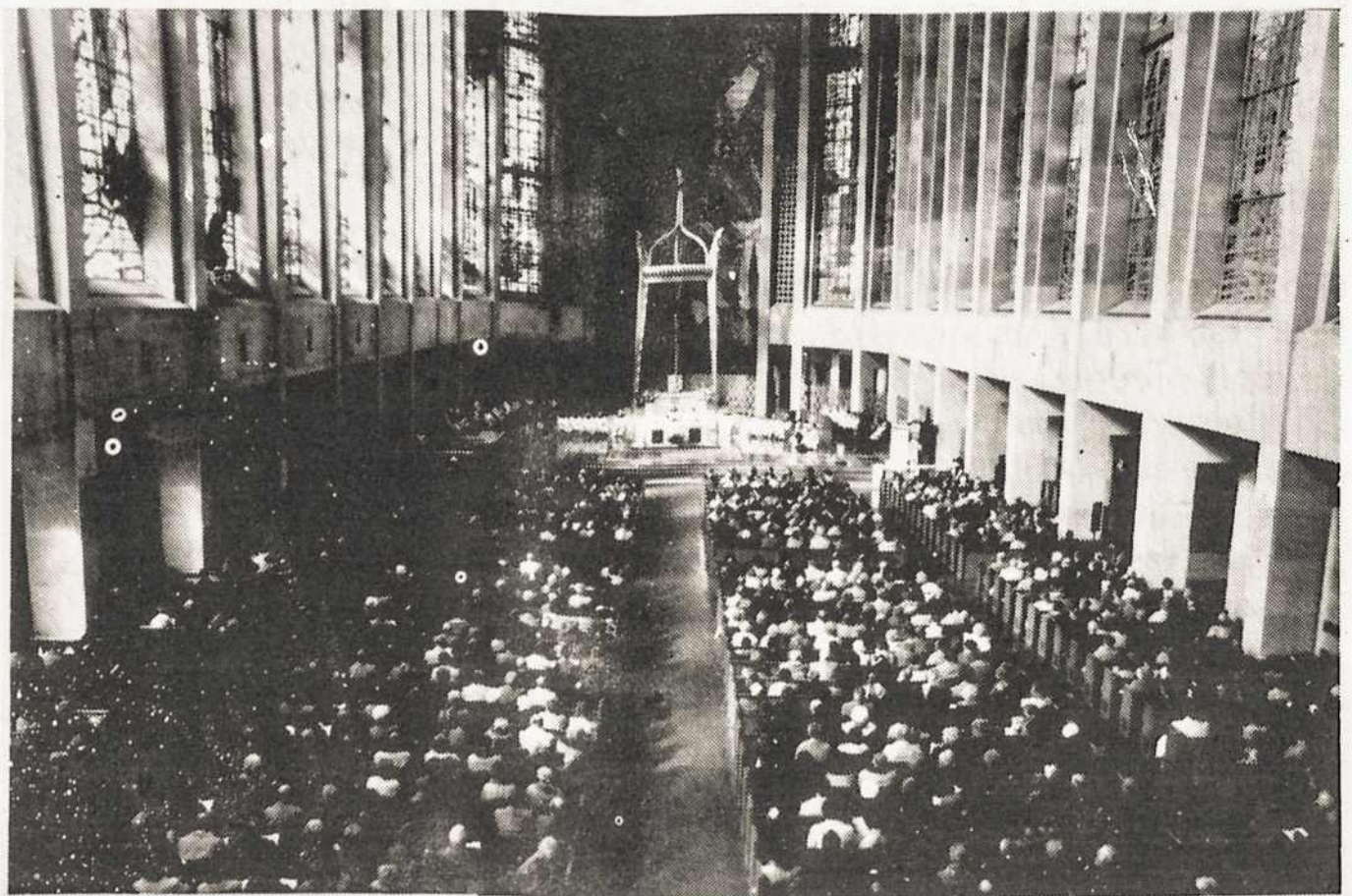
Our K of L Vice President Walter Blinn read the Proclamation. Thanks to Victor Vaitkus for the fine job of coordinating the event. With people like these our dream of a free Lithuania will become a reality, and our heritage will be preserved.

Bronislaw & Diane Lazauskas

C-7, WATERBURY

The six Lithuanian Parishes of Connecticut, namely, Holy Trinity of Hartford, St. Andrew's of New Britain, St. Joseph's of Waterbury, St. Casimir's of New Haven, St. Anthony's of Ansonia, St. George's of Bridgeport, combined their efforts to celebrate together the commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir's Death. All Lithuanian-Americans were invited to take part in a two-day celebration which included cultural, social and religious festivities. The deep love that our people have for St. Casimir and Lithuania was shown by the crowds that attended these events. We were also honored by people from Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Our congratulations go out to Ignas Budrys and his hard-working committee for a job superbly done. Participants enjoyed themselves and were happy to be there. They kept remarking "if only we could do this more often."

The week started with an exhibit



The congregation consisting of 6 Lithuanian parishes honor St. Casimir at St. Joseph Cathedral in

Hartford, CT. The Chief Celebrant of the Mass was Archbishop John F. Whealon

of Lithuanian Culture at the Museum of Connecticut History.

On Saturday, March 3, a concert was held at Bushnell Memorial Hall. The Aras Men's Chorus from Toronto, Canada, under the talented direction of Vaclovas Verikaitis, sang several Lithuanian songs including two hymns, "O Šventasis Karalaitis" and "Šventas Kazimierai." The audience showed their appreciation with a standing ovation.

The Čiurlionis Kanklės Ensemble from Cleveland, composed of young talented people, performed with such gracefulness, producing smooth, relaxing music. They were also loudly applauded. The happy and bouncy Lithuanian Folk Dancers from New England and New York followed. They delighted the audience as they formed quadrilles, changing their pace and positions. George Petkaitis was the Musical Director and Arranger. It is always a pleasure to watch these young people keep our Lithuanian culture alive. Their performances drew a tundering applause. This concluded the cultural part of the program.

The dinner-dance, the social event was held at the beautiful La Renaissance in Windsor. A formal dinner was served. Messages sent by the President, Governor, Mayors and Lithuanian Representatives in Washington were read. After dinner, the diners danced into the wee hours of the morning.

Mass on Sunday at the beautiful, contemporary St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford highlighted the commemoration. The day was beautiful so about 1000 marchers gathered and formed a procession, preceded by banners, flags and women dressed in Lithuanian costumes. As the procession entered the cathedral, there were about 600 already seated in the side pews. The cathedral was decorated with bouquets of yellow, green and red flowers. During the seating, "Kristau Pasaulio Vadove" was sung by the combined choirs of Hartford,



From Cleveland, OH - the Čiurlionis Kanklės Orchestra under the direc-

tion of George Petkaitis, Music Director of Holy Trinity Church in Hartford. The clerical procession came in as the choir sang "Pulkim ant Kelių." The procession consisted of the Archbishop, three bishops, many priests and two deacons.

The chief celebrant of the Mass was Archbishop John F. Whealon. Concelebrants were Bishop John F. Hackett of Hartford, Bishop Daniel P. Reilly of Norwich, Bishop Benneth A. Angell of Providence. Clergy included Rev. Joseph Matutis, Rev. Raymond Yuskauskas, Rev. Albert Karalius, Rev. Francis Pranckus, Rev. George Vilciauskas. The two Lithuanian Deacons were Dr. Peter Aiksnoras and Vincent Klimas. Clergy from New York and Boston were also present.

