

Vytis - The Knight

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"Kissing the Face of God..."

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2005-2006**

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Mission Statement: The Knights of Lithuania endeavors to instill in its members an attachment to Lithuania, the land of our ancestors, and knowledge, appreciation and love of the Lithuanian language, customs and culture.

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Front Cover:

"Kissing the Face of God" – by Morgan Weisting

Crown Point Graphics, Carmel, Indiana

To My Fellow Knights

As the advent season of waiting for the light and peace of Christmas closes. Christmas and the New Year are upon us. Our editorial staff, Sr. Johanna Marie Shainauskas, Mildred Jagiella, and I wish you the blessings of inner light and peace, of hope and joy. To all our readers, writers, and contributors,

Merry, Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

My years in the Vytis office have been a challenge, adventure, a growing experience and a wonderful opportunity to meet the many dedicated Knights across the country and to admire the works performed throughout these 90+ years 'For God and Country.' Regretfully, I have informed Agnes Mickunas and the Supreme Council of my intention to resign as editor of Vytis effective January 1, 2006 with the printing of this issue. It has been a privilege to be trusted with this office.

In November I was appointed co-vocation director for my congregation and time constraints prevent me from continuing editorial duties. I will continue to help the editorial staff and the organization as I am able. The work and goals of the Knights of Lithuania are important for Lithuania and the Church. I hope the Knights of Lithuania, in turn, will more consciously promote religious and priestly vocations by their outlook and prayers.

Sister M. Janine

DEADLINE FOR 4TH DEGREE APPLICATIONS:

May 1, 2006. All fourth degree applications must be received by this date. Please send your applications to;

**Lee Moore, Ritual Chair
126 High Street
Clearfield, PA 16830**

Some more websites for you...

- 1.) <http://www.radiomaria.org/media/lithuania.aspx> "Marijos radijas" presents religious thoughts in the Lithuanian language, rosary, radio news. News of Catholic and Christian events sacred concerts, etc.
- 2.) Computer Owner's Partial Guide "For God and Country" – Catholic Links:
<http://www.usccb.org/nab/> If you can't get to Mass, you can read the daily Mass reading (according to the US Catholic Conference of Bishops.)
- 3.) http://www.catholic.net/about_us.phtml For the latest Catholic news and Spiritual Living (which gives a brief insight into the daily readings, sort of a continuation of the first web-site.)

President's Message – Christmas 2005

Dear Fellow Knights,

Our organization is fast approaching its 93rd anniversary of existence. For all these many years the Knights have steadfastly maintained their love of God and Country. Our culture and traditions have been a mainstay of our lives and it is through the work of our members that the Knights have retained a prominent role in the Lithuanian community at large. I know that we can continue on this path for many more future years. Thank you for your commitment to the good works and goals of our Knights of Lithuania organization.

The Supreme Council members join me in wishing all the Knights of Lithuania and their families a happy and joyous Christmas Season filled with peace and happiness. May the newborn Christ Child shower upon each of you His choicest blessings for the New Year 2006.

Linksmų Kalėdų ir Laimingų Naujų Metų!

Vytiškai,

Agnes V. Mickunas, H.M.
President



*All the members of your
Supreme Council
wish to send their best and warmest wishes
to all our fellow members for a
Holy and Merry Christmas
and a
Healthy and Happy New Year 2006.*

*We're looking forward to welcoming
you in 2006 to
Lake Buena Vista, Florida from
August 3rd to 6th
for our 93rd National Convention.
See you there!*





As Angels



herald the good news

of Christ's birth the members

of the Mid-America District

wish to send their happiest of Christmas
greetings to all our fellow members.

Wishing everyone glad tidings for the

New Year!

Council 5 – Chicago, IL

Council 82 – Gary, IN

Council 16 – Chicago, IL

Council 112 – Chicago, IL

Council 36 – Chicago, IL

Council 133 – Los Angeles, CA

Council 38 – Kenosha, WI

Council 157 – Lemont, IL

Council 71 – Milwaukee, WI

Chicago Seniors Council



THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA FOUNDATION, INC.

**WISHES EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**

The Foundation is an Endowment Fund, established to:

- finance projects to enhance K of L Aims and goals,
- help our members learn & speak out about their Lithuanian heritage
- send needed help: books, medications, fabrics & support to suffering people of Lithuania, especially her youth
- ensure the financial future of the Knights of Lithuania.

You can help support the Knights through the K of L Foundation, by joining the Foundation or adding to your previous donation. A \$100.00 donation will make you a Foundation Member; a \$1,000.00 donation will make you a Foundation Honored Member. Donations are invested – only interest is spent for K of L related projects. Please remember the Foundation with your tax-deductible donation to:

Knights of Lithuania Foundation, Inc.
2557 East Ontario Street / Philadelphia, PA 19134

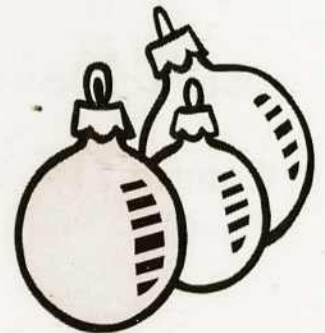


**LINKSMŲ KALĒDŲ
IR
LAIMINGŲ NAUJŲ METŲ**



Member Councils of the Amber District

- Council 3 – Philadelphia, PA
- Council 46 – Forest City, PA
- Council 63 – Lehigh Valley, PA
- Council 72 – Binghamton, NY
- Council 74 – Scranton, PA
- Council 140 – Syracuse, NY
- Council 142 – Washington, DC
- Council 143 – Pittston, PA
- Council 144 – Anthracite, PA
- Council 146 – Harrisburg, PA
- Council 156 – Shamokin, PA





*Wishing our fellow
members, family and
friends all the joy and
happiness that the Christmas
season brings*

*May the New Year bring
peace and prosperity to all!*

*Linksmų Kalėdų
ir
Laimingų Naujų Metų*

Council 112, Chicago, IL



Council 152

*Eastern Long Island, NY
Wishes a Blessed Nativity Season
and a*

*Happy New Year
to our fellow Knights everywhere*

Linksmų Kalėdų Švenčių



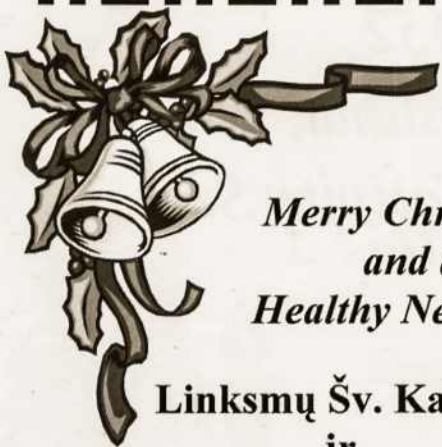


*The officers and members of
Council 16, Chicago, IL
send greetings to all our fellow
members
and friends for a
Merry Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year
2006!*



