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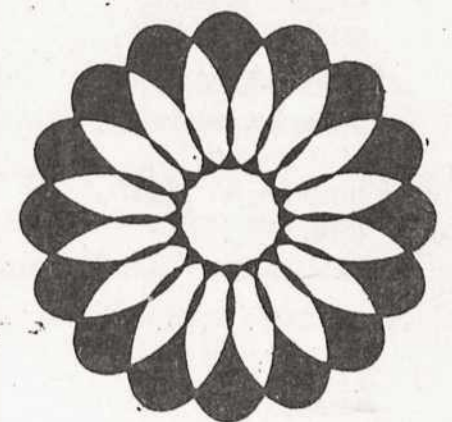
# V Y T I S




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# VYTIS

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## Editorial

It has been called to our attention that we have many Knights of Lithuania members who are talented as journalists, writers, columnists and just plain good story-tellers who have submitted their articles to other Lithuanian periodicals. Needless to say, their articles have been very interesting and thought-provoking. We would like these people, and others, to contribute their articles to VYTIS magazine. We will make every effort to print

all articles received, whether in Lithuanian or English since we do want our VYTIS to also be as good as, if not better than, the other periodicals. Perhaps some day we will receive an Award for the best written Lithuanian-American "Magazine of the Year".

Please do not disappoint us; Dalia and I are hopeful.

Vytiškai,

*Dalia Bulvičius — Editor*  
*Mary R. Kober — Associate Editor*



# ROMOJE YRA DAUG LAIPTŲ... Pakilti, pamatyti, paliesti...

**KUN. DR. ANTANAS RUBŠYS**  
Manhattan College

Lipu laiptais į Šv. Jono Laterane baziliką. Jų, tiesa, tik keletas. Jie nepastebimai veda prie masyvių durų ir sutelkia dėmesį į duris, — perėjimą iš kasdieniškos tikrovės į šventišką. Būdinga, kad šventovių laiptai, slenkstis, šventinto vandens dubenėlis pristabdo, — reikia palipti, perlipti, vandeniui sau priminti antgamčio Artumą. Bazilikos priebutyje vėsu ir gairių...

Vis dar stoviu priebutyje už slenkščio. Laiptai mane domina. Jie ne tik padeda pakreipti žingsnius į bazilikos duris, bet turi architektūrinių savybių. Dingsteli mintis, kad laiptai ir Roma turi perdėm glaudų ryšį. Roma, būdama miestas ant septynetos kalvų, be laiptų apsieiti negali.

Mintimis skaičiuoju būdingesnius Romos marmuro ir travertino laiptus: Piazza di Spagna — barokiškieji,

Santa Maria d'Araceli — didingieji, Quirinale rūmų — elegantiškieji, Šv. Petro bazilikos — iškilieji.

Nustembu: laiptai man padėjo pažinti ir pamilti Romą! Roma pamilstama, pažįstant ją kojomis. Jauti po kojomis kietą akmenį — marmurą ar travertiną, kurio nepajėgė nudėvėti tūkstančių tūkstančiai pėdų. Laiptai savaime gundo lipti ir užėiti. Kas gali atsispirti Piazza di Spagna pagundai? Lipama, nes norima pakilti, pamatyti, paliesti...

Laiptai, bokštai, minmaretai, ziguratai, piramidės, atrodo, liudija visuotinį įsitikinimą, kad yra antgamtis. Jie primena, kad aukštyn veržtis yra svarbu, kad pažanga įmanoma tik kylant. Anot italų patarlės: *Il mondo e fatto a scale: c'è chi scende e c'è chi sale* (Pasaulis susideda iš laiptų: vieni žmonės lipa žemyn, o kiti kopja aukštyn.)

### Krikščionybė ir laiptai į šventovę

Krikščionybė įsigalėdama Romoje, perėmė simbolinį laiptų vaidmenį į savo architektūrą. Kun. "Jonukas" Riaubūnas, — nelaiku dingęs Alpių ledynuose, — kartą atkreipė mano dėmesį į 124-urių pakopų laiptus prie viduramžiškos šventovės, vardu Santa Maria d'Aracoeli — Šv. Marija "Dangaus altorius" šventovė.

Ji yra prie paminklo Viktorui Emanueliui II šalia Piazza Venezia. Kadaisie jie vedė romėnus į pagonišką Saulės šventovę, kurią buvo pastatęs imperatorius Markus Aurelijus ant Kvirinalo (Quirinale) kalvos. 1348 m. jie buvo perkelti tarnauti krikščionims. Nors ir perkelti, tačiau ir toliau vaidina tą patį architektūrinį vaidmenį. Į Šv. Marija "Dangaus altorius", šventovę neužklysi iš gatvės, — reikia lipti didingais laiptais ir pasiruošti įeiti į šventą vietą.

Beje, dešinėje nuo Šv. Marija "Dangaus altorius" šventovės laiptų yra, kiti laiptai, vardu renesanso *condotta*. Jie veda į Piazza compidoglio — Kapitolijaus aikštę. Michelangelo buvo jų architektas. Nūdien abeji laiptai vieni šalia kitų gulėdami, daug papasakoja apie savo istorinį laikotarpį — viduramžius ir Renesansą.

Kontrastą pamatai iš karto. Po kaire, statūs laiptai pakopomis veda aukštyn į šventovę, o po dešine, nuožulnus kilimas į kunigaikščių rūmų pasaulį. Pajunti, kad į šventovę neužvažiuosi karieta, tačiau visi jai gali lipti. Tuo tarpu į rūmų pasaulį mažai kas gali važiuoti. Viduramžių maldininkai lipimu bėgę iš šio pasaulio į garbę anapus.

### Laiptai ir Vatikanas

Vatikanas yra nepriklausoma valstybė Romos mieste. Ji yra mažutė — vos 44 ha (108.7 akrų). Sakoma, kad ji turi 80 didelių ir 200 mažesnių laiptų. Savo iškilumu visus viršija Scala Regia — Karališkieji laiptai. Jie matomi pro tarpdurį dešinėje didžiosios Šv. Petro aikštės kolonos pusėje.



Šv. Tėvas tarp lietuvių audiencijoje

### Muziejaus skyrius apie "Laiptus"

Pati Roma yra lyg gyvas muziejus. Muziejus Mussolinio statytame Euro priemiestyje, vardu *Civiltà Romana* — Romeniškoji civilizacija turi skyrių apie laiptus.

Romoje yra laiptų — niūrių laiptų, kurie sukelia nerimą. Kada tik beečiau Via Cavour į San Pietro in Vincoli — Šv. Petro grandinėse šventovę, su nerimu lipu Salita di Borgia — tamsiais tunelio laiptais, ant kurių Cezaris Bordžia nužudė vieną iš savo sesers Lukrecijos vyrų. Salita di Borgia muziejuje primena intrigas ir žudynes...

-0-

Santa Maria Maggiore yra bent šimtmečiu jaunesnė uir Laterano baziliką. Ji jauki savo šiluma. Šiandien norisi tik užėiti — užbėgti į Capella Borghese — įžymios romėnų Borgėzio šeimos koplytėlę su Marijos paveikslu, kuris yra priskiriamas šv. Lukui.

Bazilikoje vyksta pamaldos. Tik pereinu šalutine nava. Lauke už apsidos yra dar kiti Romos laiptai. Juokaudami juos vadindavome San Maria Maggiores Sijonu. Dabar vakaro saulės apšviesti, jie lyg kviečia atsisėsti, Sėduosi lyg prie motinos kojų. Laiptai šilti. Nuo jų matau tiesias popiežiaus Siksto V prieš ketvertą šimtmečių išvestas gatves.

Istorija yra žmogaus sukurti laiptai. Tiesa, laikas žmogų nudilina ir sudilina. Tačiau žmogus nugali laiką, kurdamas sau laiptus. Visą popietę laipiojau įvairiais laiptais. Jie mane suvedė akis akin su istorija.



(NOTE: These are excerpts from Professor Anthony Rubšys' article: "Iš kelionės tik asilas negrįžta arkliu..." Since many of us were in Rome this year, let's revisit the Holy City through the eyes of Father Anthony. Grab your Lithuanian-English Dictionary and enjoy!— Editors)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

### Reorganizing Councils

We are well into our 75th year as an organization. We've come a long way since the inauspicious beginning back in 1913 when Mykolas Norkunas and a few friends got together and set up some rules and guidelines for the new organization they were starting. I don't imagine they ever dreamed at that time that the K. of L. would grow and spread so fast. Within ten years there were many councils throughout the East and Midwest. The Lithuanian people welcomed this new organization because it afforded them the opportunity to meet and mix with other Lithuanians from their town and various other towns. It was a good outlet for young people to get involved and in many cases they met their partner for life.

I have always enjoyed belonging to the K. of L. I met a lot of good people and made many good friends. Wherever I travel, I'm met with a friendly smile and a happy *Labas*.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could pass that friendliness and good cheer onto other Lithuanians from towns and cities who have inactive councils. Wouldn't it be nice if we made a concerted effort to reactivate those dormant councils in this our 75th year. Wouldn't it be nice if we brought those new members to our 75th National Convention in Washington, D.C. and introduced them to the good K. of L. life.

I would like to propose that we set up a new membership award to be given to the person or persons, who reactivate the most councils. This would be a good incentive to get people out to do the necessary leg work involved in reorganizing councils.

Here is a list of inactive councils listed by state:

**California:** none.

**Connecticut:** 21 South Manchester, 42 New Britain.

**Illinois:** 4 Chicago (Providence), 8 Chicago (Roseland), 16 Chicago (Bridgeport), 22 Melrose Park, 28 Spring Valley, 35 Chicago (West Pullman), 47 Waukegan, 48 Springfield, 60 Keweenaw, 64 Rockdale, 83 Rockford, 84 Chicago Heights, 85 Westville, 99 Chicago, 114 South Chicago, 117 Hinsdale, 121 Kewanee, 128 Waukegan, 132 Kankakee.

**Indiana:** 55 Indiana Harbor.

**Iowa:** 94 Sioux City.

**Maine:** 2 Lewiston, 59 Rumford.

**Maryland:** 89 Baltimore.

**Massachusetts:** 18 Cambridge, 53 Brighton, 73 Northampton, 115 Lowell, 127 Hudson.

**Michigan:** 43 Grand Rapids, 54 Orchard Lake, 75 Muskegon.

**Missouri:** 80 St. Louis.

**Nebraska:** 66 Omaha.

**New Hampshire:** 20 Nashua.

**New Jersey:** 77 Trenton, 91 Bloomfield, 111 Cliffside, 124 Jersey City.

**New York:** 44 Brooklyn, 49 Brooklyn, 92 Niagara Falls, 93 Rochester, 130 Bronx.

**Ohio:** 97 Akron, 125 Columbus, 126 Springfield, 134 Cincinnati.

**Oregon:** 137 Portland.

**Pennsylvania:** 9 Pittsburgh (North Side), 11 Homestead, 15 Wilkes-Barre, 23 Philadelphia (St. Andrew's), 32 Kingston, 34 Hanover, 37 Gilberton, 39 Minersville, 56 Braddock — Duquesne, 57 Plymouth, 62 Pittsburgh (West End), 65 New Philadelphia, 68. Glen Lyon-Wanamie, 69 Pittsfield, 70 St., Clair, 76 Hastings, 88 Donora, 129 Shenandoah, 131 Philadelphia (St. George's).

**Wisconsin:** 51 Sheboygan, 71 Milwaukee, 122 Port Washington, 123 Racine.

**Canada:** 33 Montreal.

I realize some of these councils have banded together to form one active council. Other councils no longer have any Lithuanian population to draw from. But in a number of these councils there is still an active Lithuanian church and an active Lithuanian population. With the coming of cooler weather and the slow down of your activity, it would be nice if you could take a ride and visit one or more of the above areas nearest you and try to make contact with the local Lithuanians. Try to set up a meeting with some of the people. Take along some K. of L. brochures and other information and go to work.