Vaclovas Verikaitis, baritone, was the solosit. Archbishop Whealon preached the homily on St. Casimir's life. He commented that sadness exists now in Lithuania where people cannot celebrate their Patron's Feast Day as we are doing today. He concluded by fervently hoping and

tion of Ona Mikulskiene - performed in Hartford

praying that the day will come when once again Lithuanians can enjoy civil and religious freedoms. A Lithuanian sermon was preached by the Rev. Valdemaras Cukuras on "Šventas Kazimieras."

Another impressive part of the Mass was the presentation of gifts which included "Rūpintojėlis," a carving of the suffering Christ; "Bread and Wine" to be consecrated in the Eucharist; "A Garment," embroidered with traditional designs expressing Lithuanian spiritual values; "Gintaro Gabalas," a treasured gemstone of ancient Lithuanian culture; "Soil" from the Vilnius region where St. Casimir lived; "Isdrožinėtas Kopyltstulpis," a Wayside Cross; "Knyga," the book listing the Lithuanian martyrs in Siberia; "Vytis", the Coat of Arms; "Pillow Slip of Maironis," the priest and poet instrumental to Catholic Lithuanian national reawakening; "Šiaudų Paveikslas," a portrait of Jesus fashioned from straw; "Verbos," dried flowers used in Lithuania as Easter Palms; "Margučiai," Easter eggs representing renewal of life.

After Mass, the American National Anthem and the Lithuanian

Himnas were sung. As the clerical procession was leaving, the choir sang "Apsaugok Aukščiausias." Before the congregation left, the entire body sang with great spirit the beautiful "Marija, Marija."

Our gratefulness goes to Archbishop Whealon who braved his illness and made that great effort to lead us Lithuanians in honoring our beloved St. Casimir, our Patron and our Protector. This was the Archbishop's first public appearance after his very serious illness. He was anxious to attend because of his deep love for the Lithuanian people and reminded us that his first religious assignment was in a Lithuanian parish in Akron, Ohio, in 1945.

Many a tear was brushed away as the people left the Cathedral after witnessing this beautiful ceremony so reverently prepared by the Rev. John Rikteraitis.

Our biggest thank you goes to Ignas Budrys who headed the committee, to Eugene Ziurys for his excellent publicity and to all who helped, too numerous to mention.

Visiems kurie prisidėjote prie šio sunkaus darbo — dėkojame širdingai — LAI GYVUOJA LIETUVA!

Patricia Richards

C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

Council 10 commemorated the 500th Anniversary of the Death of St. Casimir with two days of festivities which began on March 3 by attending in a body the evening Mass in St. Francis Church, Athol. Charles Genaitis and Margaret Senk brought up the gifts. Rev. Justin Steponaitis celebrated the Mass and gave an appropriate homily. The monthly meeting followed. The Athol girls served a delicious lunch followed by an evening of chatting and singing.

Sunday's activities resumed at Maironis Park where 22 of us traveled and joined a full house of

Worcesterites to honor St. Casimir and benefit the parish school.

Our own Fr. Steponaitis gave an excellent address in Lithuanian with facts new to us about St. Casimir. Rev. Miciunas gave the English talk which was equally well done. The Men's Choir entertained. An excellent meal was served by the Maironis staff.

Joanna Chastney of Athol was in Rome for the festivities and returned home full of joy. Stan and Alice Perekslis of Athol spent that weekend in Hartford at the State of Connecticut celebration.

Following the February 16 program, the "Gardner News" carried a write-up and picture in the form of a scroll depicting the Mayor of Gardner's Proclamation of Lithuanian Day in Town, along with our flag and a brief history of Lithuania. It was the artistic work of Jim Murphy of the news staff. It was beautifully done and gave us great publicity.

A big welcome to Ann Amborse who recently joined our ranks.

Our member of the month is Gloria Debasaitis O'Malley. She was born and reared in Gardner where she attended school and was graduated from Gardner High. Her marriage to James took her to our neighboring town of Fitchburg. Gloria is president of the Lithuanian Outing Association and has been a worker in the association. She recently received her realtor's license and works part time. Gloria and Jim are ardent campers and love the outdoors. They are parents of a son, Brendan. They are all avid swimmers. Glad to have you both in our group.

Vincukas

C-27 — NORWOOD

St. Casimir was the main thought, action, word and deed of everyone in commemorating the 500th anniversary of his untimely

death.

Buses and cars rolled from all over New England. The Norwood Council and Father Bill Wolkovich got a bus off to the Cathedral in Hartford. It was very inspiring not only to K of L'ers but also parishioners.

March 3 was also a date to celebrate. It was the big "50" for Fred Picard. His wife, Adelle, sons Chris and Paul pitched right in with a super birthday. We had a real good time.

Our council had its St. Casimir's Communion Breakfast on March 11. White tablecloths for St. Casimir's purity along with white bud vases with greenery, red and yellow flowers. People of the parish supported this lovely occasion. As usual, our Father Bill gave a very inspiring talk about St. Casimir.

In Norwood, we celebrate all the Saints; St. Patrick's day was no different. Mary Ann Tamasanis, our treasurer, made her famous corned beef and cabbage dinner.

March 25 was a busy day at St. George's Church. Our Father Bill had an appreciation dinner for all his workers for the parish. As usual, he put on a social hour and catered dinner with the assistance of the Wolkovich family. After this lovely dinner, we sang old-time songs as well as some beautiful Lithuanian songs from song sheets provided by Father Bill. It's no surprise, we all admire Father — what can't he do? Those attending from our council were Mary Ann Tamasanis; Adelle & Fred Picard; Joyce & Fran Kasetta; Louise, Paul, Barbara Zukas; George Bartoni; Nancy, Helen & Stan Dallalis.

To Phil Carter's family, we extend our deepest sympathy. He was a truly good friend and always put a smile on your face. We will miss him.