Christmas Blessings

*Linksmų Kalėdų
ir
Laimingų Naujų Metų
Council 74, Scranton, PA*



*Merry Christmas
and a
Healthy New Year*

*Linksmų Šv. Kalėdų
ir
Laimingų Naujų Metų*

from

*All Members of
Council 12, New York, NY*

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
Council 46, Forest City, PA*

*All Good Wishes for a
Blessed Christmas and New Year
Council 116, South Worchester, MA*

*Linksmų Kalėdų ir
Laimingų Naujų Metų
Council 143, Pittston, PA*





*A Blessed Christmas
to our Vyčiai
&
Peace, Good Health
and Happiness
in the New Year!!*

*Vytiškai
Council 1 - Brockton, MA
&
Frances*



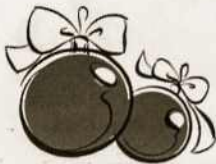
***Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų
ir
Laimingųjų Naujųjų Metų
Jums ir Jūsų Šeimai
nuo
Kuopos 17-tos
South Boston***





*The Saint Casimir Guild
of the
Pontifical Lithuanian College in Rome
šv. Kazimiero Kolegijos Gildija*

*Wishing all our fellow members and friends
a Blessed and Merry Christmas
and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year 2006.*



The Saint Casimir Guild is a 501(C)(3) Charity
Anne Klizas-Wargo, HM - President

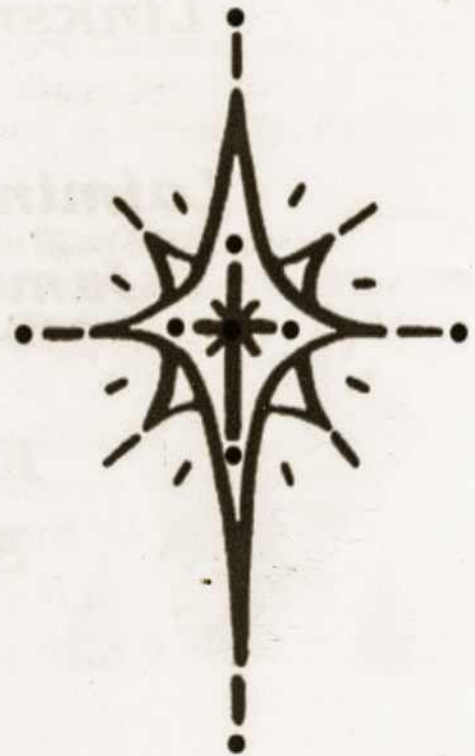


May the Newborn Savior

*Be the Guiding Light
of Our Lives.*

*Linksmų Kalėdų
ir
Laimingų Naujų Metų*

*Members of
St. Michael's Council 156
Shamokin, PA*





*May this Holy Season
bring you Peace,
Happiness and Joy
and*

*May your New Year be
healthy and prosperous!*

Council 157 – Lemont, IL



*Happy
and
Healthy
Holiday's*

Council 50



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



*From all the members
of Council 30
Westfield, Mass.*



*Council 141
St. George Church
Bridgeport, Connecticut*

Linki Visiems Vyčiams

Linksmų Kalėdų



*The Members of
Council 133, Los Angeles, CA
wish everyone a
Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.*

*We also wish to share the joy
and congratulate our very own
RUTA LEE
on receiving her star on the
Hollywood Walk of Fame.*

Ruta, we're so proud of you!

*All our thanks to everyone who
helped make this a reality.*

**Linksmų Šventų
Kalėdų**



**Lehigh Valley
Council 63**



*May the Spirit
of Christmas
be in your
hearts, and
may your
New Year be
happy and
prosperous!*

**Vytiškai
Council 82
Gary, IN**

Christmas Greetings
from
 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
 NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-1 Brockton, MA