Let's put some extra effort into this, our 75th year and try to bring back into the fold some of our long lost brethren. Good luck to you!

— Frank Petrauskas

## REMEMBERING OUR YESTERDAYS FOR A BETTER TODAY

### THE PRACTICAL K. OF L.

(Excerpts from previous issues of Vytis)

What does our organization offer you? It has high ideals and a glorious background, but it only offers you what you make it and what you develop it into. Sit back and relax while others work and you will hinder its progress as well as smear its good record. Rather, take up a burden of responsibility and let's go places. Let's work for "God and Country", let's fight the challenge of communism, let's undertake new tasks in aiding to revive Lithuania's Independence,...Our parish too, will appreciate our ambitious activity. God is watching over us and wants us to help, so let's jump at the opportunity and not wait to be asked. Let our foresight and open mind be our guide.

Socially, too, we have much to offer — rather again what we offer ourselves. As we burden ourselves with a job we must also find time to relax, within our organization. Our social committee plans for this and makes us take time out to enjoy these moments of relaxation. The successful man knows not only to work hard and succeed, but also how to relax.

As we grow older we become aware of a financial responsibility. We govern our life, our home and our organization by a profit and loss system. Income must be derived from various sources. Perpetual expenses must be met — as they will come weekly, monthly, or annually.

So it is with our organization. We have a treasury that must be kept in good standing with assets in reserve for any future donations and expenditures. We must derive our income from activities that you must discuss at your meetings. This might be through dues, club socials, dances, or profits from cultural exhibits. The income should always exceed the expenses and your expenses will include such items as parish donations, a good Center donation, socials for members, club room expenses, or many others.

In conclusion let us say our organization will succeed and become outstanding because of our ability to work for it. Our grand motto of "God and Country" warrants it. Our respectful parents' country Lithuania, needs urgent help that we can give it through the untiring efforts of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee. YOU make your organization what you want it to be but do a little work yourself.

*Al Wesey*



*Business Mens' Association honoring Al Wesey, HM (C-109) Great Neck, NY. l to r. Mayor Donald Baumann, A. Wesey, President Harry Barnes and Vice President Joan Marino.*

#### IN MEMORIAM

**William Mikelonis**  
C-86 — DuBois, PA

**William Savicky**  
C - 109 — Great Neck, NY  
Died: June 17, 1987

**Helmut Schmidt**  
C-29 — Newark, NJ  
Died: August 30, 1987

**Julia Yewaisis**  
C-29 — Newark, NJ  
Died: August 20, 1987

**Regina Statkevicius**  
C-109 — Great Neck, NY  
Died: September 28, 1987

**Louise Kerbelis**  
C-100 — Amsterdam, NY  
Died: September 24, 1987

**Patricia Richards**  
C - 5 — Chicago, IL  
Died: September 20, 1987

**Stanley Perekslis**  
C - Athol-Gardner, MA  
Died: July 26, 1987

**Anellie Petkus**  
C-96 — Dayton, OH  
Died: October 10, 1987

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

**Postage Stamps of Lithuania.** Handbook. 220 pages profusely illustrated. the history of Lithuania through its postage stamps. Beautiful and unique postage stamps designed by Lithuania's prominent artists. Price \$18.00.

**The World of Tomorrow.** The New York World's Fair of 1939. was shown in theatres from the East Coast to the West Coast. Later on Public TV stations featured this video. Now it is available for home video VHS. 82 minutes. The Lithuanian Day included, where many of our parents participated, some 20,000 strong, is beautifully portrayed with Jason Robards narrating and reminding the tragedy that befell Lithuania. A cassette to cherish. the film that gave so much publicity mentioning Lithuania. Price \$45.00, plus \$3.00 shipping.

**C. Matuzas**  
107 - 33 117th Street  
Richmond Hill, N.Y. 11419

### Linguistics

The Russian secret police, the KGB, found out that an old Jewish man started to study Hebrew.

So, he probably wants to defect, they thought and went to interrogate the poor fellow.

"Why are you studying Hebrew"? — the police demanded.

The man replied: — "Well, I am getting old, and I will soon meet my Maker, so I want to learn His language.

—"What makes you so sure that you are going to heaven"? asks the police. "Perhaps you will go down below".

—"O that's no problem, the man replies. I know Russian already!



## K. of L. CALENDAR

**DECEMBER 13, 1987**  
C-152 — Riverhead, NY  
Christmas Party  
Polish Hall  
Riverhead, NY

**MARCH 13, 1988**  
C-152 — Riverhead, NY  
Annual Communion  
Breakfast & Brunch  
St. John Evangelist Church  
Birchwood Inn Riverhead, NY

**MAY 15, 1988**  
C-3 — Philadelphia  
75th Anniversary  
1:00 p.m. Mass  
St. Casimir's Church  
Followed by banquet & dance



Prieš audienciją Šv. Petro aikštėje nešamos Lietuvos Krikšto sukakties vėliavos, kurias pagamino Nekalto Prasidėjimo seserys Putname, Conn., ir jų rėmėjai.

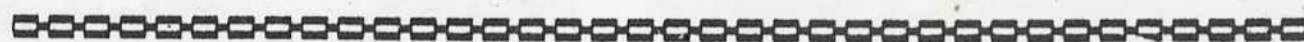
## ROME REVISITED – A MEMORABLE JUBILEE

*Compiled by Loretta Stukas*

Just a few short months ago, history was in the making in Rome and the Vatican. Some 4000 faithful Lithuanian Roman Catholics from all over the world, including clergy from Soviet-occupied Lithuania, gathered in Rome. They were more than vacationing...they were present to be received in a special audience by the Holy Father himself, and to witness the celebration of a Papal Mass commemorating Lithuania's 600th Anniversary of Christianity and the beatification of Lithuanian Archbishop George Matulaitis.

And the Knights of Lithuania were there. A group of 171 traveled with the Knights of Lithuania tour, numerous others traveled with other groups. All were awe-inspired with the week's events.

To give those who were not there a brief and informal glimpse into the week's events and the emotions that accompanied them (and to jog the memories of those who were there), a short montage by some of those who were there was presented to the 74th National Convention in Kansas City. Some of the thoughts and impressions recalled are reprinted here.



### A PAPAL AUDIENCE

For most people on the trip, the Audience on Saturday provided the first real-life glimpse of the Holy Father himself. For some, it was a "repeat performance", but none the less exciting and impressive. For VICTOR MATHIEU, a French American who has adopted the Lithuanian cause as his own and is a most active K of L-er, it was a repeat, because he also attended the St. Casimir Jubilee festivities in 1984. But his excitement was even heightened the second time.

### AN UNFORGETTABLE AND MEMORABLE MOMENT

Heeding the request of the Holy Father expressed at the St. Casimir observance in Rome in 1984 to return in 1987, to celebrate the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christianity, Lithuanians from all over the world, housed all over Rome, looked forward to the Papal audience scheduled on this very warm Saturday, June 27, 1987. Ladies who had brought their native costumes and amber accessories were having second thoughts about wearing them, because of the heat and humidity. They were told to dress in the costumes; they would not be sorry! Experienced participants in prior audiences told them that they would have a special place of honor and they did.

Lithuanians were transported by bus to St. Peter's. A very long wait in oppressive heat was in store for everyone until we passed through several security check points before being admitted to the Pope Paul VI Auditorium. It was a massive, air-conditioned hall capable of seating over 7000. Lithuanians half-filled it. Access to seats was from the sides.

Only clergy used the middle aisle to get to the left front seats. Behind them were seated all others not in

Lithuanian dress. All persons in native costumes were seated on the right side of the auditorium. To the front a tremendous sculptured mural served as the back drop of a massive stage that had at the very center the Papal chair. One looked on the left side of the stage and saw Archbishops, Bishops and Monsignori. Opposite them were the Lithuanian dancers and the Lithuanian chorus.

A tremendous roar greeted the entrance of the Holy Father from the left. As he was escorted to the center, he paused to personally and individually greet the assembled hierarchy in a slow and most cordial manner. When he was introduced to Bishop Antanas Vaicius, whom the Soviets had given permission along with one priest from each of the dioceses in Lithuania to come to Rome for the Jubilee, they embraced, and we were witness to a most gracious act, which was repeated again the following day at the main altar of St. Peter's as Bishop Vaicius petitioned the Holy Father to beatify Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis. On both occasions, we witnessed the kneeling and prostration at the feet of the Holy Father and the attempt to kiss his feet. A dry eye could not be found. What an act of faith and respect. This truly was an unforgettable and memorable moment for all present.

In witnessing this event, I could only remember a well-known hymn and since then I've sung it to myself and would be thrilled if many would join me:

"Mother, at they feet is kneeling  
One who loves you,  
'Tis your child.

Holy Father, Vicar of Christ,  
At they feet is kneeling  
Lithuania who loves you,  
'Tis your youngest child..."



## THE LITURGY

The highlight of the week's events was the Papal Mass. But a series of other masses kept our thoughts in the heavens and our lips in prayer.

FATHER ANTHONY JURGELAITIS, National Spiritual Advisor and member of C-109, Providence, shares his memories of the principal Jubilee liturgy on Sunday, and recalls another special moment.

### FOCUS ON TWO MOMENTS

"Father, would you please write up your recollections briefly, very briefly, of our pilgrimage to Rome last June," I was asked. Of course, I could not refuse. So this is to be not a wide angle view, but a close-up. Two events within a twenty four hour period in Vatican City.

#### I

*Sunday, June 28 in the Basilica of Saint Peter.*

The morning was hot, the crowds in the immense square (which is round!) were closely packed, the waiting seemed endless. We had to wait our turn to be electronically screened by the police and guards. Then there was a long walk to the Basilica and then some to the altar. My beige ticket got me a seat close enough to see the Holy Father's every move.

When Cardinals, Bishops, Diplomats and Dignitaries, plus the Lithuanian and other pilgrims had taken their places, the ceiling lights went on with a soft boom, which made the people let out a gasp of wonder. The Basilica was ablaze with what you could call a heavenly light.

To the strains of "Pulkim ant keliu", which was an invitation for all Lithuanians to join in the singing, the Pope, preceded by 16 bishops, approached the altar and began the sprinkling -- the Asperges, before Mass.

Bishop Antanas Vaicius from Lithuania then humbly requested the Holy Father to raise the Venerable Servant of God, Archbishop George Matulaitis, to the number of the Blessed. The Bishop read Archbishop George's biography and told of his saint-like works in Lithuanian.

"By our Apostolic Authority we declare that...he be called Blessed in the future and that his Feast Day be on January 27 to be celebrated annually." Thus proclaimed the Vicar of Christ and the drape covering the portrait of Archbishop Matulaitis was lowered. From this moment on he is to be called BLESSED!

Then, appropriately, followed a gloriously sung "Glory to God", alternated between choir and congregation.

The Liturgy of the Word began: Ezekiel the prophet speaking, "I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you...I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes...You shall be my people and I will be your God." (36,26-28)

Isn't that what Baptism brought to Lithuania -- and to us?

Saint Paul's encouragement came next: "When we were baptized...we joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by Father's glory, we too might have a new life." (Rom. 6, 3-5)

It was this Baptism into Christ that gave our forefathers a new life in 1251 and 1387; we have received this same "new life."

In the gospel the words of our Lord quoted by Saint Matthew are a challenge to us to live fully the life of our Baptism: "Whoever loves father or mother, son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. He who will not take up his cross and come after me is not worthy of me." (10, 37-38)

Yes, the ever ringing challenge to the baptized is precisely that: to be worthy of this gift of Christ.