Stasiukas

C-50 — NEW HAVEN

Some 1500 people gathered in St

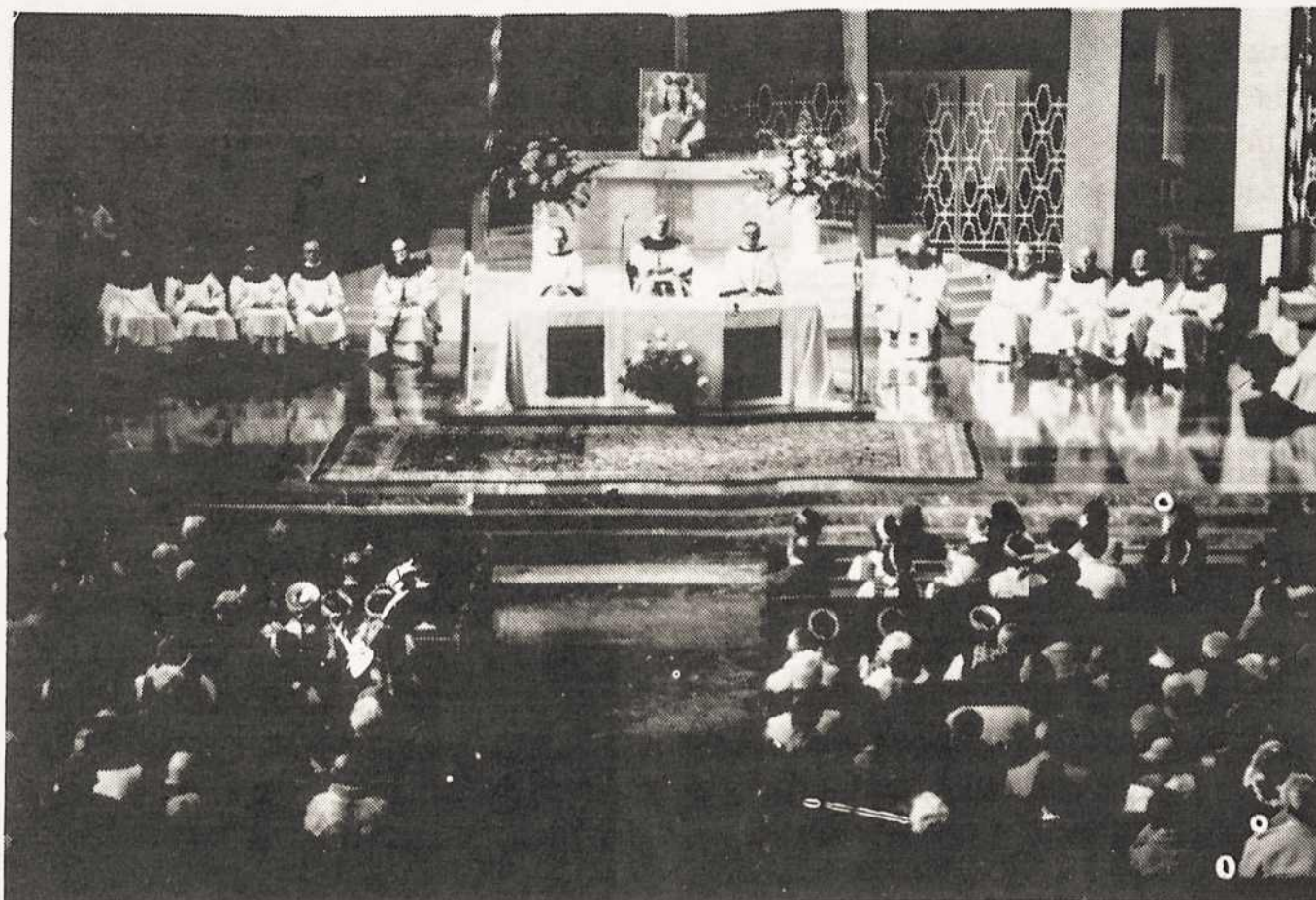
Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford on March 4 to mark the 500th anniversary of the death of their homeland's patron saint, St. Casimir. There were Lithuanian-Americans from the northeast. Archbishop Whealon presided at the Mass and also delivered the homily in English. The celebrants were Bishop Hackett of Hartford, Bishop Reilly of Norwich and Auxiliary Bishop Angell of Providence.

A second homily in Lithuanian was delivered by Father Cukuras, chaplain of Immaculate Conception Convent, Putnam. More than a dozen priests as well as half a dozen deacons participated in the observance. Combined choirs of four of the state's Lithuanian parishes — Holy Trinity, Hartford; St. Andrew, New Britain; St. Joseph, Waterbury; St. Casimir, New Haven — sang at the Mass. The director was George Petkaitis of Holy Trinity. The soloist was Vaclovas Verikaitis of Toronto. Floyd Higgins, the Cathedral organist, provided the accompaniment. Father David Baranowski, chairman of the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission, was the cantor. During the offertory procession, symbolic gifts representing the close relationship between religion and culture of Lithuania were brought to the altar along with the bread and wine.

The concelebrants of the Mass included Msgr. Pranckus of Bridgeport and Fathers Matutis from Hartford, Rikteraitis of New Britain, Yuskauskas of Ansonia, Karalis of New Haven, Vilciauskas from Waterbury and Parulis MIC of Thompson.

The Liturgy brought to a close a weekend celebration which included a concert at Bushnell Memorial Hall on Saturday afternoon featuring groups from Toronto, Cleveland, New York and parts of New England.

Saturday night featured a dinner at La Renaissance in East Windsor. An exhibit of Lithuanian art is on



At the altar in St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford, CT

display at the State Library during March.

Our own parish festivities took place on March 11. We started the day with a Solemn Mass honoring St. Casimir celebrated by Father Ilcauskas of Waterbury. Father Karalis, our pastor, had undergone surgery the past week. Father Vilcauskas gave a most inspiring sermon. The choir performed a beautiful rendition of both Latin and Lithuanian hymns.

We then went to the church hall where a buffet dinner was prepared by Ann Meskins and Theresa Strimaitis. Father Vilcauskas again inspired us with some good after-dinner comments. We were both thankful and happy that he was our speaker of the day.

Father Karvelis who had just returned from Rome showed us some slides taken with the Pope. He also stated that the third highest ranking person in the Vatican was a young Lithuanian. Father Karvelis is pastor of St. John Vianney Church in West Haven, a large Irish-Italian parish. We had a good turnout for this very happy occasion.

H. B.

C-103 — PROVIDENCE

Lithuanian Christmas carols on tapes provided the musical background for our Christmas party at Frederick's in nearby Warwick. Santa Claus, also known as Ruth Savickas, paid us a visit. Interrupting our Christmas carol sing-along was a surprise birthday cake for our parish housekeeper, Dorothy Whitling, our guest that evening.

We celebrated our Spiritual Advisor's birthday at the January meeting with a birthday cake and heartfelt "Ilgiausią Metų" to Father Gedvila.

The Lithuanian flag flew from the State House on February 16, the day on which our Governor issued a proclamation commemorating Lithuanian Independence Day. Our Most Reverend Bishop Louis Gelineau was present at the ceremonies with a delegation from Council 103 which included Elizabeth Tribusis, Joseph & Agnes Waitonis, Father Isidorius Gedvila, Aldona & Matthew Kairys, Sophie Sakalys, Ray & Ruth Savickas, Victor & Bea Matheiu.

Our council joined with the Rhode Island Heritage Commission in sponsoring a well-attended "Blyny Balius," a traditional pre-Lenten social.

Saint Casimir's Feast Day and the 500th anniversary of his death was celebrated at a special Mass followed by brunch. Guest speaker was Father William Wolkovich, Pastor of Saint George's Church in Norwood. His talk was well researched and most interesting.

At our March meeting we were given a first-hand report on the observance of St. Casimir's Feast Day in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Pictures of the event were shown by Mr. & Mrs. Mathieu who attended all the ceremonies and even shook Our Holy Father's hand.

Helen Denisewich



MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

Our 24th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet is now just a memory. Again we are most pleased to announce that the event was very successful with a capacity audience. Our congratulations to the Committee: Chairlady Mary Rudis, District President Algerd & Aldona Brazis, Coordinator Irene Sankus, Vincent Samaska, Estelle Rogers, John L. Paukstis, Sabina Klatt, Eleanor Kasputis, Julie & Al Zakarka, Ruth Kazlauskas, Emilija Pakalniskis, Gerry Mack, Clemente Vidzius, Susan Bolanos, Paul Binkis Jr., Valeria & Joseph Stanaitis. To



This picture taken on February 16th, Lithuanian Independence Day Governor J. Joseph Garrahy is giving a proclamation to Aldona Kairys. Many Knights of Lithuania of C-103 Providence and other Lithuanians were present.