C-6 Hartford, CT

C-7 Waterbury, CT

C-10 Athol-Gardner, MA

C-17 So. Boston, MA

C-26 Worcester, MA

C-27 Norwood, MA

C-30 Westfield, MA

C-50 New Haven, CT

C-78 Lawrence, MA

C-103 Providence, RI

C-116 Worcester, MA

C-135 Ansonia, CT

C-141 Bridgeport, CT

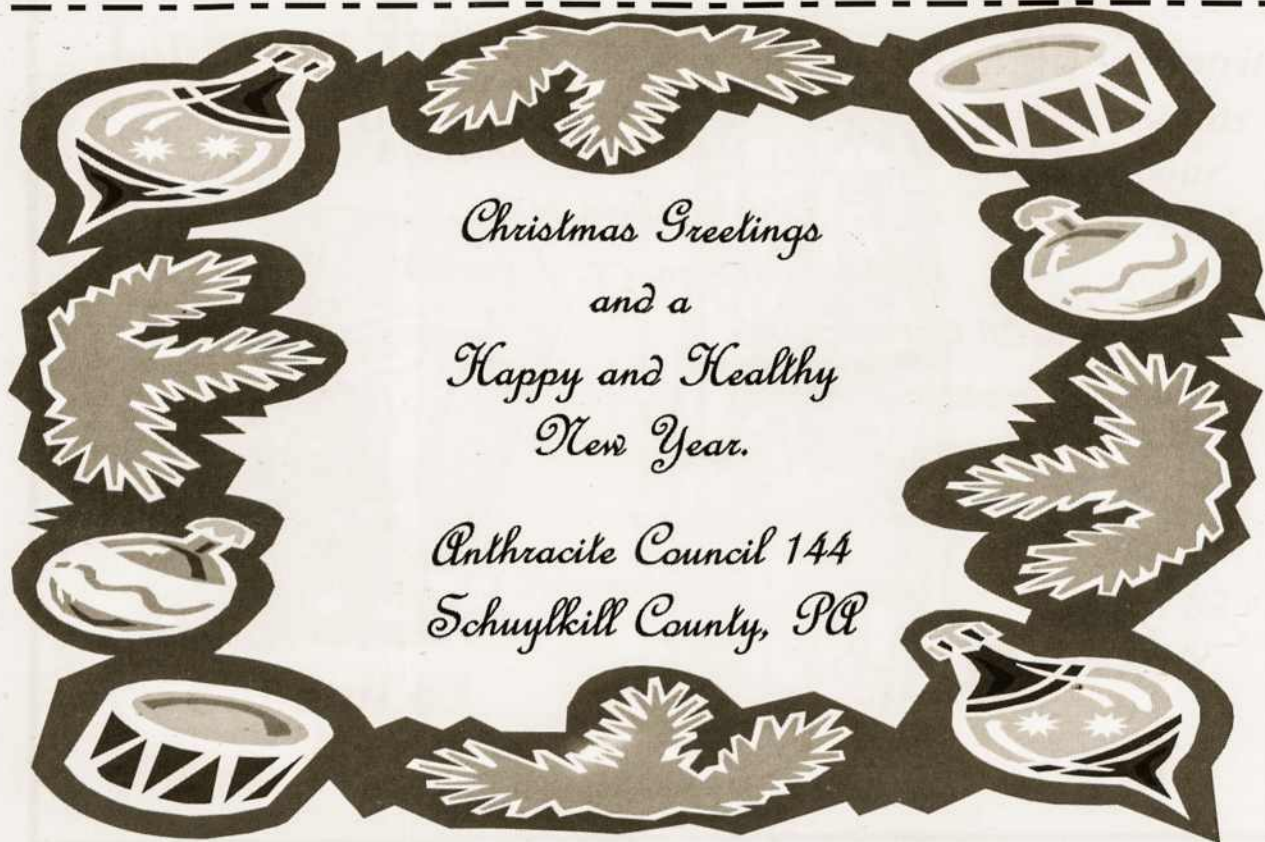


Season's Greetings



*May the wonder
and glory of that
First Christmas bring
you peace and joy,
and your New Year
be filled with
many Blessings!*

Council 26, Worcester



*Christmas Greetings
and a
Happy and Healthy
New Year.*

*Anthracite Council 144
Schuylkill County, PA*

*May Our Lord
Shower His Kindly
Blessing Upon
You All*



Du Bois Council 86

*The best of the
Christmas Season*



*Frank (KCM) and Irene Petrauskas
Syracuse Council 140*

*MAY THE CHRIST
CHILD BRING JOY &
HAPPINESS TO YOU
AND YOURS.*



*COUNCIL 140
SYRACUSE*

*Linksmų Šventų Kalėdų
ir Laimingų
Naujų Metų
Visiems Lietuvos Vyčiams*



*From Council 27
Norwood, MA*

**Linksmų
Kalėdų**



**Council 100
Amsterdam, NY**

*Šventų Sveikų,
Linksmų Kalėdų ir
Laimingų Naujųjų Metų
Vyčiams ir Draugai – 2006*



***A Blessed, Healthy,
Happy and Prosperous New Year
to all Knights and Friends***

***Annie Mitchell, HM
Council 52
Elizabeth, NJ***

*Merry Christmas
to all
Fellow Knights*



*Council 25
Cleveland*



***Linksmų šv. Kalėdų ir
viso geriausio naujaisiais metais!
Henry Gailiunas – Council 10***

***Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year
Council 46 – Forest City, PA***



Giedokime!

Tyliąją naktį

M: Juozo Naujalis

E: Adomo Jakšto

pp

Ty-lią-ją nak-tį bal-sas su-gau-dė: Grei-tai ren-ki-
 "Pie-me-nys, kel-kit Die-vas už-gi-mė!

tes ir-bė-kit, i Bet-lie-jų pas-ku-bė-kit svei-kint Vieš-pa-ties!"

pp

Nuėję rado Jėzų edžiose,
 Kaip pranašauta Dievo knygose.
 Jį Dievu jie pripažino,
 Kaip juos angelas mokino,
 Ir pasveikino.

"O Atpirkeju, seniai laukiamas,
 Tūkstančiais metų žmonių meldžiamas,
 Laukė pranašai, Karaliai,
 O Tu šią tiktai naktelę
 Tepasirodei".



Scholarship Committee

*Knights of Lithuania National Scholarship Program for 2006-2007
Awards to be Announced at the 93rd National Convention in Orlando, FL*

The *Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Program* is intended to help a worthy and deserving Knight obtain a college education. Applicants must be a member of the organization for at least **two** years in order to be eligible to apply for a scholarship award. (This will be verified with the National Financial Secretary.) The Scholarship Program is intended to be a stimulus for young Lithuanian-Americans to join and be active in our organization. Service to the Knights of Lithuania organization is of prime importance to be considered for this award.

Scholarships are awarded annually and are paid to the recipients in two installments. Applications must be complete (e.g., picture, transcripts, recommendations, etc) to be considered by the Scholarship Committee. Applications will be available January 1, 2005 and must be submitted **NO LATER THAN JUNE 15, 2006**. **APPLICATION INFORMATION RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 2006 AWARDS.**

******* APPLICANTS MAY APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP MORE THAN ONCE. *******

There are various scholarships available with individual amounts decided upon by vote of the Scholarship Committee each year.

Each applicant is responsible for completing the application and securing entrance to the college of his/her choice. If the recipient of an award drops out of college, or if his/her academic standing becomes unsatisfactory to the college, the unexpended balance of the award may be forfeited at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship awards may be made to a person for undergraduate or graduate work. There is no age limitation. Organizational activity within the Knights of Lithuania is one of the most important criteria for obtaining a scholarship along with the following requirements and stipulations:

An applicant will be scored based on recommendations made by his/her 1) *Council President or Council 3rd Vice President*; 2) *Spiritual Advisor or Pastor*; 3) *Former Teacher*; 4) *Character Reference*. Applicants will be evaluated based on their scholastic records, financial need, and most importantly, K of L involvement. The Scholarship Committee will carefully study the applications and decisions of the committee are final. Recipients of the Scholarship Awards will be announced at the annual National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania.