The highlight of the Liturgy of the Word was the Holy Father's homily in which he thanked the Blessed Trinity for the gift of Baptism in Lithuania, six hundred years strong. He allowed us to share his deep thoughts. The words of Ezekiel were fulfilled but we are to pray: "A clean heart create for me, O , God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me." (Psalm 50, 12)

The Holy Father went on to welcome Bishop Vaicius and the eight priests from Lithuania (one priest from each diocese in Lithuania was allowed to travel to Rome for the



Vysk. Antanas Vaičius tarp dainininkų ir šokėjų

festivities), whom he regarded as visible symbols uniting Lithuanians with the universal church. He joyously welcomed Lithuanians from the other continents, who are witnessing their fidelity to Baptism and demonstrating their unity with the Catholic community in the homeland.

Speaking of Blessed Archbishop George, the Holy Father narrated highlights of his sanctity and urged all to "Receive a prophet as a prophet. Receive a just man as a just man."

I quote his final words: "Today, what more could we wish you for the Jubilee Year, for the future? We wish you to be worthy of Christ! To be God's people on earth...And that God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be your God always."

The profession of Faith in the Mass was a moving experience. It was sung in a way differently from the way we are used to. The choir sang each of the articles of the Faith and the congregation responded: "Credo, credo, credo." "I believe, I believe, I believe."

Fifteen to eighteen persons presented various gifts to the Holy Father at the Offertory. Among them was our K of L Representative, Dr. Jack Stukas, dressed in his uniform as a Papal Knight of St. Sylvester. Jack and his partner, Liuda Rugienius, presented framed Jubilee Medallions. The Holy Father showed special interest in the medallions, and especially in the portrayal of Vytautas on the obverse side of the medallion.

From this point on, the Liturgy of the Eucharist began and all thoughts were centered upon the Celebrant, the Vicar of Christ, taking the place of the Victim of Calvary, offering Himself for the sins of the world, for the intentions of Lithuania and of the entire world.



Vasario 16-osios gimnazijos orkestras Angelo pilies sode Romoje. Diriguoja A. Paltinas. Nuotr. V. Bacevicius



Jungtinis choras Romoje. Diriguoja Rita Klioriene.

Nuotr. V. Bacevicius

## I

### "A Little Miracle"

The moment described above was really the second event of the unforgettable 24 hours within and in the shadow of St. Peter's Basilica.

The Pope Paul VI Audience Hall is adjacent to the central church of Christendom, to which we were admitted (after screening by the Police) by the Swiss Guards in their colorful uniforms. It is immense, seating about 8,000 people, but today filled by about half that number by the Lithuanian Pilgrims from all over the world.

I found myself in a forward section, surrounded by priests from many lands, at least ten seats from the surrounding aisles. "I'll never get close to the Pope from here," I thought to myself and resigned myself to the prospect of waving, applauding and cheering as the Holy Father passed by in the distance.

But this catastrophe did not take place.

Out of nowhere that I could see came a voice softly calling out to certain priests in the group to step quickly into the right aisle. I noticed Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, Rector of the Lithuanian Seminary in Rome giving the orders.

We who were called stepped into the aisle and were directed to the front, where we each received a bright red ticket and shown to the first row, along which His Holiness would pass!

There I was, beside Jack and Loretta Stukas, who held between them the portrait of Archbishop George Matulaitis, commissioned by the Knights of Lithuania and painted by Sister Mercedes, SSC, as a gift to the Pope from all K of L-ers.

The Pope was only about twenty five steps away!

Jack and Loretta introduced themselves and made the presentation in the name of all of us. Then, turning to me, Jack said, "This is our Spiritual Advisor, Father Jurgelaitis." I was face to face with the Holy Father! As he held out both hands to me, I said, "Yes, Holy Father, for the past ten years." We clasped hands, I kissed his ring and I felt his arm on my shoulder, bringing my head to his chest in a fatherly hug. He kept his hand on my neck and cheek, sort of patting it. "I ask you, Holy Father, to bless the Knights of Lithuania and their families and friends," I said softly.

He smiled and nodded his head two or three times quickly. The answer was yes. "Your Holiness," I continued, "You once requested letters and signatures from Lithuanians, inviting us to write to you petitioning the beatification of Archbishop Matulaitis. We obeyed. We collected and sent 13,000 signatures to you." Again a most gracious smile...and he passed on to my neighbor, awaiting his moment with the Holy Father.

I think that you will agree that this was indeed a little "miracle."

#### PRAYING ... AND SINGING

It is said that singing is the highest form of prayer. By that standard, one of our members truly prayed her heart out, singing at all the masses, as a part of the Chicago Opera Chorus. EVELYN OZELIS of C-36, Chicago, shares her experiences in this important role as choir member...

#### RAISING OUR VOICES IN THANKSGIVING...

Thursday, June 25

We arrived in Rome and immediately learned that rehearsal was in 1 1/2 hours. We unpacked, took a deep breath, and got back on the bus to St. Peter's Basilica. As we entered the Basilica, the beauty, the enormity was awesome and breath-taking. We are very insignificant individuals ready to sing to the Glory of God. During a break in our rehearsal, the entourage of priests from Lithuania greeted us with tears of joy. Can you imagine our emotional reaction?

Our first Mass was Friday, June 26 at the Basilica of St. John Lateran. Today was the Baptism of Zita Astravas and the Deaconal Ordination of the Rev. Paul Malaiska. Our hearts beat with joy and fear. Will we sing well? Can we really fulfill the expectations?

Saturday, June 27

The audience with our Holy Father... We walked with great pride to the Audience Hall. We could feel the



After the Audience: l. to r. Estelle Rogers, Dolores Wainauskas, Ellie Kasputis (all C-112, Chicago), Helen Shields (C-3, Philadelphia), Dr. Jack Stukas (C-29, Newark), Jonas Tamas (C-12, New York, NY).

excitement all around us. This would be the greatest day for all free Lithuanians. We would be honored with our own special audience.

We sang all our Lithuanian hymns as we waited for the great man. His arrival was like the dawning of a new day. As the sunlight poured into the Hall and into our hearts, we sang like never before. The warmth of this wondrous, kind servant of God enveloped the young Lithuanian dancers and musicians from the Feb. 16 Lithuanian School in Germany. These young people were so thrilled that this great man embraced them. He touched many physically, he touched all of us spiritually.

At the end of the audience we were to rehearse for the Mass tomorrow at St. Peter's Basilica and our concert Sunday afternoon. This had to be special...

Sunday, June 28

We arrived at St. Peter's Basilica, everyone feeling a little "hyper." This would be the Mass of all Masses. The Beatification of Archbishop Jurgis Matulaitis...with our Holy Father as celebrant. Our voices were raised high in exultation and we would always remember the great moment in our lives.

Late this afternoon, we would present our concert at the Audience Hall. It seemed as though our entire time in Rome was spent singing...

This evening would be the banquet, which we truly would enjoy. No singing...we were told to rest our voices. Enroute back to our hotel we continued to sing. I guess we Lithuanians cannot resist singing.

Monday, June 29

A Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of St. Mary Major.

We walked from our hotel to the Basilica, again in our Lithuanian costumes.

All went well and once again we all "sang our hearts out." This was the Lithuanian Mass, and again, the Basilica was filled with Lithuanians, as we gave thanks to God for the Beatification of our Archbishop Matulaitis.

Tuesday, June 30

We taped hymns for the Vatican Radio. What an honor it was for our Lithuanian Opera Chorus. These tapes would be sent to Lithuania for use in churches that do not have an music. We were told the tapes would be used from 5 to 10 years. We volunteered our services to return to Rome in five years to make another recording!

This church was the site of a martyrdom. It was small, but beautiful, with all its priceless paintings and beautiful lilies the grow everywhere, and birds, yes chirping, flying, singing birds. Somewhere St. Francis of Assisi was looking down on us.

As we started to record, these birds would listen. As soon as we were nearing the end of a hymn, they would "break into song." The technicians wanted to erase this, but our conductor Arunas Kaminskas, told them to keep the recording as is. We reached a very emotional moment during this taping. The culmination of many months of intense rehearsals, the satisfaction of accomplishment, plus the togetherness of 45 chorus members, brought many tears, to many eyes.

We had one more Mass to sing and that would be this afternoon, a Latin Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Blessed George Matulaitis. But then, a reprieve. It seems as though the Basilica's Mens' Chorus was contracted to sing. They would not split their time with us and if they did not sing their contract would have to be honored. So, we had some time off before leaving for the USA.



At lunch: Tony & Pat Alexander (Waterbury), Fran Petkus (Dayton), Clem Miller (Bridgeport).

We decided to have an evening together to relax at the Lithuanian College. A bit of food, a bit of refreshments, and we entertained ourselves by singing. This time, we kept all the Italian residents awake until 11:00 P.M.

It was hard to realize that we would be leaving Rome in another day. A lifetime of happiness was rolled into one week. We all lifted up our hearts to the heavens and silently prayed "Blessed be thou...Blessed Jurgis Matulaitis."



In St. Peter's Square: Msgr. J. Scharnus (Newark), Anne Baronas (Elizabeth), Rev. S. Raila (Maspeth).

## SOCIALIZING

Not to be ignored is the social aspect of this Jubilee pilgrimage to Rome. Meeting 4000 Lithuanians at once, from the USA, France, Germany, Austria, and even Lithuania, provided a high that no other even could equal. CLEMINE MILLER of C-141, Bridgeport, recalls who she met, where, and how she felt about it.

## SOME SOCIAL ASPECTS OF OUR TRIP TO ROME

Every trip has its many experiences -- spiritual, educational, historical, cultural and social. The trip to Rome for the celebration of the Lithuanian Christianity Jubilee had all these exciting aspects. All the planned incidental events were especially conducive to socialization.

We began our trip from New York on a TWA jet. Some of the faces on the plane were vaguely familiar. Many of the Knights were "hello" acquaintances. The people were rather quiet and subdued.

Upon arrival at the Hotel Cicerone in Rome, everyone seemed tired. The hotel lobby had small group arrangements of furniture. Soon everyone was resting, waiting in groups, and getting acquainted. Soon it was obvious that these Lithuanians were from California, Florida, and all parts of the USA.

### *A Get-Together at the Lithuanian College*

That very afternoon, we found ourselves immersed in the planned social activities, meeting people not only from our immediate group, but from all over the world. From our hotel and elsewhere, there were bus loads of people arriving at the Pontifical Lithuanian College of St. Casimir for the open house reception. It was a beautiful warm day. Flowers were in colorful bloom in the garden.

Every nook and corner was filled with tempting trays of sandwiches, cheese, fruit, and various beverages. In the garden, rooms, balconies and stairwells of the College property, people were moving elbow to elbow, shoulder to shoulder.

Yet people managed to get together and talk in little groups. We met and heard about the goings on in Australia, Africa, Brazil, Germany and other parts of the world. It was a hear-warming experience.



*Old Friends Meet - The Illinois Strolias and the Stukas from New Jersey.*

### *An Exciting Concert*

Sunday was a full day. In the afternoon, the Pope Paul VI Audience and Concert Hall was filled with clergy, nuns, dignitaries, Knights and other Lithuanian groups.

Lilija Suckyte, a gracious, talented Lithuanian opera star from Germany rendered many beautiful selections in English, Italian and Lithuanian. The distinguished Chicago Lithuanian Opera Chorus performed magnificently. It was a delightful musical afternoon.