First row left to right, Elizabeth Trebusis, Joseph Waitonis, C-103 President Father Izidorius Gedvila, Joseph Garrahy, Governor handing Aldona Kairys proclamation, Bishop Louis Gelineau, Sophie Sakalys, Ruth Savickas, Bea and Victor Mathieu

those members who assisted that evening a special thank-you. Our District Spiritual Advisor Rev. Anthony Zakaruskas served as the M-C.

In honor of the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir, we presented our Award of Distinction to the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Casimir. A large group of sisters from Maria High School, the Mother House and Nativity BVM were present at the banquet.

Other honored guests were Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, Lithuanian Consul General Josephine Dauzvardis, Vice-Consul Mary Krauchunas, State Senator Frank Savickas, ALTAS Vice President Dr. Vladas Simaitis, National President Loretta Stukas, Rev. I. Urbonas, 12th Ward Alderman A. Majerczyk, Sister M. Joanela.

We were privileged to have many National Officers present: NED President Al Jaritis (Boston), MCD

President Tom Bruuzga (DuBois), Vice Presidents Elsie Kosmisky (Pennsylvania) & Elinor Sluzas (Dayton), Secretary Nancy Miro (Bridgeport), Public Relations Chairman Mary Ann Lepera (Philadelphia) Vytis Editor Aldona Ryan (Dayton); along with other C-96 Dayton members: Judy Petrokas, Rita Ambrose, Mary Lucas, Stephania Rasteikis and Joe Ryan. We hope that all enjoyed the event as much as we enjoyed having them attend.

Our K of L Dancers in preparation for "Šokių Šventė" held a dinner-dance fund raiser in the Garden Room of the Martinique. Dance Coordinator Frank Zapolis, his wife Eleanor and son Robert were in the forefront in making all of the arrangements.

We express our appreciation to C-82 of Gary, Indiana, its officers and members — mostly, The Rev. Ignatius Urbonas — for hosting our

annual district commemoration of St. Casimir's Day at their historic St. Casimir Church. Father Urbonas was chosen as this year's "Member of the Year" and received a beautiful Lithuanian wood carving.

The commemorative event was followed by our March Quarterly Business Meeting, conducted by President Algerd Brazis. Plans were made for our annual July 4th Picnic. Donations were approved for the Lithuanian-American Council, Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation, Chicago Lithuanian Women's Club Amber Ball and the 1984 National Convention Program Book. The convention will be hosted by one of our member councils, C-36 of Brighton Park in Chicago.

Our K of L Choir held its Annual Choir Benefit Dance in January at the K of L Building. Due to the efforts of Choir President Sabina Klatt, Director Faustas Strolia and all the officers and members, the event was very successful.

LT



ILGIAUSIŲ METŲ — 100 YEARS

One of our oldest K of L members, JOHN KASS (KAZAKAUSKAS), will celebrate his 100th birthday on June 24, 1984.

John is a member of the Chicago Seniors.

Born in Lithuania, Lygumų parap. in 1884, he came to the United States in 1904 and learned the watchmaking trade. John and the late Emily Mickeliunas were married in 1914, the first couple to be married in Immaculate Conception Parish, Brighton Park, Chicago.

His first Jewelry store was opened in 1915 in the Town of Lake area, later moving to Bridgeport for several years, then to Brighton Park on Archer Ave. where he served the area with his Jewelry and Music store for 22 years. Retiring in 1954, he moved to Justice, Ill. to live with his daughter and son-in-law, Emily and Martin Gestautas, members of C-36, Chicago, where he still continued repairing watches for over 15 years.

John was a very active K of L member for many years. He was a member of the committee that purchased and renovated the K of L building on 47th Street in Brighton Park and spent countless hours on the repair and remodeling of the much used building that serves the Chicago area Knights so well today. He was a Trustee and Treasurer for 10 years. If he could, he would still like



John and the late Emily Kass (Kazakauskas)

to attend Senior Council meetings and activities.

His wife Emily died in 1974. Besides his daughter Emily, he has a son Matthew residing in Los Angeles, Calif. John has five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He still makes his home with his daughter and son-in-law at 7500 South Oak Grove, Justice, Ill. 60458.

Ruth Kazlauskas

C-36 — CHICAGO

Our January meeting was attended by 122 members despite the severe cold and snowy day. There were further reports on the preparations for the 71st National Convention. Many excellent suggestions promise to make the convention enjoyable to all who will attend. Robert Gawryla was the lucky winner of a beautiful Times wrist watch, our attendance award.

A successful Supreme Council meeting was held on February 4 at Immaculate Conception Parish. Council 36 rolled out the red carpet to welcome National President Loretta Stukas and members of the Supreme Council. Convention Co-chairman Mary Kincius presented a detailed 1984 Convention Progress Report which was accepted with great enthusiasm.

During the session, they were greeted by Msgr. Mozeris, our pastor, Father Fabian, our spiritual director and Sister M. Margaret, Principal of Immaculate Conception. Our committee prepared many delicious snacks prior to the meeting. A mouth-watering dinner was served after evening Mass. Everyone was impressed with our beautiful church. We socialized after the sessions and really enjoyed meeting so many beautiful people.

We are grateful to the many members who contributed so much to make this meeting something we can truly be proud of. The following



Officers and Committee Chairmen Council 36, Chicago (Brighton Park) for 1984 are (seated from L to R) Ruth Kazlauskas, Lithuanian Affairs; Clara O'Dea, Corresponding Secretary; Ausra Padalino, Recording Secretary; Rev. Fabian Kireilis, Spiritual Adviser; John L. Paukstis,

members worked in the kitchen, set up the hall, gave donations and served as drivers to pick up Supreme Council members at the airport: Evelyn Ozelis, Helen Meizis, Anele Zalauskas, Lucy Kilkus, Anne Gendrolas, Val Longinvecker, Ed Vaskis, CLARE O'Dea, Ausra Padalino, Sharon Martinaitis, Ellen Sliter, Sus Suski, Mary Kincius, Lillian Paukstis, Peter Maleta, Bernice Dowling, John Kernagis, Larry & Mona Krause, Ron Maldunas, Dave Gaidas, Alina & Laima Vadeisa, Marge Soprych, Walter Kalvaitis, Kazys & Irena Alzinas,

President; Mary Kincius, Trustee; Bruce Neberieza, First Vice President; Sharon Martinaitis, Ways and Means; Ann Wickey, Registration. Standing (L to R) Vyto Abraitis, Sergeant at Arms; Robert Gawryla, Trustee; Ed Walskis, Dance; Evelyn Ozelis, Convention;

Sadie Paden, Vince Shamaska, Ruth Kazlauskas, Joseph Bardauskas, Ann Cihon, Scottie Zukas, Ann Marie Kassel, Wally Tenclinger and Stanley Obrocia. Thanks to one and all; you did us proud!

In loving memory, please remember in your prayers our recently deceased members: Joseph Patocka, Katherine Kulikauskas and Mary Martin. Our condolences to all of their families.