For more information, contact the Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Program
c/o John P. Baltrus
118 Vine Street
Jefferson Hills, PA 15025-4034
412-233-2764
jonaspb@verizon.net

*Application forms are available on the Knights of Lithuania Website: www.knightsoflithuania.com
Requests for hard copies of application forms for the 2006-2007 Scholarships must be received by May 15, 2006*



Silent Night, Holy Night

Tyli naktis

M: Fr. Gruber

Ty- li nak- tis, šven- ta nak- tis! Vis- kas mie- ga, tik dar vis

Mo- ti- nė- lė ten bu- di vie- na. Kū- di- kis su me- lia šyp- se- na

il- si- si, mie- ga ra- miai, il- si- si, mie- ga ra- miai.

Tyli naktis, šventa naktis!
Pildos dieviška mintis:
Viešpats tapęs mažu vaikeliu,
Žada sieloms malonių gausių,
Savo šventu gimimu,
savo šventu gimimu.

Tyli naktis, šventa naktis!
Vyksta meilės paslaptis.
Angelų giesmė skamba nakčia,
Nešdama piemenims žinią šią:
Jau Išganytojas čia!
Jau Išganytojas čia!

K of L Foundation Essay Second Place Tie – Winner

Long ago, when the Pennsylvania anthracite region was heavily forested, Lithuanians came in a trickle that swelled into waves of immigration in the late 1880's. This region held the history, and house of my fathers' parents and great grandparents who came as early as 1870. I was told, that my grandmother carried clear water from the creeks and the forests boasted tall trees. Growing up, I saw remnants of the once proud wide trunks, half buried in the slush banks from the mines. I watched the people from the "old country," they had left their mark, but to a child's eye it was subtle as to what was Lithuanian or American. Didn't everyone do what we did in our house? Habits from my grandparents blended into everyday life.

I watched Lithuanian neighbors walk home from the mines, black from the coal, wearing a miner's hat and carrying a metal lunch can. The turmoil of the great coal strikes was over, but families were aware of the ongoing death and injury for those who worked in the mines. We grew up with the frugality and hard work that sustained these earlier people.

Mining was one part of their lives. Nature, church and family were life. Having been farmers in the "old country," they wove baskets and carved wooden shoes for working in the lysve. Bread was holy. Food was to be thankful for, and Lithuanian dishes treasured. In the kitchen, by the coal stove, I heard wise sayings by my grandmother, "If it is meant to be, the right man will find you even if you are behind the kitchen stove."

In our garden, we whitewashed tree trunks the way I would later see fruit trees at Rumsiskas country museum. Lilacs shaded our summer shanty, where we cooked in the heat of summer. We grated horseradish until our eyes stung. We picked berries and knew just where to find coveted mushrooms. Homemade sauerkraut was kept in large vats, deep in the root cellar for winter. I knew just where to find pussy willow in the spring and delighted in watching violets come alive. I loved walking through the woods, feeling the mountain wind and knowing the old Lithuanians felt at home with the birch trees.

We were proud to be Lithuanian, especially when gathering family for Lithuanian day at Lakewood Park. There, I remember the old men at picnic tables, singing in atonal voices. These strange sounds caught my attention. Later, my memories stirred, when I recognized songs in

collected ancient music from the Lithuanian countryside.

I feel connected and bound to preserve our heritage. Tracing roots clarified my history, and who I am. I again honored family graves, while visiting Lithuanian cemeteries with newfound family. When my father and I visited Suvalkija, he was deeply touched to see the countryside where his father came from. He spoke to people in the language that his father had taught him, and so, the circle was complete.