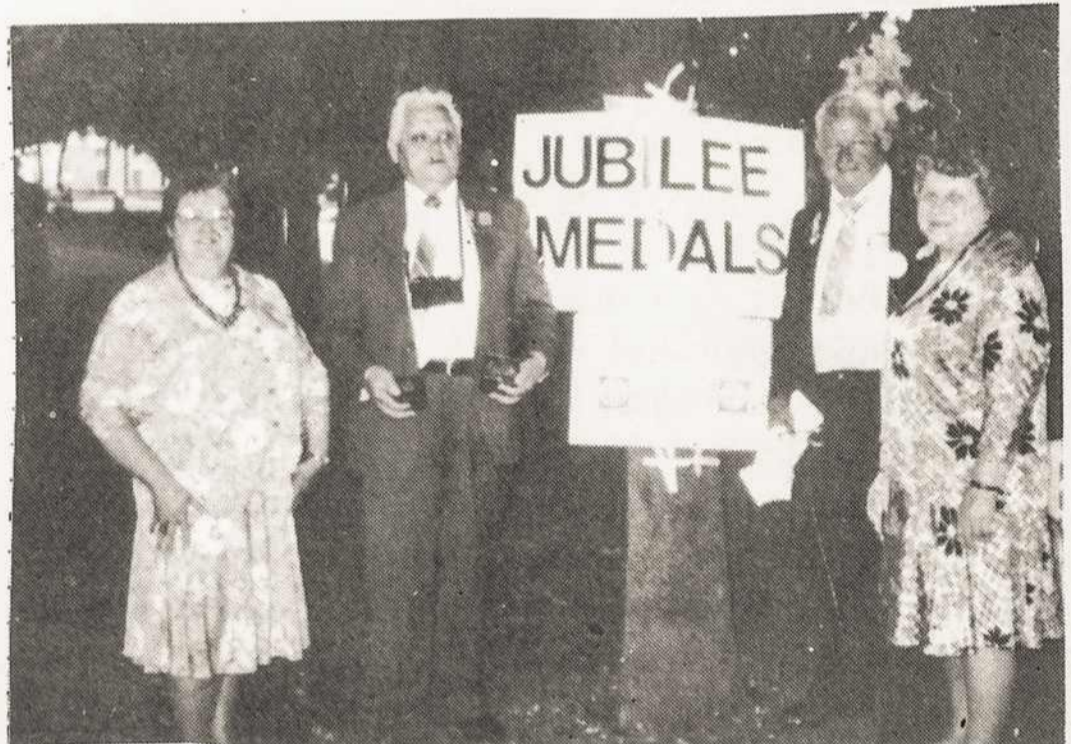
In addition to enjoying the concert, it was a great privilege to usher at the great event with Loretta Stukas, Anna Wargo and Helen Chesko.

### *A "Medieval" Feast*

The Banquet was held on the grounds of the ancient and historic fortress, Castel St. Angelo. Lights strung in the trees twinkled to greet the guests. Under the lights, tables were filled with foods. In the middle of each table was a roasted suckling pig. And in between the tables stood barrels of wine. It was like a medieval feast!

Music and entertainment was provided by young Lithuanians all evening. The "Uzdainuokim" (Let's Sing) Ensemble from Cleveland put on a wonderful performance, as did the "Vasario 16" (Feb. 16) High School Dance Ensemble from Germany.

We sold Jubilee Medallions, met many more people and enjoyed, enjoyed, enjoyed until midnight.



*Selling Jubilee Medals: Ann Wargo (PA), Bernie Skripata (NJ), John Antanavicius (NY) and Clem Miller (CT).*

### *Lasting Friendships*

Throughout this trip I kept meeting interesting people and getting to know others. There were so many people I shall never forget: I will always treasure the little package of Ruta brought from the Lithuanian people by a priest from Lithuania... I will never forget the priest from Africa who needs school supplies... My roommates will always be my special friends.

Then there were the many people in the group who were kind and thoughtful and had genuine concern for their fellow travelers.

Returning to the states, the people on the plane were no longer quiet and subdued. People were talking, laughing, telling stories and even singing. I would say the noise level was very high.

Imagine a TWA jet filled with Lithuanian people, all talking, all laughing. We landed in New York tired, but filled with happy memories of people, events and places.

# G R Y B A I

Ruduo. Nuvyto žolė. Pasikeitė žalias miško apdaras, medžiai lyg pražydo — geltonai, raudonai ir žalsvai. Vakaraus miškai paskęsta pilksvame rūke. Dieną rūkas išsisklaido, tik ant žolės ir krūmų lieka rasą.

Pajutę rudens drėgmę, ėmė dygti grybai. Kiekvienas grybas turi savo pamėgtą vietą.

Miško pakraštyje prie skarotų eglių prisiglaudusio kelios drebulaitės. Jų paraudę lapeliai virpa ir byra žemyn. Tarp nukritusių lapų iškėlęs galvą dairosi raudonviršis. Sunku atskirti, kur čia drebulės lapas, kur čia grybas.

Slėnesnes miško vietas, beržynėlius mėgsta lepšiai. Jauni lepšiukai labai gražūs ir skanūs. Jų kepurėlės panašios į baravykų galvutes, tik lepšiukų koteliai ploni ir aukšti. Pamatyti juos nelengva. Rainas kotas ir juosva kepurė lepšius gerai slepia tarp beržų kamienų.

Beveik visur miškuose, sutiksi ūmėdes, kurių yra apie dvidešimt rūšių. visos ūmėdės labai panašios — skrybėlėtos. Kol jos jaunos, skrybėlių krašteliai užlenkti, kai pasensta — išsitiesia.

O tarp pušų ir eglių auga gelsvai rusvi grybai. Jie savo spalva primena voverę, todėl voveruškėmis ir vadinami. Voveruška smagu rinkti, nes vienoje vietoje jų galima prikrauti visą krepšį. Jos visada sveikos nesukirmijusios.

Tarp geltonuojančių voveruškų galima rasti ir baravyką — visų grybų pulkauniką. Baravykas — vertingiausias mūsų miškų grybas. Kiek džiaugsmo jį atradus! Mūsų miškuose sutinkami dviejų rūšių baravykai: šilų ir eglynų. Eglynų baravyko kotas trumpas ir storas, jo kepurė tamsi. Šilų baravykas auga pušynėliuose. Jis ne toks kresnas kaip jo brolėnas, šviesesne kepure.

Baravykus surasti nelengva. Dažnai iš rusvų samanų kyšo tik jo kepurė. Baravykui liūdna vienam augti, todėl netoli jo ieškok ir draugo.

Daug grybų Lietuvos miškuose. Tik mažą jų dalį surenka grybautojai. Daug grybų lieka ir nyksta vietoje. Dalį jų surankoija miko žvereliai. Stirnos noriai ėda grybus. voverėlės taip pat yra geros grybautojos. Jos sumaniai tvarko grybus. Prisirenka įvairiausių grybų susmaigsto juos ant medžių šakelių ir džiovina. Kai grybai sudžiūsta, neša juos į gūžtą, krauna į sandėliuką. Per žiemos šalčius sėdi voverytės savo namučiuose ir graužia džiovintus grybus, užsigardžiuodamos riešutais.

Grybai užauga greit — per vieną naktį, ypač

jei tą naktį lijo. Pasistenkite atsikelti anksti rytą, nebijokites sušlapti — ir parsinešites daug grybų.



Po iškilmių per Šv. Petro aikštę eina: priekyje Pilypas Skabeikis, Tėv. Placidus Barius, O.F.M., lietuvių pranciškonų provincijolas, prel. Vytautas Balčiūnas iš Thompson, Conn.

## Catholic Lithuania Today

### An Underground Church

The solemn celebration in Rome on June 28, 1987 of Lithuania's 600th Jubilee of Christian Baptism is over, but Lithuanians worldwide are having commemorative services in their respective diocese at other times in the countries in which they live.

Because the Lithuanian nation is at present under an atheist Soviet regime, the question often arises, are Lithuanians rejoicing with the rest of the world? Are they allowed to practice their faith openly and freely without any hindrances on the part of the government? Or, deprived of this privilege, are the faithful forced to lead a "catacomb" existence like that of the early Christians?

Since its foundation 20 centuries ago the Church has experienced persecution in one form or another. However, it has not ceased to denounce the violations

of its freedom by any of the powers of this world. The defense and promotion of man's fundamental human rights is the undeniable duty of the Church. Pope John Paul II knows this very well.

For Christians everywhere religious liberty is the basis of all other liberties. According to the Apostle John 8:31-32, "If you are faithful to my teaching, you are my true disciple. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free." The truth, as presented by Christ, has yet to be fully realized by the people of this world.

After World War II, man's fundamental and inalienable rights were codified in 1948 by the United Nations in *The Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man*. These truths were reaffirmed in the International Congress and in State Constitutions. As late as 1981 the United Nations approved a specific declaration on the elimination of every form of intolerance or discrimination based on religion. Yet, to our knowledge, this harassment continues in Lithuania, a predominately Catholic nation.

Historians view past events in Lithuania as a tragic sequence of persecutions and harassment in the name of religion. Pagan Lithuanians were first attacked by Moslems who tried in vain to force the Islamic creed on them, then by the Livonian Knights who used the sword as a means of Christianization. In later years, through the Lithuanian-Polish Alliance, — "a Christian marriage of both nations" — Lithuania was inadvertently losing her identity and much of her land. This was later seen as a subtle form of harassment.

After the destruction of the Lithuanian-Polish Alliance, Orthodoxy was pressured on Lithuanian Catholics, who, by this time, chose to regain their Lithuanian heritage and retain their Roman Catholic faith. After 120 years of submersion they regained their independence and religious freedom, Then after the illegal incorporation of Lithuania into the Soviet Union, the people were again harassed and persecuted, but this time they were required to renounce all belief in God.

In 1981 the United Nations had affirmed that "disregard and violations of the rights of man and of fundamental liberties, in particular the right to freedom of thought and conscience, of religion and creed, whatsoever it may be, is directly at the origin of the wars and great suffering inflicted upon humanity. Then, at the 40th session of the United Nations in March of 1983, a representative of the Vatican declared: "The countries which restrict liberty and reduce man to slavery are more and more numerous. Methods of terror are at the same time brutal and more refined."

In September of the same year, at the close of the European Conference in Madrid, a Vatican delegate stated that "in an age in which everyone exalts freedom of thought, there are still those imprisoned, sent to concentration camps, or condemned to exile for reasons of

religious beliefs. These sad events, far from lessening in recent times, show a dangerous increase."

In the previous years (1982) the United Nations had summarized and reenforced this conviction in the document, *The Elimination of Every Form of Religious Intolerance*, and called on all nations to make this known and put into practice.

Since Vatican II an ever increasing call is rising from the Magisterium of the Church for solidarity on the part of the whole Church with persecuted Christians of the world.

With the celebration of the 600th Jubilee of Lithuania's Christian Baptism comes the summons for the Church everywhere to display special concern for the people's religious freedom and exercise of their human rights.

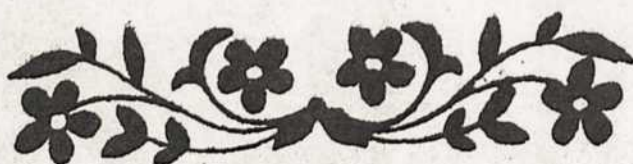


## FROM THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY

In the past there have been many non-member's names submitted to the IN MEMORIAM column in VYTIS and also to our National Spiritual Advisor Father Anthony Jurgelaitis, O.P., who offers individual Masses for all deceased names submitted to him. At the last Supreme Council meeting, it was suggested that when a member of your council is deceased, please send this name as soon as possible ONLY to the National Financial Secretary who will take the name off the VYTIS mailing list and, in turn, will forward it to both the Editor of VYTIS and Rev. Jurgelaitis. By so doing, councils will not need to inform three different people. If this change is not made with the printer, the post office will eventually return the deceased's VYTIS and there is a charge to the K of L for this service which we want to avoid. We might add, it is a privilege for K of L members only to have their names printed in the VYTIS and have a Mass said for them. Therefore, please do not send non-members' names to be printed in the IN MEMORIAM column.

By any chance should you be receiving two copies of Vytis, or there is a discrepancy in your name or address, or you will have a change of address, please notify the National Financial Secretary who will make the necessary changes with the printer.

This is the time of year when 1988 membership dues should be sent in to your Council's financial secretary. As stated in the Constitution, if dues are not paid by March 31st, the member is suspended and if not received after six months he is discharged from the organization and VYTIS is no longer sent to him. Please get your dues paid much before that date. Do not wait for your Council's Financial Secretary to either write or call you; send your dues in immediately which will certainly help make his/her chores that much easier.