We extend a cordial welcome to the following new members: Edmund & Jura Jasiunas, Adolph & Lucile Staisunas, Jamdolis Family, Vida

Don Smith, Ways and Means; Lucy Kilkus, Historian; Ray Wertelka, Second Vice President; Jerome Jankus, Sergeant at Arms; Dave Gaidas, Convention Coordinator; Joseph Zadekis, Stamp; Lillian Paukstis, Vytis Correspondent; William Balis, Ways and Means.

Kivenas, Casimir & June Stuckonis, Bruno & Joan Bruce, Herman & Bernice (Varnagis) Dolanski, Mildred (Budrus) Burbatt, Aldona (Budrus) Meisner, Esther Pronites, Luco & July Brandonisio, Ruth (Gauchus) Kosmpoulos, Dave Matulis, Caesar & Lorraine (Gedvilas) Centracchio, Rosemarie (Barkauskas) Rinehart and Algimantas, Elaine Debra and Ken Adomaitis.

Our council is honored to welcome a new family. They are Dr. Algirdas Zemaitis, his wife Wanda and their Children Alexas, Marija,



Members of Council 36 of Chicago assembled to board busses to join

over 2,000 Lithuanian Catholics to attend Mass celebrated by Cardinal

Joseph Bernardin at Holy Name Cathedral to pay tribute to St. Casimir.

Rita, Paulius and Julia. Dr. Zemaitis is a member of the Diplomatic Corps of the United Nations Agricultural Commission.

We are happy and excited to welcome a new young member by the name of Debra Adomaitis who was selected to enter the Miss Illinois Contest. Wouldn't it be great to have a Miss Illinois in the Knights of Lithuania! Best wishes, Debra!

On February 25, three bus loads of members were driven to Holy Name Cathedral to participate in the Mass commemorating the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir. The principal celebrant of the Mass was Chicago's Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. Council 36 and Immaculate Conception Parish were happy and honored to have our own member, Msgr. D. A. Mozeris, participate and give the homily. Our K of L Choir, under the direction of President Sabina Klatt and Prof. Faustas Strolia, did themselves proud. The Sisters of St. Casimir, some 150 strong, attended Mass along with their choir which sang so beautifully from their hearts. Sister M. Joanela, General Superior SSC, and Josephine Dauzvardis, Consul General of Lithuania, brought forth the Gifts at the Offertory. It was truly an awe-inspiring event.

OKN February 26, Coffee, Cake & Bake Sale was held at Immaculate Conception Hall. Evelyn Ozelis, general chairperson, did an outstanding job in organizing and directing this event. Many members contributed and worked long hours to make this event a success. Congratulations and a big "ačiū" to Evelyn and her committee.

Condolences are extended to Mrs. Peter (Helen) Vilkelis on the death of her brother, Al Kumskis. Ona Naureckas who is recuperating from a serious hospital stay attended our last meeting with her husband Paul. She looks great! We were indeed happy to have her back. We are proud to report that Anne



Obtaining signatures for Council 36 Chicago Petition Drive for the Darius-Girenas Postage Stamp are (seated) Edward Jasiunas, Debra Adomaitis, President John Paukstis;

(standing) Jonas Kavaliauskas and Trustee Mary Kincius. More than 1,000 signatures were secured in two days.

Wiechecki was presented a gold pin with six rubies for her 3,000 hours of volunteer service in the Emergency Room at Mercy Hospital in Chicago. Congratulations from all your Knights of Lithuania members!

Lillian Paukstis

C-82 — GARY

The Mid America District held its St. Casimir's Day Commemoration at our home parish of St. Casimir in Gary, Indiana. All arrangements were made by our pastor Rev. Ignatius Urbonas, Sister Jeannine, President Loretta Raudonis and Irene Sankus of Chicago.

His Excellency Bishop Brizgys concelebrated the Mass along with our pastor and the Canon Vaclovas Zakarauskas of Nativity BVM Parish in Chicago.

Before the start of the Mass, Bishop Brizgys blessed the beautiful St. Casimir painting by Sister S.

Mercedes of the Sisters of St. Casimir, mecenatas for the painting was the late Jonas Klimas. We were most pleased to have Sister Mercedes and four other Sisters join our Sister Jeannine for the day's festivities.

A colorful procession preceded the Mass with the American, Lithuanian, K of L and Lithuanian Scouts Flags carried by Albert Zakarka, Steve Rudokas, Jerome Jankus, Edward Pocius, Antanas Sereika, all of Chicago, along with the Scout Color Guard. The Communion gifts were presented by our council president, Sister Mercedes and District Board Chairman Vincent Samaska. The Mass was sung by soloist Algerd Brazis of Chicago and our parish choir and ended with the singing of the K of L Hymn.

Everyone went to the parish hall for a commemorative program, directed by Rev. Urbonas and a luncheon prepared by the council.

George Rickus spoke in Lithuanian and English on the life of St.

Casimir. Singer-guitarist Linda Ruzgaitis-Burba, formerly of Gary, delivered a beautiful program which closed with everyone singing "Marija, Marija."

Among the many guests present were K of L Honorary Members Bishop Brizgys, Senior Council President Adele Gabalis and journalist Stanley Pieza; District President Algerd and Mrs. Brazis; Anthony and Mary Rudis; East Chicago, Indiana, ALTAS President Al Vinick; Sisters of St. Casimir from Chicago; council presidents John Paukstis of C-36 Chicago, Theresa Balciunas of C-38 Kenosha, Loreta Raudonis of C-82 Gary and Paul Binkis Jr. of C-112 Chicago.

On behalf of the District, Irene Sankus presented Rev. Urbonas with a beautiful Lithuanian wood carving for being chosen as the District's "Member of the Year."

The day's activities ended with the quarterly business meeting of the District.

We were most honored to host the 500th Anniversary Commemoration of the District's St. Casimir's Day and sincerely hope that all of our visitors enjoyed the day's events.

KP

C-112 — CHICAGO

Council officers and chairmen continue to meet on a regular basis to plan and coordinate council activities. The Board is headed by council Vice President Al Zakarka. Our thanks to board meeting hosts, Alice & Al Cekanor in January and Julie & Al Zakarka in February.

At each of our regular council business meetings, President Paul Binkis Jr. and Cultural Chairlady Susan Bolanos arrange for speakers for the interest and benefit of members. Following the January meeting, we enjoyed the presentation on Lithuanian Book Plates given by Birute Plioplys, *Administrator* of the *Lithuanian Institute*. Our Lithua-

nian Affairs Chairlady Rita Zakarka had us all writing letters for the L. A. Committee following our February meeting. Our Social Chairpersons Julie Zakarka and Louis Rogers, in addition to providing delicious refreshments for each meeting, arranged for a special St. Joseph's Table for the March meeting.

In our area, the Year of St. Casimir began with the District's 24th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet. Many of our members were in attendance. Congratulations to the following members who worked on the committee: Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas, Algerd & Aldona Brazis, Irene Sankus, Eleanore Kasputis, Al & Julie Zakarka, Estelle Rogers, Gerry Mack, Susan Bolanos, Paul Binkis Jr. and Monica Kasper.

We were also in attendance at the all-Lithuanian organizations St. Casimir's Mass held at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral with His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Bernardin concelebrating Mass with many Lithuanian priests, including our pastor, Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas. The event was organized by the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation National Board on which our members Saulius Kuprys, Rev. Tony Markus and Irene Sankus serve as officers.