Joanne Antanavage - C-144
~~~~~

*"Why do the nations so furiously  
rage together and why do the people  
imagine a vain thing?"*

Isaiah, Ps. 2, 1.  
Handel, Messiah Part II

### KRISTUI GIMUS

Pasaulis buvo tamsumoje,  
O žmonės nuodėmių klanuos  
Vis skendo, skendo gilumoje...  
Nebuvo kas išgelbsti juos.

Didžiūnai spaudė vargo žmones,  
Kankino, mušė nekaltai,  
Nerodė jiems jokios malonės –  
Tik žudė, smaugė taip šaltai.

Atėjo laukiama gadynė,  
Nušvito žemė ir dangus;  
Vergijos pančius tuoj sutrynė –  
Lengvai atsikvėpė žmogus

Tarp varguolių gimė Kristus –  
Palaimą atnešė visiems;  
Pravėrė priespaudos Jis spąstus –  
Ir laisvę suteikė žmonėms!

(1918 m. Leonardas Šimutis (Ilgesio valandėlės))





Unpublished Works © 1979 Faustas Strolia

## GIMĖ KRISTUS

Jonas Minelga

$\text{♩} = 70$  *Leggieramente*

Faustas Strolia, 1979

*f* 1. Gi - me Kris - tus, - aš ma - čiau, *mf* Pie - me - nė - liai è - jo.  
3. Trys ka - ra - liai iš ry - tų Auk - so žvaigž - dė se - ka...

1. Nak - tį žvaigž - dė daug skais - čiau Švie - tė ir žė - rė - jo. *Fine*  
*f* 3. Tau prie Ne - mu - no kran - tų *mf* Ji pa - ro - dys ta - ką.

*PRIEGIESMIS*  
*mp* 2. Var - pui gau - džiant, an - ge - lai Gies - mę Jam gie - do - jo. *cresc.* *mf*

*mp* 2. Bal - tos pie - vos ir ši - lai Pa - ta - lė - li *f* klo - jo. *cresc. molto e rallentando* *DC al* *Fine*

\* ) Po trečio posmo giedoti priegiesmį ir užbaigti su pirmu.



**TAKE A MINUTE TO READ THIS...**

(The Prayer is in regular type, and GOD is in italics.)

Our Father Who Art in Heaven.

*Yes?*

Don't interrupt me. I'm praying.

*But—you called ME!*

Called You? No, I didn't call You. I'm praying.

Our Father who art in Heaven.

*There—you did it again!*

Did what?

*Called ME. You said, "Our Father who art in Heaven." Well, here I am. What's on your mind?*

But, I didn't mean anything by it. I was, you know, just saying my prayers for the day. I always say the Lord's Prayer. It makes me feel good, kind of like fulfilling a duty.

*Well, all right. Go on.*

Okay, Hallowed by Thy name...

*Hold it right there. What do you mean by that?*

By what?

*By, "Hallowed by thy name?"*

It means, it means...good grief, I don't know what it means. How in the world should I know? It's just a part of the prayer. By the way, what does it mean?

*It means honored, holy, wonderful.*

Hey, that makes sense. I never thought about what 'hallowed' meant before. Thanks. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

*Do you really mean that?*

Sure, why not?

*What are you doing about it?*

Doing? Why, nothing, I guess. I just think it would be kind of neat if You got control of everything down here, like You have up there. We're kinda in a mess down here you know.

*Yes, I know; but, have I got control of you?*

Well, I go to church.

*That isn't what I asked you. What about your bad temper? You've really got a problem there, you know. And then there's the way you spend your money—on yourself. And what about the kind of books you read?*

Now hold on just a minute! Stop picking on me! I'm just as good as some of the rest of those people at church!

*Excuse ME. I thought your were praying for my will to be done. If that is to happen, it will have to start with the ones who are praying for it. Like you – for example.*

Oh, all right. I guess I do have some hang-ups. Now that you mention it, I could probably name some others.

*So could I.*

I haven't thought about it very much until now, but I really would like to cut out some of those things. I would like to, you know, be really free.

*Good. Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together – You and ME. I'm proud of You.*

Look, Lord, if You don't mind, I need to finish up here. This is taking a lot longer than it usually does. Give us this day our daily bread.

*You need to cut out the bread. You're overweight as it is.*

Hey, wait a minute! What is this? Here I was, doing my religious duty, and all of a sudden You break in and remind me of all my hang-ups.

*Praying is a dangerous thing. You just might get what you ask for. Remember, you called ME – and here I am. It's too late to stop now. Keep praying. (...pause...)*

*Well, go on.*

I'm scared to.

*Scared? Of what?*

I know what You'll say.

*Try ME.*

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

*What about Ann?*

See? I knew it! I knew You would bring her up! Why, Lord, she's told lies about me, spread stories. She never paid back the money she owes me. I've sworn to get even with her!

*But, your prayer – What about your prayer?*

I didn't -- mean it.

*Well, at least you're honest. But, it's quite a load carrying around all that bitterness and resentment, isn't it?*

Yes, but I'll feel better as soon as I get even with her. Boy, have I got some plans for her. She'll wish she had never been born.

*No, you won't feel any better. You'll feel worse. Revenge isn't sweet. You know how unhappy you are – Well, I can change that.*

You can? How?

*Forgive Ann. Then, I'll forgive you; and the hate and the sin, will be Ann's problem –not yours. You will have settled the problem as far as you are concerned.*

Oh, you know, You're right. You always are. And more than I want revenge, I want to be right with You ..(sigh.) All right, all right. I forgive her.

*There now! Wonderful! How do you feel?*



Hmmmm. Well, not bad. Not bad at all! In fact, I feel pretty great! You know, I don't think I'll go to bed uptight tonight. I haven't been getting much rest, you know.

*Yeah, I know. But, you're not through with your prayer, are you? Go on.*

Oh, all right. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

*GoodD! Good! I'll do that. Just don't put yourself in a place where you can be tempted.*

What do You mean by that?

*You know what I mean.*

Yeah, I know.

*Okay. Go ahead. Finish your prayer.*

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*Do you know what would bring me glory? – What would really make me happy?*

No, but I'd like to know. I want to please You now. I've really made a mess of things. I want to truly follow You. I can see now how great that would be. So, tell me...how do I make You happy?