### CORRECTION!!!

In the September-October issue of VYTIS, we inadvertently listed the incorrect address of the photographer who took the Nat'l Convention photo in Kansas City. We apologize. His address is as follows:

75th K of L Convention Photo  
Richard Grosko  
2943 North 55th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66104



*C-41 Brooklyn, NY - Outgoing President Helen Kulber congratulating Incoming President William Kumeta.*



# Vyčiai Veikia

Edited by HELEN CHESKO

1000 E. Pine St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948

# Council Activities

## MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

### C-12 - MANHATTAN, NY

Just wanted you to know, that yours truly has not forgotten her favorite council. In June we hosted the MAD convention and had a short Baisiojo Birželio commemoration. Joe Boley Bulevičius, HM did a wonderful job (as usual) reciting Bernardo Brazdžionio masterpiece "Aš čia gyva". In the poem it is Lithuania speaking telling us of her pain under the red oppressor. Many of us had tears in our eyes.

In Kansas City we were well represented — we had more delegates than councils with 4 times as many members. Bravo council 12. Two of us got our 4th degree — John Antanavičius and yours truly. Vinnie Cuprewiche's and his beautiful wife Helen had a most enjoyable Hospitality Room — it was never empty for too long.

Alice Zupko's granddaughter Amber Keenan presented a memorial plaque in memory of her grandad Pete Zupko (former president of C-12) to Frank Petrauskas.

It is difficult to believe that it is November already. The October election resulted in the election of Jonas Adomėnas as district president. Congratulations Jonai — we all MAD people wish you the best tenure.

We are almost sure, that our district had the largest representation at our National Convention in Kansas City. And what a convention that was! Not only fruitful on the "business" part but also a "hot" time was had by all! Just ask Bernice Aviza, who was swinging all night at the Wine and Cheese reception with a handsome kansascitian!

November is also a bit sad for us. It is just a year since our beloved president Laurynas (Larry) Janonis passed away! Let's all remember him in our prayers. The National Convention and the District Conventions were very sad without him.

At the Kansas City yours truly found out that she was to wear 3 hats with the organization: VYTIS editor, MAD and C-12 PR person. May the good Lord help me! With the help of my associate editor Mary Kober, I will do my best. But remember, all of you have to come to our aid: photos, ads, memories, articles all will be appreciated.

Vytiškai,

Dalia

## COUNCIL 3 - PHILADELPHIA, PA

### Vyčių veikloje

Lietuvos vyčių trečios kuopos narių metinis susirinkimas įvyko spalio 11 Šv. Kazimiero parapijos mokyklos bibliotekoje. Buvo persvarstyta vasaros veikla.

Per šios vasaros karščius kuopos nariai Juozas ir Ona Marro pakvietė vyčius į savo stilingus namus Sea Isle City, N.J. pajūryje. Kuopos nariai delegatai dalyvavo vyčių seime Kansas City ir seimelyje Pittston.

Rugsėjo mėn. susirinkime buvo nominuojami kandidatai į naują valdybą: kun. Eugene A. Wassel — dviasios vadas, Juozas Drumstas — pirmininkas, Viktoras Stepalovitch — vice-pirmininkas, Dianne Drumstas — protokolų sekretorė, Agnes Mickūnas — finansų sekretorė, Margaret Petronis — išdininkė. Visi buvo

valdybon išrinkti spalio 11 d. susirinkime.

Kuopos rengiamos kūčios įvyko Šv. Jurgio parapijos salėje gruodžio 5. Dar ieškoma salė kalėdiniam pokyliui.

Elena Šaulytė susirinkime pateikė staigmeną: atsivedė tris kandidates į vyčius: Verna Huhn, Adelę Alberts ir Nancy Vinch. Atlikus formalumus, jos buvo priimtos į Lietuvos vyčių gretas.

E.B.

## C-46 — FOREST CITY

The summer slips by so fast that we don't realize it's over until we look at our beautiful fall foliage. Even though most of us spent a lot of our summer vacationing, we still managed to keep our meetings active.

One of the highlights of our town is our annual Old Home Week. Everyone looks forward to the many activities. Familiar faces that left Forest City for better jobs many years ago have not forgotten their roots and return to celebrate Old Home Week.

It is a busy week with all kinds of fun, fireworks and a huge parade on Saturday. This year we had a marching group in traditional Lithuanian dress and a smartly decorated sports car. Six of our K of L mem-

bers rode in the Lithuanian flag clad car.

We ended our summer with a big picnic. We brought our favorite covered dishes. It is surprising that all of our members, male and female, are fabulous cooks with no repetition of dishes. Each dish was different and delicious. We always end up with more food than can be consumed. There is an exchange of dishes or plates filled to take home. It was a delightful way to wind up our summer.

Ten delegates attended the Mid-Atlantic District Convention in Pittston on September 20.

Blanche Motsko

## C-52 — ELIZABETH

More than 125 Knight of Lithuania members and guests attended the Elizabeth K of L Council 52 celebration of its 50th anniversary on September 26 in the parish hall of Sts. Peter and Paul Lithuanian RC Church in Elizabeth.

The program commenced at the Wayside Cross with a service for deceased K of L members in the church courtyard with Rev. Joseph Pragulbickas saying the prayers.

Rev. Peter Zemeikis, pastor, and Father Pragulbickas concelebrated the Mass of Thanksgiving at the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Deacons Henry Keturwitis and Anthony Samalonis assisted at Mass.

Lectors were Mary Berzanskis, Anne T. Baronasan, and B. Joseph Linkus. Offertory gifts were presented by Anne Mitchell Matalavich,

Mary M. Mackalis, Zephy Yuknavich and Anthony Baronas. Sacred music was played by Louis Stukas, organist. The parish choir sang.

HM Annie Mitchell Matalavich, president of C-52, welcomed the members and guests.

The dinner program consisted of Father Zemeikis as master of ceremonies. Father Pragulbickas gave the invocation. Dr. Jack Stukas was guest speaker. Also attending were Loretta Stukas, Joe Boley and Helen Shields. Adele Urbanas and 20 members of the Newark Council 29 had reserved tables. Music was furnished for dancing.

The committee consisted of Rev. Peter Zemeikis, Annie Mitchell Matalavich, Anne T. Baronas, Mary M. Mackalis, Frances Milewski, Ruth L. Brazinski and William A. Senkus.

William A. Senkus,  
Historian C-52

## C-100 — AMSTERDAM

A positively perfect day greeted our council members and guests who attended the bake at Mary Ann's Tavern on August 30. Our most capable treasurer Sophie Olbie chaired the event. Valio Sophie!

From clam chowder, hot dogs, hamburgers and sausages to sweet corn, salads, baked beans, galombkis, watermelon and cantaloupes were continuously available for the hearty eaters.

President Tony Radzevich and wife Ann brought a guest from Florida, Ann's

brother Peter Togaila. Fran DiBart and Annacetta Guzielek kept him company. Bernice Aviza brought convention pictures which all enjoyed. Tony Radzevich had the raffle tickets for the MAD and Jennie Kensell and Gene Gobis quickly proceeded to disperse them among the guests. Charles Karbocius was spotted looking at the convention photos with Tony Radzevich giving detailed explanations.

Helen Zytkowski brought her bingo cards and had a large group playing. Others enjoyed the sports of bocci ball, horse shoes and cards.

Before we left, owner Mary Ann surprised us with a raffle. The lucky winners were Walter Sargelis, Mary Tamoliunas, Eric Costanzo, Stanley Rimkunas and Helen Zytkowski.

On August 23 we found Lithuanians gathered at the Auriesville Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs for the annual Lithuanian Day. Rev. Matthew Cyvas and Bernice Aviza made the arrangements. St. Casimir's Choir was joined by K of L members in singing the hymns during the Lithuanian Mass with Mr. Ossenfort at the organ. Rev. Joseph Grabys of St. Brigit's Church, Water-vliet, was the homilist. Amsterdam Junior Council members from the Jasewicz family with Boston's Al Jaritis presented the gifts at the Offertory. The readings were by national Lithuanian language coordinator Polly Ziausys and President Radzevich.

National president Frank Petrauskas and wife Irene joined in singing

with the choir. They also met the two K of L scholarship recipients, Judianne Nikstenas and Kenneth Jasewicz. Rev. John Mikalajunas, Council 72 Binghamton's spiritual advisor, was also present. A Lithuanian "Ilgiausiu Metu" was sung to him for his August 24 birthday.

All too soon, the services were over and everyone was bidding each other "Sudiev".

SMILE and SPARKLE

## C-109 — GREAT NECK

Despite torrential rains, wind and cold weather wiping out our scheduled fall picnic in famed Kings Point Park, we the undaunted ones struck a high at our next meeting. We celebrated our picnic indoors with all the frills, meaning hot dogs, to the tremendous delight of all of our members.

A complete and wonderful surprise was the appearance of Monsignor Bulovas who joined us in relishing the buffet and then gave a stimulating and meaningful talk in honor of our Blessed Virgin Mary.

Condolences to our vice president Bill Statkevics for the loss of his lovely wife. Regina Statkevics was a dedicated member and her presence will be missed by all. May she rest in eternal peace.

Also adding heartfelt sympathy to Amelia Budris and Jack Malis for the loss of their mother. May heavenly gates open wide.

Giselle Jankus, daughter of Ona and Richard, was ap-

pointed to the Naval Academy in Annapolis and has already started classes. Congratulations!

Get well wishes to Phil Rutha after a health scare high in the Catskills and to Joe Savicky wishes for super strength for a great comeback.

A pat on the back to Tony Kober for bouncing back again into the real world after a serious surgery and a long hospital stay.

Nominations for the coming elections are in full swing. Much excitement for the unpredictable changes. Let's all get in there and work and be proud of our heritage.

President Al Wesey and Mary Kober, our secretary, gave glowing reports for the hospitable attention given our members at our convention in Kansas City.

Jackutis

## C-110 — MASPETH

To overcome some of the summer doldrums, our council participated in the following events:

August 4-7, some of the members attended the National Convention in Kansas City.

On August 9, the council celebrated Transfiguration Parish's 80th anniversary with a Mass. Later participants were cordially invited to a luncheon with the compliments of Council 110.

Helen Matulonis read an article written by Lieut. Colonel Denis Dirscherl SJ, Catholic Chaplain, which appeared in "The Southern

Cross" of June 18 entitled "Catholics of Lithuania".

"We pay lip service and not action", according to Chaplain Dirscherl. "If the Catholics of Lithuania can be defended by non-Catholics and by persons of atheist persuasion, like Andrei Sakarov or Sergei Kovlev, at the risk of their own freedom, then all the more do we expect intercession from our brethren, the Catholic Bishops and the faithful of other lands." He also stated that Lithuanian Catholics in Lithuania are among the bravest and most courageous people living behind the iron curtain.

The council was again indebted to Helen Matulonis for arranging the luncheon and participating in the Mass as a reader of the first and second readings. Helen is always ready to lend a

helping hand in all council activities. Thank you, Helen!

After the luncheon, a Eucharistic Service in Commemoration of the 600th Anniversary of the Baptism of Lithuania was held in the church.

On August 16, the council's two buses attended the 73rd Lithuanian Day sponsored by Anthracite Council 144 and Pittston Council 143 in Rocky Glen Park, Moosic, Pennsylvania.

On August 31, members, each in his or her way, remembered August 31, 1940, as the day the Soviet Union actually raped Lithuania and thereby she disappeared as an independent nation, putting her identity as a nation in jeopardy. Regardless of all her adversities, which the Soviets can

burden her with, we in this council will long remember the date as an abomination. But as long as we remember, Lithuania will live.