C-112 was in the forefront at the District's St. Casimir's Commemoration held at St. Casimir's Church in Gary, Indiana, with C-82 as hosts. About 40 members attended. We thank C-82 for their hospitality. Susan Bolanos and Gerry Mack coordinated the bus transportation.

Congratulations to member Stanley Balzekas III who became the youngest new car dealership owner when he opened a Pontiac-Saab dealership in the southwest suburbs. Stan III is following a family tradition in the automotive field which his grandfather began in 1921 and his father in 1938. We wish him much success.

A belated and sad farewell to our own Father Tony Markus who transferred from Nativity BVM to St. Anthony's Parish in Cicero. We in C-112 shall miss him greatly and wish him well in his new assignment.

iks

LIETUVOS VYČIŲ CHORO METINIS POKYLIS

Kaip ir kiekvienais metais, taip ir šiemet sausio 21 d. pavakary Chikagos lietuviai rinkosi į Vyčių salę, Lietuvos Vyčių choro metinį pobūvį.

Prisirinko pilnutėlė salė — daugiau kaip 200 svečių. Jų laukė paruošti stalai ir besišypsantys vyčiai choristai. Arčiau susipažinus ir kiek apšilus, choras pradėjo savo programą. Didokas būrys jaunų ir vyresnių choristų gražiai išsirikiavo salės gale, o prie pianino atsisėdo jaunas akompaniatorius Darius Polikaitis. Visų mėgiamas choro dirigentas muz. Faustas Strolia, grakščiai nusilenkęs publikai, pradėjo diriguoti.

Pirmoji daina — „Susikalbėjo“, liaudies daina, kurioje kalbasi sausa nendrelė su dobilėliu.

Antroji — „Oi toli, toli“, S. Gailevičiaus; tai pilna ilgesio žiemos dainelė.

Trečioji — liaudies daina „Per girią, girelę“. Solo partijas atliko Ona Marija Kaselienė ir Veronika Bilitavičiūtė.

Ketvirtoji dainelė, „Naujienos“; pasižymėjo gyvu tempu.

Penktoji daina irgi liaudies dainelė, „Alaus, alaus, populiari Maž. Lietuvos daina.

Ir paskutinė, taipogi labai gyva dainelė, su soliste Marija Banky. Publikai labai plojant, buvo pakartota pusė tos linksmos dainos.

Visiems padarė didelę staigmeną choro pirmininkė Sabina Klatt, pakviesdama Liuciją Šotienę tarti žodį. Visi buvo nustebinti L. Šotienės

tokiu gražiu gestu. Pasirodo, ji priklausė seniau veikusiam „Kęstučio“ chorui, kuris nustojo veikęs 1940 metais. Tad ji to choro valdybos kasos likutį 871.52 dol. čekį įteikė Lietuvos Vyčių chorui. Visiems entuzijastiškai plojant S. Klatt tarė trumpą padėkos žodį aukotojai, choro dirigentui, akompaniatoriui, choristams ir visiems svečiams už tokį gausų dalyvavimą.

Po to buvo gardžiai paruošta vakarienė iš 3-jų patiekalų. Po vakarienės „Aido“ orkestras, vadovaujamas Dariaus Polikaičio pradėjo tradicinį valsą. Be paties vadovo orkestre groja Povilas Strolia, Tomas Strolia ir Tomas Valaitis. Paskui buvo šokamas rožių valsas, kurį suorganizavo, Margarita Norušienė, padovanodama rožes, ir pagaliau vyko dovanų paskirstymas.

Vyčių choro valdyba ir choristai dėkingi Chikagos lietuvių visuomenei, kuri taip nuoširdžiai atsiliepė į jų kvietimą ir savo gausiu dalyvavimu parėmė seniausio lietuvių choro Chikagoje veiklą.

A. P. B.



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-19 — PITTSBURGH

On March 4, Council 19 dedicated their Quarterly Communion to St. Casimir. Under the capable supervision of Margaret Papeaka, our president, a brief but symbolic ceremony was initiated at St. Casimir's Church in South Side. Marge Turner, Eleanor and Anne Alelunas wore their colorful Lithua-

nian costumes and participated in the Offertory Procession which was led by Joseph Patellos carrying the crucifix; Lillian Gailya, a lily; Vincent Tamy, golden crown and Mary Tamy, crown of thorns. Father Walter Karaveckas gave a meaningful homily on St. Casimir.

Fr. Karaveckas blessed the Third and Fourth Degree Medals which were then bestowed on Fourth Degree recipients Margaret Papeaka, Sam & Anne Alelunas; Third Degrees to David Wenslovas and Mary Tamy. Albina Ewalt, eligible for her Fourth Degree, was unable to be present and received her medal later.

Our quarterly communion lunch and meeting, held immediately after the services at the Mona Lisa Restaurant, were enjoyed by the members attending.

This same day, Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua of the Diocese of Pittsburgh honored St. Casimir's Day in Pittsburgh with a special Mass celebrating this special occasion at St. Casimir's Church. The inspirational and impressive service

was well attended by approximately 18 priests, many C-19 members and St. Casimir's parishioners and friends.

On this date, also, Andy Rozger, our well-traveled member, was an enthusiastic participant at the joyous Commemorative Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II in Rome.

Council 19 members were sorry to hear of the death on March 24 of Joseph Aleliunas, one of our long-time members. Joe was the brother of Lillian Gailys, also a member. Our heartfelt condolences to the family.

Mary H. Tamy

C-25 — CLEVELAND

St. Casimir's Day celebration began with an impressive Vigil Service at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church on March 3. Many of our members attended. The following day, members attended the beautiful Commemorative Mass in honor of our Patron Saint. Representatives from all the church organizations marched in the procession. Gene Kunsitis had the honor of



C-25 Cleveland, OH, St. Casimir Day Procession - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. E.P. Kunsitis, Flag Bearer, L to R Nellie Arunski, Alvina Luiza