*YOU just did.*

(Submitted by Leondas J. Galinskas, C- 102)

### STILL MORE WEBSITES FOR YOU...

<http://www.apostlesofprayer.org/> An inspirational reading each day of the month, plus the monthly intention from the Pope

<http://www.catholic.org/clife/> The site for the Saint of the Day to help us be more Christ-like, as they were; to learn who they are; why they are saints, etc.

[http://www.new\\_advent.org/cathen/](http://www.new_advent.org/cathen/) General research results are available.

(Provided by Theresa Strolia, HM, - Knights of Lithuania, C-157)

### Lithuanian/Baltic Links

**Knights of Lithuania:**

<http://www.knightsoflithuania.org>

**Vytis – The Knight:** [Vytis@core.com](mailto:Vytis@core.com)

**Joint Baltic American National Committee:**

<http://www.jbanc.org>

**Lithuanian Embassy in USA:**

[www.litembassyus.org](http://www.litembassyus.org)

**U.S. Mission to Lithuania:**

<http://www.usembassy.lt/>

**Lithuanian American Council, Inc.:**

<http://www.altcenter.org>

### SMILES WITHOUT WRINKLES...

Even at the Mensa convention, someone is the dumbest person in the room.

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

What's the definition of a will? It's a dead giveaway.

The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.

Bakers trade recipes on a knead-to-know basis.

In democracy, your vote counts. In feudalism, your count votes.

She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg, but broke it off.

If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

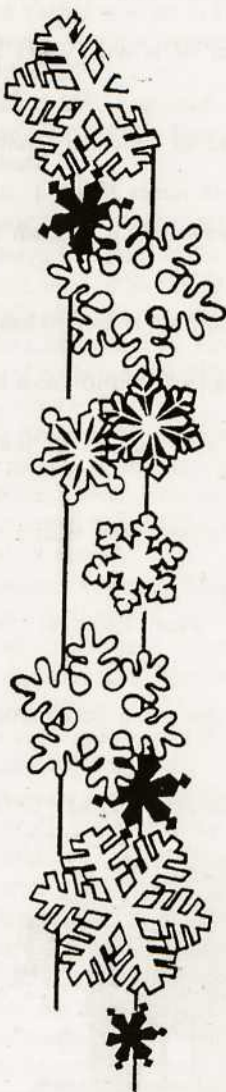
(submitted by Leondas J. Galinskas – C-102)



# Hail, Jesus, Born to Us This Night!

SVEIKAS JĖZAU GIMUSIS

J. Naujalis



*♩ = 76*

Svei-kas, Jė-zau gi-mu-sis. Šven-tas Die-vo Kū-di-ki!

Bran-gią die-ną švęs-da-mi Už-gi-mi-mo Vieš-pa-ties. Links-min-ki-mės

ir džiau-ki-mės. Die-vui gar-bę duo-da-mi gie-do-ki-me!

Kanklėmis kankliuokime,  
Sutartinę leiskime  
Brangią dieną švęsdami  
Užgimimo Viešpaties,  
Linksminkimės ir džiau-ki-mės,  
Dievui garbę duodami giedokime!

Dangus mums jau artinas,  
Žemėj žmonės linksminas.

Brangią dieną švęsdami  
Užgimimo Viešpaties,  
Linksminkimės ir džiau-ki-mės,  
Dievui garbę duodami giedokime!

Hail Jesus, Holy Infant of God, born to us tonight! Celebrating this precious Christmas day let us be joyful and happy; let us sing praises to God.



## Izabelė Vilimaitė

Philadelphia-born Lithuanian American, died a partisan and a martyr.

Izabelė was born in 1925, as noted on the Baptismal Certificate at the St. George's Lithuanian Parish in Philadelphia.

Following the early death of her father, Jonas Vilimas, seven-year old Izabele, with her mother and three-year old brother, Victor, left to live in Lithuania in 1932. Her uncle, Kazimieras, cousin Jonas (born 1916) and cousin Ona (born 1918), all stayed behind in the United States.

In Lithuania, Izabelė's mother, Agota Vilimiene, settled down in her birth place of Seduva, where she purchased a farm and married a second time. She had two more children: a daughter, Edita, and a son.

In Lithuania, Izabelė grew to be a beautiful, attractive girl; she attended school and intended to study medicine. She was a very able student, distinguished by her intelligence, her insight and her youth activities; however, she had no premonition of the fate that awaited her.

Being a patriotic young Lithuanian, she was drawn to the mission of her partisan "forest brothers," and their fight for Lithuanian freedom, and so, became their liaison.

Working in a Pharmacy in Panevėžys, she supplied medicine to the partisans, and treated those injured in battle. She was very brave, and eventually transitioned to the role of liaison of the partisan regional headquarters.

Izabele showed such courage. To fool the KGB, she joined the Communist Party. Once, when on a liaison-related business, she and a friend were captured by the KGB, but she managed to escape without divulging any information.

When caught a second time, Izabele, relying on her good looks, "flirted" with her captors and was released on the condition that she work for the KGB.

Having been released, Izabelė went directly to her partisan brothers and retold everything that had happened to her. And what did they do? In war, partisan law dictated that she be tried as a traitor and shot. These were their laws. "Why didn't you sacrifice yourself?"

Among the "Forest Brothers," Izabele had a fiancée, Vytenis, the director of the partisan newspaper and a poet, who wrote her love poems. Much like Vytenis, many of the "forest brothers" liked Izabele because she was beautiful and happy, and helped them through sad times. But, the partisan law and solemn oath indicated,

that to betray partisans, is to betray your homeland.

Izabele's sentence was never carried out. A partisan who was present at her trial stood up and exclaimed, "If Izabele dies, I die as well, here and now! I have a grenade on my belt and will blow myself up."

This terrible tragedy happened in Lithuania during the years of the Communist occupation. The partisans did not kill Izabele, nor did the partisan that pleaded for her life kill himself. She was killed, instead, by the KGB and Russian soldiers who encircled her hideout. But, where? When? How? This is all collected interrogation material from the KGB archives. And these materials are many, including the personal testimonies of Izabele during her interrogations.

These interrogations were collected by author Eugenius Ignatavicius, with which he wrote a drama-play, which was then adapted for a televised documentary film.

Izabele- Sparnuota – Winged One (this was her partisan codename.) Her remains have been found in Tytuvėnas, after being hidden by those close to her.

Presently, Lithuanian Americans are preparing to publish a novel, a separate publication, and a short documentary film chronicling the events of her life. The life and valor of Izabele Vilimaitė is an inspiration to us all.

For more information, contact **Bronius Krokys, 1124 Hedgerow Ln., Philadelphia, PA, 19115, USA. (215) – 671-0397.**

*-B. Krokys, C-3, Philadelphia*

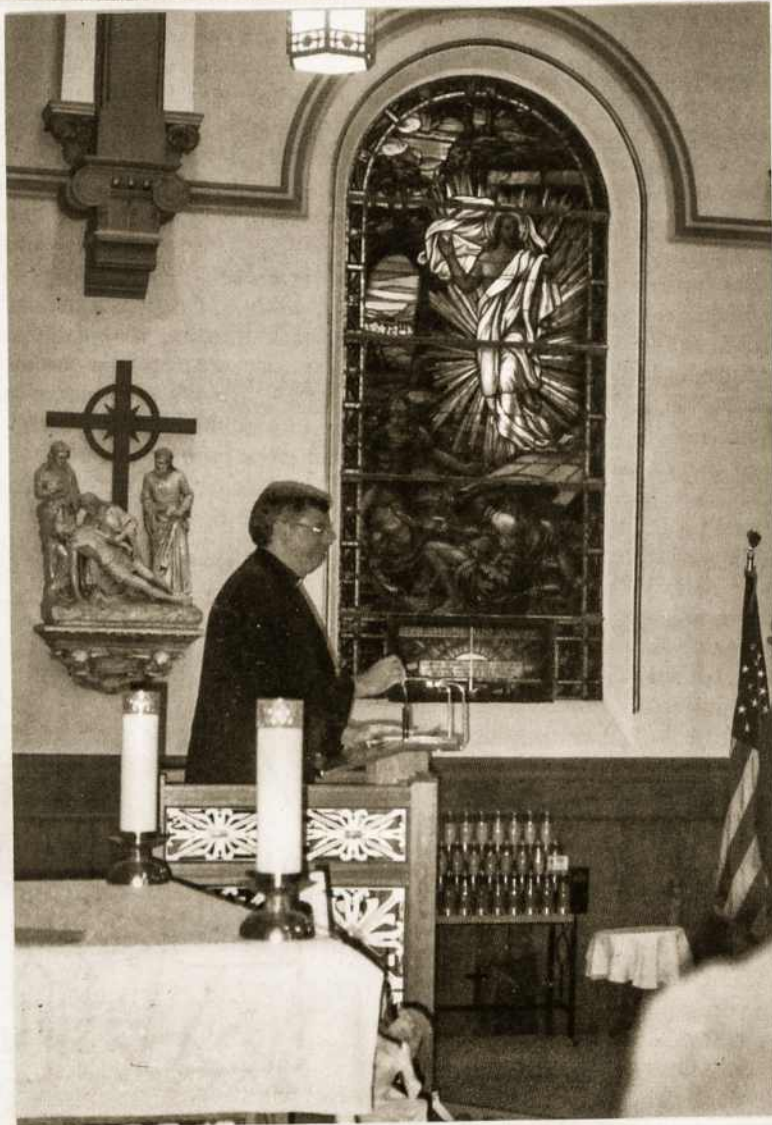