On September 20, two buses with a total of 86 souls, 81 delegates and 5 friends, departed for Pittston, Pennsylvania, to attend Mass at St. Casimir's Church and subsequently to participate in the Mid-Atlantic District Convention. During said Mass, the chief celebrant was Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, pastor, whose homily was on Lithuania's human rights.

At that convention our Jonas Adomenas was elected president of the Mid-Atlantic District. Thanks to Helen Matulonis for doing a superb job in shepherding the 86 souls to and from the convention.

In celebration of the 600th Anniversary of Lithuania's Christianization this council held a Memorial Mass at Transfiguration on September 21. Following Mass the members took part in devotions at the Wayside Shrine with Msgr. Frank Bulovas and Father Stasys Raila, spiritual advisor.

Another summer came to an end as we ushered in our fall season with a dinner and dance on September 27. This affair, like all our others, depended on the cooperation of members. The success in large measure is due to the leadership of President Jonas Adomenas. Peter Zuyus, Eddie Elejsejus, chefs in the kitchen, Frances Miglore, Jean Macutis, Anna Dugan and Anna Kakoszko all helped.

How about this Lithua-



*MAD Meeting in Pittston, PA - Jeannie Janonis, newly-elected President, John Adomenas and Leo Butsavege, President of C-143.*

nian gal, Ann Jillian, and how proud she must have been to usher the Pope into the Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles. This council had the good fortune to honor Ann Jillian when she appeared at the Westbury Music Fair last year. We did her such honor because she is virtuous and deserved such dignity and because of her nationality and because she possesses an inner determination to acknowledge that she is a Lithuanian Catholic.

Joseph C. Dugan

## **C-143 — PITTSTON**

Our council participated in several public functions during the summer months.

On St. Ann's feast day, we attended Lithuanian services at St. Anne's Monastery in Scranton. Stations of the Cross, outdoors, were led by our moderator, Father

Alisauskas, after which he held Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the church. All hymns were Lithuanian. Veneration of the relic of St. Ann took place afterwards. Members were attired in traditional Lithuanian dress.

The 73rd Annual Lithuanian Day at Rocky Glen Park in Moosic, Sunday, August 16, was co-hosted by our council. Anne Challan was co-chairman. The day was well attended by Lithuanians and others from far and near.

Our council's booth was arranged by the cultural committee, Marie Lauck, Anna Davala and Adele Brooks. It commemorated the elevation of Archbishop George Matulaitis to "Blessed" and promoted the celebration of the 600th year of the Christianization of Lithuania.

Msgr. Algimantas Bartkus, rector of the Lithua-

nian Seminary in Rome, concelebrated the noon Mass which was well attended. St. Casimir's Church Choir, led by organist and choir director Bob Kelleher, sang the responses in Lithuanian. Council members and choir members wore their traditional dress.

The following Saturday, we marched in the Fourth Annual Pittston Tomato Festival Parade as we had done the three previous years. Those participating were Leo and Helen Butsavage, Anna Walatkas, Rosalie Kizis, Adele Brooks, Anna Davala, Annamarie Sewatsky, Frances Shoppel, Mary Timek, Marie Lauck, Grace Kazacavage, Stella Wasser and a young grandson and young granddaughter of two of our members. We were applauded for our colorful attire and decorated float and were photographed by many.

Nellie Bayoras Romanas and Dorothy Banos attended the National Convention in Kansas City.

At our regular council meeting on September 1, all present officers were re-elected to serve for 1988 and will be installed the first Sunday in January, prior to the 9 a.m. Mass.

Our council hosted the Mid-Atlantic District meeting on Sunday, September 20. Prior to the 10:30 Mass, the Fourth Degree was conferred upon Msgr. Michael C. Ozalas, spiritual advisor of C-74, and three of its members. Approximately 250 delegates and members from various councils attended the Mass and dinner in the

church hall. Jonas Adomenas, president of the Mid-Atlantic District, conducted the business meeting during which he was reelected to the presidency. He filled the unexpired term of Larry Janonis after his untimely death. Nellie Bayoras Romanas was elected first vice president.

Delegates from Council 143 were Leo Butsavage, Nellie Bayoras Romanas, Anne Walatkas, Marie Lauck, William Baileda, Eleanor Bellanco, Anna Davala, Mary Chorba and Mary Timek.

Our parish, especially the Knights of Lithuania, are preparing to join the other eleven Lithuanian parishes in the Scranton Diocese to celebrate the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania by attending Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, November 1. The Bishop requests that traditional dress be worn by all who can. It will be a concelebrated Mass with the Bishop and the twelve parish priests. Bob Kelleher, St. Casimir's organist and choir director, was designated to lead a combined choir of all participating churches. That evening a dinner will be held at Convention Hall, Pittston Township, which will be attended by members of the parishes.

Plans are now being made for our annual Kucios to be held on a Sunday in December.

Annamarie Sewatsky



## C-144 — ANTHRACITE COUNCIL

Members who attended the National Convention in Kansas City came home weary but happy. Those who returned Sunday sat in the Pittsburgh airport for almost five hours due to a delay in their flight.

Congratulations to Msgr. Bartkus, our former spiritual advisor, on the receipt of the Honorary Degree. The Anthracite delegation honored him with a champagne toast on the prestigious award.

Frances Rauba was honored for her contribution of 2,000 dollars to sponsor a youth to the Lithuanian Youth Congress in Australia.

Our thanks to the Kansas City Committee for a truly wonderful time. They proved you don't need quantity for quality.

Our 73rd Annual Lithuanian Day, co-sponsored by C-143 Pittston, again proved successful. Thanks to all who attended and to all who worked so hard. We will again send a contribution of 7,000 dollars to the Lithuanian Pontifical College in Rome.

We had a bus attending the MAD meeting in Pittston. It was a nice affair. Our best wishes to all the new officers of the MAD.

Congratulations to St. Casimir's Parish in St. Clair on its 75th anniversary as a parish. St. Casimir's Hall was the first meeting place of Anthracite Council.

The Lithuanian language is being taught at the Adult Classes of the Vo-Tech School. Our president Joe Yezulinas is the dedicated teacher.

Lithuanian Masses continue to be held the last Sunday of each month at Our Lady of Siluva Church at noon. We invite all our Vytis friends who are visiting the area to attend these beautiful Masses.

The Allentown Diocese commemorated the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania at a special Mass at St. George's Church in Shenandoah on Sunday, September 13. Council 144 of Schuylkill County and Council 63 of Lehigh Valley were represented.

Mass was concelebrated by the Most Rev. Bishop Paulius Baltakis, and the Most Rev. Bishop Thomas Welsh, bishop of the Allentown Diocese and the members of the Lithuanian Catholic Priest's League of the Allentown Diocese.

A combined Lithuanian Choir of Schuylkill County under direction of Rita Shevokas sang during the Mass. There were special prayers of thanksgiving for Blessed Archbishop George Matulaitis. Junior Knights presented the offertory gifts. Mary Koons read the Jubilee Prayer. Bishop Baltakis was the homilist.

Following the Mass, a banquet was held in St. George's Hall. Rev. Gerald Gobitas, pastor Annunciation BVM Frackville, was general chairman. Rev. Ronald Jankaitis, pastor St. Casimir, St. Clair, was master

of ceremonies. Rev. Robert Potts is pastor of St. George, the oldest Lithuanian parish in the United States. Bishop Welsh addressed the assemblage.

Our Mt. Carmel members with Marcella and Joseph Kaselonis as chairpersons will be in charge of our annual Kucios at Our Lady of Siluva in Maizeville.

## C-152 — RIVERHEAD

Summer sun and fun all over now, our members attended our September meeting in record number. It was with great pleasure that we welcomed our new spiritual advisor, Father William R. Scril. Father Scril was born, reared and ordained in Brooklyn. He is currently the full-time chaplain at the Riverhead correctional facility, president of the Riverhead Clergy Council and says Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Riverhead and also assists at St. Patrick's Church, Southold. We look forward to his participation in our activities in the months ahead.

Although we had no meetings in July and August, our members were busy. Angela Minsavitch and Muriel Lekstutis were among the thousands attending the 600th anniversary of Christianity celebration in Rome on June 28. President and Mrs. Sakal hosted a pool party at their home in Nesconset. A few brave souls jumped in but most just enjoyed their hospitality. The festivities were cut short by rain but until

then, a good time was had by all.

Lucy and Victor Sanders, our members from Venice, Florida, surprised us by attending our meeting and allowing us to meet them. They were visiting their son and Lucy's sister, Agnes Marma. You're awfully nice folks, but you live so far away!

It was good to see Alex and Mae Zipkas, Nellie Sarkas and Mary Hagglund at our meeting. All had health problems but are on the mend now. We're happy to have them back.

Congratulations Felix and Charlene Zorskis on becoming grandparents again, a darling baby girl born in July.

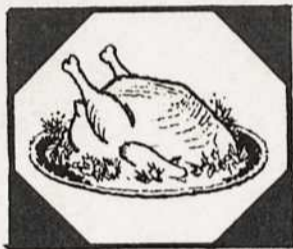
Anne and John Sidlauskas celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. Their happy years together are an inspiration to all of us. Congratulations and "Ilgiausiu Metu".

Not all was good news, our deepest sympathy is extended to the Bodnevich family on the untimely death of Marge's brother and to Mary Zipkas on the death of her sister. May they rest in peace.

Alberta Clark was quite excited about her upcoming trip to the Panama Canal Zone, then to her annual winter stay in Florida. Evelyn Niksa thought that when she retired recently that it would be all fun from then on. She's busier than ever. Like so many of us in this area, she is taking advantage of the abundant produce now available from our farms, preserving and canning.

Lithuanians and Lithuanian causes have been brought to the attention of fellow Americans in newspaper and magazine articles in recent months. President Reagan's proclamations, the 600th anniversary of Christianity and the many protests throughout this country and Europe have been widely publicized. That's good!

**B L**



## MID-AMERICA DISTRICT

### COUNCIL 24 - CHICAGO

On Tuesday, August 11, several members of the K of L. Council 24 set out to vacation, for four days in Fish Lake, Indiana, a small town eight miles for La Porte.

Because we all understood Lithuanian, we all promised to try to speak it.

With a beautiful lake as a backyard, you can bet everybody wanted to go swimming. After a while at the beach, one tremendous chore had to be done. The grass had to be mowed. With Pove Pedalino, Dana and Gail taking turns with the mower and all the children taking turns gathering the cut grass, the job was done in no time.

That evening, Dana and Gail built a *laužas* (bonfire) in the backyard with the wood they had gathered earlier. The members sang songs such as *Laužas Dega* (*The bonfire is burning*) and many other Lithuanian folk songs. The fire lasted about half an hour, and everybody was reluctant to go inside.

The next day we had to decide what to do. Shall we go blueberry or peach picking? Peaches prevailed. It was

*fun for everybody to pick peaches that were ripened to perfection and to eat the ones that proved most irresistible.*

*Once we got home, we decided to try the lake — go fishing. Because all were squimish when it came to put the worms on the hook, Gail Butts performed this brave task. Since none was an experienced hand with the *meškerė* (fishing rod) everything ended up in one tangled mass. So all was put away and everyone retired to the beach to relax after the fishing "ordeal".*

The highlight of the trip was the visit to Amish Acres in Nappanee, Indiana. There we enjoyed ice cream soda and drinks. All enjoyed the guided tour on which much was learned about the Amish way of life. On the way home we caught glimpses of the Amish people, about which we learned the tour.

Because all were having such a great time, the trip was prolonged one day, so we left on the fifth day.

This proved to all that when the Knights of Lithuania go somewhere, it's going to be a great time!

**Gail Butts**

## C-112 — CHICAGO

Before I write our council news, I must start by saying that there is such a big void in our council which will never be filled with the passing of our dear member, Irene Sankus. Her untimely death was a big shock to many. Her expertise and advice on any subject or job in the K of L was much appreciated by those who requested assistance from her and her friendship and willingness to participate in all K of L activities will sorely be missed by all.