St. Casimir Day Mass Celebration C-25, Cleveland, OH OLPH Church

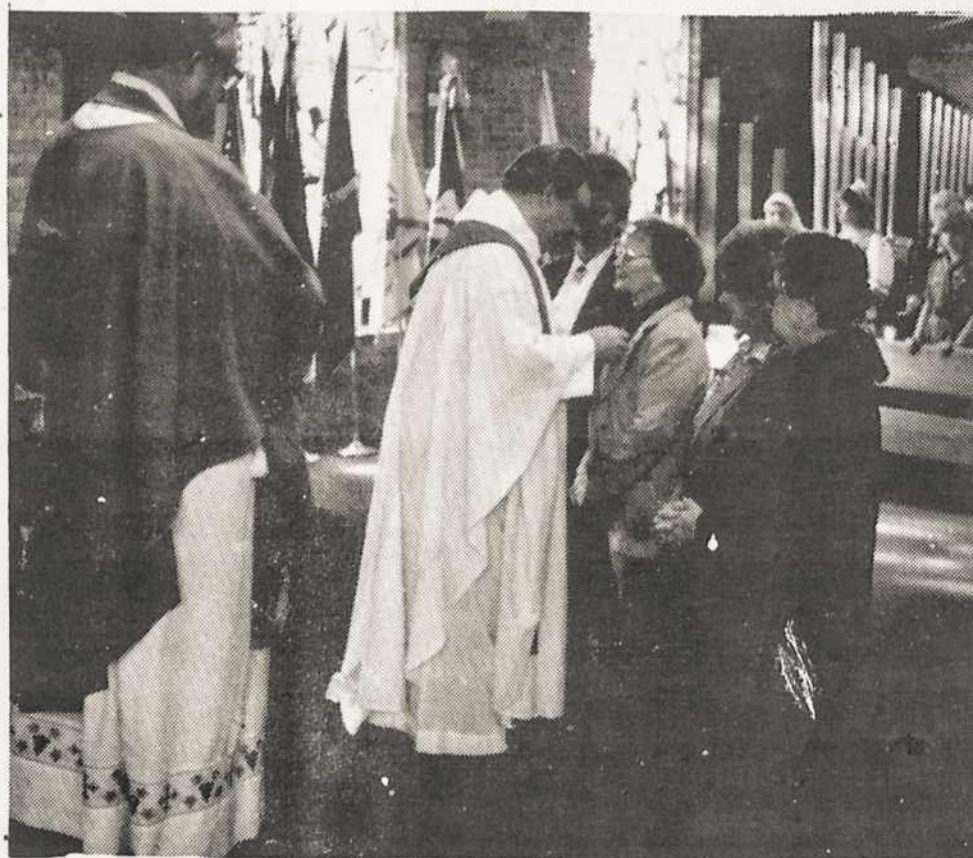
carrying the American Flag with Nellie Arunski and Alvina Luiza as his honor guard. Marion Gray carried the offertory gift. Father Gediminas Kijauskas was celebrant and homilist.

After Mass, 30 of our members went to the Holiday Inn for brunch. Father Kijauskas, Father Zaremba and Father Goldikoyskis were our very special guests. We enjoyed this get-together and extend our appreciation to Ursula and Gene Kunsitis for the arrangements.

Get well wishes and prayers for a speedy recovery are sent to — President Vyto Balas who slipped on the ice and broke his wrist; Vice President Nellie Arunski who had knee surgery; Bruno Bartkus who is home after a hospital stay for a heart



Fr. V. Krisciunevicius receives gold crown from Tina Bulota at St. Casimir's Mass at Divine Providence as Tanya Zager and Egle Stonys stand by to present lilies.



Fr. V. Krisciunevicius pins Third Degree medals on Mary Keller, Virginia Kirsh and Monica Salas of

Council 79 as Ritual Chairman Marianne Newberry and Fr. J. Walter Stanievich join them

condition; Agnes Bartkus who fell and broke her wrist. Hope all of you are feeling better and will join us at our next meeting.

Our bowlers are getting ready for the Bowling Tournament in Dayton in May. Joan and Jim Thompson will host the bowlers in their home.

Joseph & Ann Ivaska, our newest members, were installed and welcomed

at our March meeting. It's nice to have you in our council.

A P W

C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

Signs of spring were evident; the first robin had appeared and a beautiful morning greeted St. Casimir's Day. It was a day of special

significance, the 500th Anniversary of St. Casimir's Death. To commemorate this event, Council 79 hosted the observance at Divine Providence. Our Sister councils, C-102 of St. Anthony's and C-139 of St. Peter's, joined us.

The festivities started with Mass, concelebrated by Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius, our pastor, and Rev. J. Walter Stanievich, former National Spiritual Advisor. Father Kris gave an appropriate sermon. He reinded us that as we approach the 500th Anniversary of the Death of St. Casimir, Lithuanians around the world are saddened by the oppressive events in Lithuania. Father added, "In this coming year, what kind of meaningful impact can the life of St. Casimir have on us who live in our contemporary world?"

A beautiful altar at St. Casimir's window featured a 500 emblem hung from streamers along side the stained glass window, accented by large vases of lovely lilies and a candle with red, green and yellow streamers.

Chester Ostrowski carried the Vyčių flag into the church. During the Offertory, a gold crown was offered by Valentina Bulota who also did a reading in Lithuanian. White lilies were carried and offered by Tanya Marie Zager, granddaughter of Frank and Sophie Zager. Two representatives from Lithuanian Girl Scouts also offered lilies.

It was a proud moment when Mary Keller, Monica Salas and Virginia Kirsh were awarded their Third Degrees during Mass.

After Mass, a spirit of fellowship prevailed at the anniversary dinner at the Cultural Center where the observance was honored with a musical program by Rimas Kasputis and Vytas Neverauskas. HM Robert Boris, a past National President, was the featured speaker. In a reflective, ELOQUENT TALK, Bob spoke on the life of St. Casimir, how he spent most of his youth in spiritual activities and sacrifices. He said, "As we



Head table at C-79 St. Casimir's Dinner with Marianne Bewberry, Ritual Chairman and Rickard

Danielak, Master of Ceremonies, standing

speak here today, how many Lithuanians under Russian domination can observe this big occasion? The people in Lithuania are united in their hearts only."

"Šimtą Ačiū" to Mary Keller for chairing this successful event. Her willing and able committee included President Magdalena Smailis, Marge Nashlon, MARIANNE Newberry, Virginia Kirsh, Cynthia & Chester Ostrowski. Betty Petroski handled reservations; Chester Nashlon, Chip Newberry and Jos. Yakstys, refreshments. Richrd Danielak did a

fine job as Master of Ceremonies. Nellie Milius made tulip-motif tags. Attendance was especially good, and everyone enjoyed a good meal. Fr. Michael Kundrat, former administrator of Divine Providence, who attended observed a combined retirement from St. John Bosco parish and a big Ševen-O birthday on March 6. Ilgiausių Metų, Father. Prayers and Peace be with you.

In Rome, Ann Uzdavinas and Marie & George Kase attended the jubilee pilgrimage. Although the commemoration had its moments of joy, the event was highlighted by a private audience with Pope John Paul II. Ann was fortunate enough to be so near His Holiness that she was able to touch his hand. A tape was made of the Pope's Lithuanian

message. It was played for the parishioners of Divine Providence at Mass on March 11.

Condolences to Joseph Brown upon the death of his beloved wife Francys (Lambrose) Brown who died on March 8. They were former members of C-79 and were active with the Juniors. She is survived by daughter Vanessa and a son Bill Lambrose.

SOFFI

C-86 — DU BOIS

Each new year starts off with a flurry of activities. First on this year's agenda was the commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day. Father Amico, our assistant pastor at St. Joseph Church, arranged a special evening Mass on February 16 so we could appreciate a good attendance. Again this year, we presented our offertory gifts following the guidelines furnished last year by Father Jurgelaitis.

Our faithful Knight, Albert "Scubby" Radzavich, died on February 22. He was our fundraising coordinator. Each year, largely through his efforts, we enjoyed our Mid-West Bowling Tournament without worrying about the expense involved. We had a fine showing of our members at our Christian Wake Service. Our con-

dolences to his wife, Helen, brother Dick and Sister Jane Anderlonis, all of whom are K of L members. Our sincere sympathy to his son and daughter.

On February 26, we had a belated memorial service for our Spiritual Advisor, Father Gregory Leopold, who was killed in an auto accident in January. Father Taylor, a visiting priest, led the Rosary and accompanying prayers and spoke on the life of Father Leopold. Gina Bruzga, a Junior Knight and an Explorer in the Central Christian High School group which was led by Father Leopold, laid a white carnation at the Blessed Virgin Shrine in Father's memory. This was followed by Mass in his memory. The entire service was filmed by Henry Madere, a parishioner, for possible future use in a documentary of this exemplary priest's life.