# Džiaukimės!

Šv. Petro Lietuvių Parapija



**Father Stephen Zukas, Pastor, St. Peter Lithuanian Church,  
Spiritual Director, Council 17, South Boston, Massachusetts**

Photo by Barbra Trybe, C-17



## Mass of Thanksgiving – Celebration Remarks

(Talk given by Gloria Adomkaitis, Overall Event Coordinator, following Mass of Thanksgiving and Celebration, St. Peter Lithuanian Church, South Boston, MA, October 23, 2005.)

Sveikinu visus atvykusius siandiena, dziaugtis ir dekoti Dievui, kad musu numyleta Sv. Petro Lietuviu Parapija isliko gyva. Kai geguzes menesi, 2004 metais, Bostono arkivyskupija paskelbe, kad musu parapija jiems neberaikalinga ir bus uzdaryta, mes susiburem kovoti jos islaikymui. Per paskutiniuosius pusantrus metus mes dirbome Parapijos islaikymo darbus ir siandiena galime vel susiburti cia kartu ir dziaugtis musu atsiekimais. Toliau kalbesiu angliskai, kad visi cia susirinke suprastu.

Welcome to each of you who came to St. Peter Lithuanian Church to celebrate and give thanks to God that our beloved parish remains open today. In May, 2004, when the archdiocese shocked us with its stunning decree, that our Parish was no longer needed in the archdiocese and would be closed, we banded together to fight this unwelcome decision. We campaigned for over a year, and now it is truly fitting that we come together again to CELEBRATE our accomplishment. The banner above the door proclaims, "DZIAUKIMES," and the banner near the altar proclaims, "CELEBRATE!" Today we will do just that!

We have received letters of congratulations that we will read now.

I am Gloria Adomkaitis, and I speak to you today as Chairperson of the Friends of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish.

The Friends of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish was formed in May, 2004, and during the ensuing year, we banded together to save a part of our heritage. I would like to remind you of what we accomplished as a united community.

We stood, shoulder to shoulder, in our determination to keep our Parish open. We demonstrated, we wrote letters, we made phone calls. We contributed monies and built a treasury to launch a canonical challenge to the proposed closure and we prepared to launch a civil challenge if it became necessary. We even made preliminary plans to conduct a vigil/live-in to prevent the loss of our church.

We encircled our church with a ribbon of "juostai," (Lithuanian sashes) in June, 2004, as

we demonstrated against the archdiocesan plans. In July's heat and humidity, we marched, prayed and sang in front of the archbishop's residence on Commonwealth Avenue. In October, we built a Hill of Crosses in front of church as a symbol of our resistance. Today, we continue to add crosses as symbols of our gratitude. In the midst of all this, we celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> Jubilee in grand style and listened to an uplifting homily delivered by Msgr. Contons during our Jubilee Mass.

We prepared and planned and strategized. We appealed to the Vatican, and just recently, finally, we received its response.

We refused to cooperate with the archdiocese when they kept clamoring for us to set our own date of closing. Imagine the absurdity of setting our own closing date! Why did the archdiocese think that we would willingly set our own date of execution?

What an unexpected and bewildering shock we received when on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005, the archdiocese removed the threat of closure and announced that our parish would stay open. The official word from the archdiocese is, that "St. Peter Lithuanian Parish would not have a closing date established." We are jubilant that the wolf is not prowling at our door ready to pounce.

Now, today, it is our intention to enjoy parish life as never before!

It is our intention to recommit ourselves to making St. Peter Lithuanian Parish more vibrant than ever before.

It is up to us to build a Lithuanian ministry that will make it impossible for the archdiocese to ever consider closing St. Peter's again.

We must now think bigger and better!

This is the challenge of the Lithuanian American community in Greater Boston.

This is our mission!

During our months of resistance, we were very fortunate to receive moral and spiritual support for our cause from many individuals, many of whom are here today. To each Friend of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish, another heartfelt thanks to you for your financial support. Your financial contributions made our efforts possible. Ambassador Vygaudas Usackas, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United States, brought the prestige and weight of his office to our cause when he wrote letters, made phone calls and traveled to Boston in the hopes of meeting with the archbishop. For his efforts on our behalf, we are most grateful and would like to present him with a sign of our appreciation.



A special word of thanks for his support in our battle is extended to Honorary Consul of Lithuania to the United States, Dr. Thorsteinn Gislason. Although he could not be with us here today, he lobbied on our behalf during several trips to Lithuania and interceded with Cardinal Backis.

Mr. Peter Gelzinis, columnist for the Boston Herald, is deserving of our appreciation. His columns in the newspaper were supportive and eloquent as he challenged the logic and motives of the archdiocese. He presented the human side, our side, of the conflict. It was delightful and satisfying to read his perceptions of the situation. I am sure that his grandfather, one of the founders and builders of our Church, would be extremely proud that his grandson, Peter, used the power of the pen to support our Parish.

We thank Msgr. Albert Contons for his courageous and passionate defense of the Parish and his fiery and methodical analysis of canon law as it pertained to reconfiguration. His authoritative words provided consolation and energy to many of us.