Elections were held following our September business meeting. Congratulations to Mary Juzenas who was elected president. This is the first time in many years that we have a lady at the helm of our council. We wish Mary and her elected officers much good luck and a successful year. The following officers were also elected: first vice president, Al Zakarka; second vice president, Eleanor Kasputis; third vice president, Maria Deksnis; treasurer Al Dagis; financial secretary, Alice Cekanor; recording secretary, handled by a team of two, Peter and Josephine Juzenas; trustees, Al Cekanor and Al Mockus; sergeants at arms, Peter Gagle, Ron Maldunas, Steve Rudokas and Matt Valutis.

Many of our members attended the 600th Anniversary of Christianity Jubilee in Rome in June. Our own Robert Mockus had the honor of accompanying the choirs in St. Peter's Basilica with the Pope officiating at one of the Masses. Robert also accompanied the Lithuanian Opera Chorus of Chicago at their concert in the Papal Audience Hall. He was the accompanist for a recording of 13 Lithuanian sacred songs made especially for the Vatican radio. He was awarded the Christianity Jubilee Medallion.

Congratulations to Rita Zakarka who was one of the young people awarded a trip to Australia in December to attend the World Youth Congress. Rita received this wonderful award at the National Convention.

More congratulations

are also in order to Mary Juzenas who was elected Supreme Council recording secretary and to Al Zakarka who was appointed treasurer of the Knights of Lithuania Foundation.

We are proud to announce our council came in fourth place nationally in the Mid-America District in the national membership drive. Estelle Rogers and Elie Kasputis tied for second place as winners council-wise for signing up the most new members.

ARDEE



## MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

### C-149 — SAGINAW

In Saginaw all of the parishes take turns celebrating the Mass to be shown each Sunday on television for shut-ins. St. George Catholic Church was scheduled for Sunday, August 30. The taping was on Sunday, August 9, at WNEM Channel 5 in Saginaw.

Since St. George's was founded by Lithuanians for Lithuanians, the pastor who is Council 149's spiritual advisor, Father Joseph Roach, thought it would be an ideal time to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the baptism of Lithuania. Members of St. George's and K of L Council 149 were invited to attend the taping.

Our recording secretary Stella McLeod and member Della Telmos attended in authentic Lithuanian dress. Another member August Dumbra led the celebrants in the Our Father in Lithuanian. Council president Jack Grehetis read the intercession prayers wearing a traditional sash. The Mass was aired on Sunday, August 30, at 8:30 a.m.

Since our council decided to have August Dumbra teach us the language, we have also decided to label the utensils we eat with so that we can not only learn the name in Lithuanian but also see it.

At the October meeting Stella McLeod will start teaching the members the art of making straw Christmas ornaments.

Jack Grehetis

### C-79 — SOUTHFIELD

Our May 6 council meeting was attended by a larger than usual group of members. The reason might have been the advertised lecture and slide presentation given by Fr. Antanas Saulaitis SJ who came from Chicago for the evening. His subject was "600 Years of Lithuanian Christianity". Did you know that Lithuania was the last European country to embrace Christianity?

Lithuanian Affairs Chairlady, Helen Santorum, reported that American Lithuanians are asking for a review of the Helsinki Conference in the hope of re-



Marijos paveikslas, panaudotas popiežiaus išleistoje Marijos Metų maldos lietuviškoje laidoje

leasing three Lithuanian priests from Soviet imprisonment. Cultural Chairlady, Stella Hotra, drew chuckles by reading from the comic strip "Prince Valiant" which had reference to Lithuania.

John Waseloskus is on the sick list. Joe Usoris' mother, Veronica, passed away during the last month. We wish God's blessing on them.

Estelle and Charles Gogelis celebrated their silver wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows on May 5 at Divine Providence Church. Daughter Vida later hosted a dinner for the celebrants and family members.

Twenty-two members attended a breakfast at a "well-known" restaurant after Mass on Sunday, April 26 to commemorate Founder's Day.



Our annual council picnic was held on Saturday, August 22. The parish picnic was well supported by council members on Sunday, June 7.



C-79 - Frank Zager

On Sept. 6th our Council lost a long-standing, active member - Frank Zager. After a short illness, Frank passed on peacefully, with wife Sophie, sons Gerry, Mark and Tom at his bedside.

His contribution to our Council were many and varied. Soon after joining our reactivated council in 1959, he was elected President. As Treasurer for five years (intermittently), he was very strict about doling out treasury funds. He was our council's Treasurer at the time of his death. He was Nat'l Ritual Chairman in 1971 and council committees he served on are too numerous to mention. Camp Dainava was a pet project where he was active for at least eight years with the Juniors. Serving on the "New Church" committee in the early '70s, he worked closely with the Bishop in the construction of the "new" Divine Providence Parish.

We will miss his salty observations at meetings - also his pizzas and ability to make delicious coffee at our Council's turn to host the Parish Coffee Hour.

We wish you much deserved Eternal Rest, Frank.

Bee Jay

## C-25 — CLEVELAND

At the National Convention in Kansas City, our council president Vince Gray received his Fourth Degree with all the pomp and ceremony. Seven members attended including Vic and Betty August from Florida.

The September meeting brought forth four prospective members. All reports were given and accepted as read. Our chaplain Fr. Kijauskas extended greetings and a picture of Beatific Matulaitis was presented to him. Nominating committee was appointed and the wheels of good fortune are turning again.

"Zodzio ir Muzikos Koncertas" was held in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Auditorium on September 13. Program participants were "poetas Kazys Bradunas ir pianiste Laima Skarkaite. Koncerta rengia Lietuvos Vyciai, Ateities Klubas ir Vyr. Skauciu Zidinys". Refreshments were served by the three groups. Thank you ladies and gentlemen!

A number of Vyciai attended the Lithuanian Club picnic. A beautiful spread of food was displayed by Jim and Joan Thompson and

their helpers. V. and M. Gray were winners of a club dinner.

Joanne Shigo became a TV and newspaper celebrity after having surgery on her leg. She was the first patient in the City of Cleveland to have a clogged artery opened using the laser beam technique. She's doing great!

The pilgrimage to Dayton was a big success. Twenty members were there for Friday's happy hour and six more members joined the group on Saturday for the meeting. The program was well planned and executed by our host Council 96. Thank you for a lovely and memorable time. Ruth Guzauskas won the 50/50 raffle at the meeting. V. and M. Gray, Joe Ivoska, Chuck Machutas, Ruth Guzauskas and Alvina Luiza were elected to the MCD roster. Congratulations! 'Twas a most gratifying pleasure having Bishop Baltakis officiating and celebrating with us.

Due to poor attendance at the October meeting, nomination for officers was postponed until the November meeting. Christmas party plans were discussed.

On October 4, a video of the pilgrimage to Rome was shown to the public in the parish hall.

Our sunshine group needs to focus their cheery beam on C. Burns, J. Prancus and U. Kunsitis. Get well soon!

Sudiev, Dolly-O

## C-25 CLEVELAND, OHIO

Lietuvos vyčių 25-ta kuopa Clevelande, po daugelio pasirodymų šiais metais rugsėjo mėn. 13 dieną, kartu

su Ateities klubu, Židinietėm ir LB Ohio apygardai, Dievo Motinos Nepaliaujamos Pagalbos parapijos auditorijoje, surengė Lietuvos krikšto 600 metų jubiliejaus minėjimo, žodžio ir muzikos koncertą.

Minėjimas prasidėjo vėliavų pakėlimu prie žuvusiems už Lietuvos laisvę paminklo 9:45 val. ryto. Vėliavaš pakėlė Šv. Kazimiero lituanistinės mokyklos mokiniai visiems gielant "Marija, Marija", vadovaujant muzikai Ritai Kliorienei. Po vėliavų pakėlimo Dievo Motinos Nepaliaujamos Pagalbos šventovėje, už žuvusių, kankinanius kalėjimuose, koncentracijos stovyklose, Sibiro taigose bei persekiojamus dėl tikėjimo į Dievą, Šv. Mišias atnašavo ir žodį tarė prelatas L. Tulaba iš Romos, asistuojant parapijos klebonui kun. G. Kijauskui, SJ, ir prelatui A. Goldikovskui.

4 val. po pietų, parapijos auditorijoje, minėjimą atidarė ir žodį tarė apie poetą K. Bradūna Dalia Staniškienė. Poetol Kazio Bradūno rečitalio pirmoji dalis Lietuviškoji religinė poezija, antroje dalyje paties poeto K. Bradūno poezija. Jauna pianistė Laima Šarkaitė paskambino Italiana Concerto — J. S. Bach, Opus 8 Nr. 12 — A. Scriabin ir Pasaka — Vl. Jakubėno. Po koncerto N. Palubinskienė padėkojo poetui K. Bradūnui ir pianistei Laimai Šarkaitei už programos atlikimą ir pakvietė visus dalyvius į parapijos svetainę vaišėm, o p-lė Palubinskaitė prisegė gėlę poetui K. Bradūnui, įteikė gėlių puokštę pianistei p-lei Šarkaitei ir programos pravedėjai Daliai Staniškienei.

Parapijos svetainėje, Lietuvos Vyčių 25-tos kuopos nariai-narės, su pačių keptais pyragais ir kavute pavaišino koncerto dalyvius, kurių buvo arti trijų šimtų. Gražu, kad Lietuvos Vyčių 25-ta kuopa Clevelande bendradarbiauja su kitomis lietuviškomis organizacijomis ir dirba Dievui, tautai ir bažnyčiai.

**E. Pranckus**

## C-102 — DETROIT

Detroit was honored on September 18 and 19 by the visit of His Most Holiness Pope John Paul II. Attending the Mass His Holiness offered at the Silver Dome in Pontiac were Bill and Edna Klucens and sons Bob and Raymond, and Joe and Maryanne Guerriero. Joe and Maryanne were especially thrilled with the nearness of the Pope passing by them and blessing the people in his Popemobile since it was the birthday of their daughter.

At the Prayer of the Faithful, Ms. Visputis offered the following intercession in Lithuanian: "Už lietuvius, kurie svencia 600 krikščionisko tikejimo metus, duok nuolatinės dramos ir stiprybės jiems, issklaidytiems po visa pasauli ypac tiems kurie yra varzomi ir negali laisvai praktikuoti savo tikejimo".

Translated in English: "For Lithuanians who celebrate 600 years of Christian Faith and for continued strength and courage for those around the world who cannot or who are discouraged from living their faith".

Rev. Fr. Walter Stanievich was one of 300 who distributed Communion to the 90,000 people who came to this beautiful Mass. Vice President Bush was a guest at the Mass and later said goodbye to His Holiness as he departed for Canada. Thank you Archbishop Szoka for inviting His Holiness to our

city, the first Pope to visit our city. Thank you Your Holiness Pope John Paul II for coming. This is an experience that I will treasure all my life.

After a beautiful summer, our council resumed meetings in September with Mass at St. Anthony. President Frank Bunikis opened the meeting with Lithuanian prayer. There was much to discuss and planning to be done for the year. September was also the beginning of our bowling league. This year we welcomed Chris Stanievich, daughter of John and Donna.

August provided beautiful weather for our pool party, hosted by President and Mrs. Bunikis at their condo. Summer vacations were enjoyed by Eve and Joe Aukstakalnis-Stark and Joe and Maryanne Guerriero to the western states of our country. Ray and Terry Medonis enjoyed the northern part of our state of Michigan. Donna Bunikis visited her son and daughter-in-law and new grandson in Arizona. Donna and John Stanievich visited their son Dr. John in New York.

Get well wishes are extended to HM Bob Boris. Hurry and get well Bob, Christmas Kucios is coming and you know what that means.

Deepest sympathies are extended to Eve Aukstakalnis-Stark on the death of her sister, to Josephine Jonulate on the death of her mother who would have been 100 years old in October, to Sophie Zager and family on the passing of

pastoral work in the parish.