Our St. Casimir Day activities were quite successful. We marched into church in a group, led by US and Lithuanian flagbearers. President Tom Bruzga read an article about St. Casimir, "A PRince of a Parishioner" and followed with a Prayer to St. Casimir. Offertory gifts were brought to the altar by members of our council. Presented to the priest were a picture of St. Casimir, a crown of gold, a crown of thorns, a lily, a crucifix, and the water, wine and hosts. After the Mass, approximately 55 people gathered in the church hall for a breakfast and a short program. Thanks to volunteers John Beleski, George Rokoski, Chet Malewicz and Sonny Clark for preparing and serving a very good and hearty meal. And three of those volunteers weren't even K of L'ers! A personal "ačiū labai" to Ben Bruzga who was a tremendous help in making this event a success and to Fran Bruzga who provided the nut roll for the dessert. Gifts of St. Casimir *mementos* were presented to Victoria Sunelight and William Markalonis who were honored for their membership in our

council, circa 1917. Bill is also a member of our present council. Tom Bruzga gave a talk on "Conditions in Lithuania Today," which was well received by our members and non-members alike.

On March 11, we had a Mass in honor of Professor Aleksis at which our Council 86 members attended in a group. Our sympathies go out to his wife, Marcella.

We're now looking forward to our Mid-West Bowling Tournament and Mid-Central District Convention in May. Our hosts will be Dayton C-96, and we know it will be another pleasant *experience*.

TOMAS

C-96 — DAYTON

St. Casimir's Day was celebrated with a Lithuanian Mass which was well attended by our K of L members. Following Mass, breakfast was served by Mary Ann Blum, our Religious Chairman, her husband

Gus, son Greg, and sister Rita Ambrose.

Our parish was honored to have Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk celebrate Mass on March 22. A dinner in his honor followed in the church hall. His visit was especially timely since we celebrated the 70th anniversary of Holy Cross parish. Anele Petkus and Anna Ambrose, charter members, and Juniors Veda Gecas, Elena Mikalauskas, Frank Ambrose Jr. and Barbara Lastoskie participated in the procession bearing gifts to the altar. Offertory gifts were later given by Frank Ambrose Jr., Barbara Lastoskie and Billy Pant. It is a delight to see the Juniors participate in services and a joy to hear their new choir, accompanied by organist Sandy Storie. The committee consisted of Elaine Pacovsky, Mary Lucas, Mary Ann Blum, Ada Sinkwitz, Stefanija Rastikis, Kitty Prasmantas, Mary Lou Lastoskie, Ann Scott, Ann Goldick, Hilda Cernavicius, Judy Petrokas, Elinor Sluzas and Jim & Connie Geiger.



Junior Choir of Holy Cross Church in Dayton, OH sang for the St. Casimir Commemoration - 70th

Anniversary of the church Mass on March 22nd

Since the Holy Year is coming to an end, special prayer services designated by the Archdiocese were held every Sunday during Lent at Maria Joseph Home Chapel. On March 25, several of our members participated. Readers were Cecelia Yankus and Fran Petkus while Gus Blum read the Gospel. We were grateful to all who came in spite of the inclement weather.

Elinor Sluzas has not yet come down from the clouds after her recent trip to the Vatican in Rome where she was personally greeted by Pope John Paul II. Dr. & Mrs. R. A. Gineitis also attended St. Casimir's Commemorative Papal Mass where the Pope delivered the homily in Lithuanian. Elinor had the distinct honor of giving the first reading at Mass. She was inspired by this rare opportunity. She was surprised and pleased to meet one of our Juniors, Irena Gecas. Irena is attending the Lithuanian February 16th High School in Germany since last August and will return in May.

Laima (Rastikis) Vermillion and her husband recently returned from a vacation in Africa; Laima's fourth trip, her husband's seventh.

We were recently saddened by the death of one of our long-time parishioners, Leo Razauskas. He was a dedicated member and will be missed by everyone. Our condolences are extended to his family. God grant him eternal rest.

Cecelia Yankus

C-102 — DETROIT

Our *Christmas Kūčios* was once again held at the beautiful home of Bob and Vince Boris. The evening began with Fr. Stan, concelebrated with Fr. George, say Mass with singing of Lithuanian hymns led by Pete Buksnis and Frank Bunikis. After Mass, a delicious pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all. This is one of our best-attended socials. It was nice to see Vince Boris at this time of



Vida Gecas, Barbara Lastoskie and Elena Mikalauskas present the March issue of VYTIS to Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk of

Cincinnati during the double celebration of St. Casimir commemoration and the 70th Anniversary of Holy Cross Church



Father Vaclovas Katariskis greets Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk and

Father Thomas Nolkar Aide to the Archbishop

the year as he resides in Maryland. It was also nice to see Gena Baibak after her illness. Helen Smolak had heart surgery and is doing very well. Also recuperating from surgery is George Kayganich.

Council 79 of Southfield hosted the St. Casimir Day celebration this year. The Mass was beautiful and Fr. Chris gave an interesting homily on St. Casimir. Council 102 was honored to have our HM Bob Boris

DRAUGAS
4545 W. 63RD ST.
CHICAGO, IL 60629

VYTIS G. A. MACK
2461 W. 45th St.
Chicago, IL 60632

Return requested
Address Correction Requested



chosen as guest speaker. John Stanievich carried our flag in the procession. A delicious dinner was served in the social hall.

Marge and Jeff Krieg, our alifornia members, presented Donna & Frank Bunikis with another granddaughter. Vytalia (Sam Vakelis) and Mark Thompson presented Angela Buksnis with a granddaughter and Madam President Grazina with a niece. All are doing well.

Retirement congratulations are in order for Joe Guerriero from 42 years of service to Ford Motor Co. and Frank Bunikis from General Motors. Best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement. Happy retirement to Mark Wagster, also!

With so many members winter vacationing this year, our meetings have been poorly attended. Florida bound were Terry & Ray Madonis, Evelyn Galinas, Edna & Vince Klucens and Donna & Frank Bunikis. Donna Stanievich enjoyed a visit with her mother in California. Joe & Maryann Guerriero enjoyed a Mexican cruise.

Our *council-sponsored* bowling team is in second place pushing toward first. The members are Ruth & Mart Wagster, Evelyn Galinas, Chuck Mykolaitis and Ed Salas. It's nice that we have the younger family members bowling with us this year. Gus & Gena Baibaks' two sons, Joe & Maryanne's daughter, Donna Pluto's daughter and Rose Sawniks' daughter. We are looking forward to the Mid-West Bowling Tournament in Dayton in May. See you all there!

Meriute



HM Robert Boris of C-102, featured speaker at St. Casimir's 500th Anniversary Dinner hosted by C-79; also shown are Cecilia Wagners,

President of C-139 and Fr. V. Krisciunevicius, Pastor of Divine Providence



K of L Calendar

MAY

13 MOTHER'S DAY
18 - 20 MCD CONVENTION and
MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT

JUNE

17 FATHER'S DAY

JULY

4 MAMD ANNUAL K of L DAY
PICNIC at K of L Building Gardens
in Chicago

AUGUST

23 - 26 NATIONAL CONVENTION
in Chicago

SEPTEMBER

30 NED CONVENTION
In Lawrence, MA hosted by C-78