Finally, we thank our pastor, Fr. Steven Zukas, for standing with the parishioners and Friends of St. Peter Lithuanian Parish often at personal, occupational peril. Multiple times, Fr. Zukas was asked by the bishop to proclaim a closing date for the parish and multiple times he refused to do so. He graciously accepted the advice of the Parish council and protected our status. We thank him for his support during these past months.

(Submitted by Regina Alexander, K of L Council 17)



## A TRADITION

### A LITHUANIAN-AMERICAN KUČIOS MENU

*Herring in sour cream \ shrimp cocktail*  
*Mushroom-barley soup*  
*Tossed salad*  
*Roast turkey w/stuffing*  
*Honey-baked ham*  
*Kugelis*  
*Sauteed sauerkraut*  
*Beet vinaigrette*  
*Fruit compote*  
*Christmas Eve Biscuits*  
*/with Poppy seed milk*  
*Coffee - Tea*  
*Pumpkin Pie*

### “KALEDA” – Santa’s Predecessor in Old Lithuania

(Reprinted from Vytis – Dec. 1972)  
 “Kaleda,” the fictional Father Christmas or the Old Man of Christmas as, to the Lithuanians of old, the personification of the Christmas Season. He came from a “far off land,” and brought promise of what the Lithuanian peasants yearned for most – happiness, prosperity and a good harvest. Usually, on Christmas Eve, an old man from a neighboring village would enact the part of “Kaleda.” He dressed up in a white sheepskin coat, he put a pillow on his back, to imitate a hunchback, and attached a long white beard to his face. He carried a crooked cane and a bag filled with nuts and other harvest “goodies.” When he came to a house, he rapped on the door with his cane. To the question, “Who’s there?” he replied: “I’m Kaleda. I bring happiness, good harvest and every manner of well-being. I come from another land, where the hills are made of flour, the rivers flow with honey, lakes are filled with beer, and where the rain is made of candy and the snow of doughnuts. I carry a full bag of treasures...good fortune, plentiful crops, and many other blessings. Please open the door and don’t send me back just yet.” Upon entering the house, “Kaleda” would take various kinds of grain from his bag and sprinkle it over the householders. An ancient superstition attributed good luck in harvesting to the sprinkling of grain.





## GUL ŠIANDIENĄ

J. NAUJALIS

$\text{♩} = 72$

Gul šian-die-ną jau ant šie - no At-pir-kė-jas žmo-ni-jos. Pie-me-nė-liai,  
Šiam Ka-ra-liui vi-sa-ga - liui nėr vie-te-lės tin-ka-mos.

pa-sku-bė - kit, do-va-nas Jam sa-vo dė - kit, kaip pa-sau-lio Vieš-pa-čiui.

2. Į menkutį Jo staldutį  
Ir mes draug skubėkime,  
Tam Karaliui Visagaliui  
Džiaugsmingai giedokime.  
Savo širdis Jam aukokim;  
Draug su angelais giedokim:  
"Garbė Tau augštybėse!"

3. Kristau Pone, imk maloniai  
Tu kiekvieną už rankos!  
Prie ugninės glausk krūtinės,  
Duoki meilės mums šventos!  
Teikis gimti nūn mummyse,  
Vienas karaliauk širdyse,  
Vesk į laimę amžiną.



**AID TO LITHUANIA****Donations for the period January 1, 2005 to June 30, 2005****\$2,000.00**

Mrs A Kirstuk (Sem.Fund) South Pasadena, FL  
 Mr & Mrs A Miskinis (Sem.Fund) Tequesta, FL  
 Mr & Mrs A Spakauskas (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO John A Spakauskas)  
 Ft. Meyers, FL  
 Miss O Zelinski (Sem.Fund) Danville, PA

**\$1,000.00**

Lithuanian Citizen's Society of Western Pennsylvania,  
 New Kensington, PA  
 Knights of Lithuania, Supreme Council, (Mo.Teresa Shelter Heating Cost)

**\$700.00**

Knights of Lithuania, Supreme Council

**\$500.00**

Lithuanian Social Club (Trade School) Dayton, OH

**\$100.00 to \$250.00**

Mr T Mitkus (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO Families of George & Mary May and Joseph & Anna Mikus) Melvindale, MI \* Mr P Pagojus, Detroit, MI \* Mr A Osteika (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO Valentina Osteika) Warren, MI \* Mrs E Ribon, Milford, CT \* Rev.P Shakalis (Sem.Fund) Plymouth, MA \* Mr & Mrs J Abbott (IMO Vince Boris) Woodside, NY \* Mr R Cummins (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO John & Helen Cummins) Glen Oaks, NY \* Mary Gudelis (IMO Frank A Gudelis) Dayton, OH \* Mr T Guest (Trade School IMO Vaclav Genevicius) Dayton, OH \* Mr & Mrs V Prusinskas (IMO Earle & Helen Herrmann and John & Martha Prusinskas) San Diego, CA \* Ms D Neverouck, Applegate, MI \* Mrs P Vilutis (Trade School) Frankfort, IL \* Mrs P Vilutis (Mo.Teresa Shelter) Frankfort, IL \* Mr. W Mameniskis (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO Violet Memeniskis) Glenside, PA \* Ms A Stuts (Mo.Teresa Shelter IMO George Tulauskas) Dearborn, MI \* Rev. A Babonas, Detroit, MI \* Mr & Mrs V Milukas, Plainview, NY \* Mr J Racas (Sem.Fund) Plymouth, MI \* Ms E Rukstele, Farmington Hills, MI \* Mr A Spakauskas, Ft. Myers, FL \* K of L C-152, East Long Island, NY \* Mr & Mrs S Diskavich, Torrington, CT \* Mrs M Greer, Naples FL \* Mr R Jansauskas (Mo.Teresa Shelter) Harsens Island, MI \* Mrs H Simanis, Trumbull, CT \* Aldana K Peters, Stratford, CT \* Miss J Jonulate Hamtramck, MI \* Dr. & Mrs S Strasius, Ann Arbor, MI \* Mrs O Motiejunas, Prescott, AZ \* Ms J Jonulate (Mo.Teresa Shelter) Hamtramck, MI \* Ms. J Jonulate (Trade School) Hamtramck MI \* Mjr. Anne Krizinauskas, Mesa, AZ \* Mr & Mrs J Abbott (IMO Vince Boris) Woodside, NY \* K of L C-156, Shamokin/Coal Twp. PA \*

**\$50.00 to \$55.00**

Mr J Mihalick (Trade School IMO Marilyn, Karl & Daina Kapochus & IHO Leonard Kapochus) Williamstown, PA \* Mr J Mihalick (IMO Marilyn, Karl & Daina Kapochus & IHO Leonard Kapochus) Williamstown, PA \* K of L C-96, Dayton, OH \* Michael Kohut, Jr., Sugarloaf, PA K of L C-82, Gary, IN \* Mr A Melninkas, Bethlehem, CT \* Mr F Nemanis, Dearborn, MI \* Mr G Parks (Mo.Teresa Shelter) W. Bloomfield, MI \* Mr J Kazakevicius (Trade School IMO Vincas Kazakevicius) White Lake, MI \* Mr L Petronis (Mo.Teresa Shelter) Dearborn Heights,



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**\$25.00 to \$40.00**

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tešviečia Jums visuomet.*

*Naujieji Metai težiba  
nauja saulė ir  
naujomis žvaigždėmis.*



*May the Spirit of the Season*

*Touch your world*

*By a miracle of Love and  
Peace*

*And may the song of*

*An Angel be yours*

*Every day of the year.*

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