The welcome mat is extended to Rev. Joseph Jurgelonis, newly appointed pastor of St. Francis. He is the son of Joseph and Helen Markunas Jurgelonis of Millbury. He was ordained by Bishop Flanagan on May 11, 1973, and has served several area parishes. Father was officially investitured as pastor on Sunday, September 27, by Rev. Joseph Sirois, Dean of the Gardner Deanery. He was treated to a welcome reception in the parish hall following the investiture sponsored by the Women's Guild. Mes vyčiai sveikiname tave ir linkime ilgiausiu metu musu tarpe.

Condolences are extended to Petronele Richard and Anna Dye on the recent death of their brother Francis Jodaitis. K of L'ers attended the wake.

Condolences are also extended to Nellie Melaika on the death of her brother-in-law Charles Zilinsky of Erving and to the Lucas family on the death of their brother and uncle John Wironen. May they all rest in the peace of the Lord.

Vincukas

## C-50 — NEW HAVEN

After attending our special Mass for Mother's Day, we gathered in the church hall. Our main speaker was Mae Jackub who touched our hearts once again when she pleaded with us to remember our mothers on this special day set aside for them. The Women's Alliance

provided the refreshments.

A goodly number of members and guests filled a bus and headed for the dog races in Plainfield on May 29. It was a joyous fun-filled evening. Everyone was extremely pleased.

On August 16, our annual K of L picnic took place at the beautiful Fort Hale Park at Lighthouse Point. Al Gedrim and Frank Peterson were in charge, including their arrival at the park at six to secure one of the pavilions. It's a great place to have a picnic and it was well worth their efforts to accommodate us.

The 74th National Convention in Kansas City was attended by delegates Isabel and Frank Peterson, Mary Geipel, Marge Cronan, Audrey Toole, and Helen Medley. Helen Maculaitis and Ann Rinkevicius also attended. They loved every bit of it, the tours, meals, wonderful hospitality and had a wonderful time.

On September 13 our annual St. Casimir's parish picnic was held at the Elks Club in Branford. Frank Antin was general chairman. Serving on the committee were Theresa Strimaitis, Ann Meskins, Al and Ann Gedrim, Frank and Isabel Peterson, Mary Geipel, Marge Cronan, Rose Kacillas, Bernice Barile, Marion Neshako, Joan Augustine and Mary Antin. Walt Solek's Band performed, ringing out those famous polkas. The kugelis, desra and pigs in blankets were the Lithuanian goodies from Theresa Strimaitis' kitchen, and they were the tops. Everyone had an enjoyable pic-

nic.

Our deepest condolences go out to Theresa Strimaitis and her family in the sudden death of her husband Bruno who died July 22. We also express our deepest sympathy to Carl and Ann Ramstedt and sister Helen on the sudden death of their loved one Mae Jackub on August 31.

Congratulations to Helen Melchior for coming to the August meeting to be sworn in as a member. Our newest members are Irene Hornat and Alicia Gagesky.

Edith Kazlauskas, Mary Yesukavich and Barbara Zaicuirinskas traveled to Lithuania this past summer.

H B

## C-26 — WORCESTER

We are always looking for sharp candidates to enlarge and enrich our council and so we are happy to announce that 17 new members have "boarded our bus"! Warm and sincere welcomes to Victoria Augustine, Lenore Adamonis, Joanne and John Jacobson, Alphonse and Lillian Kondrotas, Frank and Albina Kondrotas, Phyllis Morin, Leonas Nalivaika, Elizabeth O'Donnell, Edward Palilunas, Paul and Genevieve Puras, Joseph and Dorothy Virbasius and Aldona Waska.

It was a wonderful vacation season! Charles and Frances Kulakusky visited the British Isles to see their daughter, Margaret, and her family. Kazys and Teresa Adomavicius travelled to Lithuania. Alexander and Ann Pridotkas travelled to

Frank, and to Val Wasse and family on the passing of husband John who bowled with us many years.

Mariute



## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

### COUNCIL 7 - WATERBURY, CT.

The final meeting for the summer was held on June 19th. 26 members received their 1st and 2nd Degrees. A very impressive ceremony was conducted by Ritual Chairperson Victoria Silliman. After the ceremonies a very sumptuous buffet was arranged by Alma Torre, chairwoman.

Our hearts were saddened by the death of our beloved Patricia Richards who was a member of Council 7 for 42 years. She served as Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary for many years. She will be sadly missed. Our condolences are also extended to our President, Ann Chaplick on the loss of her brother and to Mr. & Mrs. John Blinn on the loss of their beloved son Steven.

The first fall meeting was held on Sept. 18th. Father Karvelis opened the meeting with a prayer. Our President, Ann Chaplick welcomed all members attending the meeting.

On Sept. 13th, St. Joseph's parish held their annual family picnic at Bristol Babcock Grove in Waterbury. Chairpersons for the picnic were Alex and Virginia Kosa. K of L members assisted wherever needed.

On Sunday, Sept. 20th, Council 7 hosted the New England District meeting held in St. Joseph's Parish Hall. 11 a.m Mass was held with Rev. Paul Sabulis officiat-

ing. A brunch followed the Mass in the church hall where everyone was welcome. After the meeting, a delicious dinner was served. There were approximately 125 people attending. There were 12 members receiving their Third degree. It was a busy afternoon. Thank you all for attending. A Special Thank You for all who worked hard to make that afternoon so special. Acivisiems.

Virginia Kosa

### C-10 — ATHOL-GARDNER

The K of L sponsored a Mass on the occasion of the 600th Anniversary of the Christianization of Lithuania and the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis on June 28.

At the same time Mr. and Mrs. John Krustapentus and Rev. John Petrauskas MIC, native of Gardner, attended the event in Rome. Also your council news editor had the privilege of meeting and socializing with the Shatos family, Antena, Marie and Margaret, as well as Lillie Smith, Beverly Meder and Jackie Doherty. A happy time was had by all on the Holiday Tour which included Rome, Florence, Milan, Vienna, Salzburg and Munich.

Several Lithuanians in Gardner are showing their colors. If you drive down Route 2 in town, you surely won't miss our tri-colors at the home of Howie Beaudette. The Wisniauskases also display the Lithuanian flag whenever they display Old Glory.

Our annual summer

barbecue held at the home of Frank Anoris in August was a most beautiful event. It was good to see Howie and his mother. Thank you, Frank, for your gracious hospitality.

We of Council 10 as well as the entire parish of St. Francis were saddened at the sudden death of Stanley Perekslis on July 26. Born in Athol, graduated from Athol High and Becker Junior College, he went to work at his father's grocery store which he took over in 1936 as Stan's Sooper. Stan was active in community affairs. He is survived by his wife Alice Jasionas of 47 years, whom he met at a New Jersey National Convention, a son Stan II, daughter Constance and six grandchildren.

Sixteen K of L's were honorary bearers, conducted a ritual service at the wake and sang the Lithuanian national hymn at the cemetery. O tau mielasis Stasi, visi is vien tariame tikra lietuviska ir vytiska sudiev ir iki pasimatymo aname gyvenime. O seimai didele uzuojauta!

On Sunday, August 30, a sad farewell reception was held for Rev. Justin Stepnaitis, pastor of St. Francis the past 17 years and spiritual advisor of Council 10. It appeared that the entire parish turned out in a spirit of solidarity; and love for a priest who won the respect of all and who walked an extra mile for all. He will be truly missed. Our grateful thanks and prayers go with him. He will reside at St. Mark's Rectory in Westbrook, CT, and will assist in

Colorado to see their son and daughter-in-law and took the added opportunity of touring the west coast. Steve and Anne Walinsky Sr. did extensive travelling in the western part of our country.

For Rita Karrytais, Ann Bucinskas, Anne Walinsky, Rita Brazauskas and Olge Kersis, the trip of the year was Italy in general and Rome in particular where they witnessed the beatification of Archbishop George Matulaitis MIC and the celebration of Lithuania's 600th anniversary as a Christian nation. Our pastor, since transferred to Kenosha, Wisconsin, Father Anthony Miciunas MIC also witnessed the marvels of the Rome events.

Special wedding anniversaries made this a very special year for the following: Bartholomew and Mary March were married 55 years ago. Alexander and Mary Anusauskas, John and Anne Ridick, and Frank and Sue Roland celebrated 50-year golden anniversaries. Congratulations and many more years to the happy couples!

The sick list is not complete but so far we know that Michael Abraham, Anthony Anton, Mary Anusauskas, Anna Kersis, Helen Gillus and Mary Kamendulis had medical problems. All are doing very well now and soon their problems will be just history, pray the good Lord.

God rest the precious souls of members Anthony Morkunas, Anthony Tamulevich, Fr. Mike's brother, and Domicela Kunsaitis, mo-

ther of Ruth Gadilauskas. Sincere sympathy to the bereaved families.

Ann Bender and Rita Pinkus were the official recording secretaries for the National Convention in Kansas City. Ann read the report at the September meeting and it was indeed a beautiful convention. Other delegates were Rita Karrytais, Anne Bucinskas, Steve and Anne Walinsky, Sr.

Anne Leseman provided this correspondent with details of the Fall New England District Convention in Waterbury. Members of our council receiving Third Degrees were Virginia and Dwight Cummings, Marion March, Bill Leseman and Bill Karas. Marion Shapiro received the Fourth Degree. Frances Kulakusky was given an award for recruiting the most members. Marion Racicot is NED ritual chairperson. Congratulations, all!

Applause of appreciation to Steve and Eleanor Walinsky and children, Lynne and Mark, for hosting the July meeting with a shish-ka-bob at their West Millbury home. It was a grand evening, indeed, with many members and our spiritual director, Fr. Miciunas, present.

Teams and current standings are not available at this writing, but, please note that Louis and Sharon Gouin are bowling co-chairpersons for the 1987-88 season.

There is much more to report for 1987, so look for future issues of Vytis. In the meantime, we have to report that our pastor of 15-1/2 years, Father Anthony

J. Miciunas MIC was transferred in September to a pastorate at St. Peter's Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin. How difficult to say goodbye. We welcome Father Vincent Parulis MIC, our new pastor, and his associate, Father John Petrauskas MIC who came to our St. Casimir's parish after serving at Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson.

Iki malonaus sekancio numerio!

"DZUKELE"



### SVETIMOS PUPOS IR NUOSAVOS LŪPOS

*Gražiai mes lietuviškai mokam;  
Visokius galvočius prašokam,  
Anglišką žodį pagaunam —  
Lietuviškus marškinius maunam.*

*Į gatvę išėję kas rytą,  
Žygiuojam, kaip lordai, per strytą,  
Batai šiušiais patampa,  
Korneriu, krikštijam kampą,*

*Leidė vačina kičeną.  
Tyčeris boisą tyčina.  
Draiveris draivina karą.  
Liandorius grinorių bara.*

*Vakar pentinom fliorą,  
Šiandien klyninam štorą.  
Dženkus iš jardo mūvinam,—  
Šitaip mes kalba lietuvinam.*

Runcė Dandierinas





Palainintojo Jurgio Matulaičio paveikslas Šv. Petro bazilikos galiniame altoriuje.



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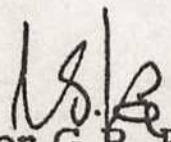
July 28, 1987

Dear Dr. Stukas,

I am writing at the direction of the Holy Father to express his thanks for the painting of Blessed George Matulaitis, executed by Sister M. Mercedes and offered for his acceptance by the Knights of Lithuania.

His Holiness is grateful to the Knights for their thoughtfulness and devoted sentiments. With the assurance of his prayers he cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing, invoking upon all of you the grace and peace of Christ.

Sincerely yours,

  
 Monsignor G.B. Re  
 Assessor

Dr. Jack J. Stukas  
 234 Sunlit Drive  
 Watchung, NJ 07060

C-112  
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