

SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC CENTER

“NAŠ SLOVENSKI DOM” ESTABLISHED 1995



GLASILO SLOVENSKEGA DOMA IN SKUPNOSTI V LEMONTU!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

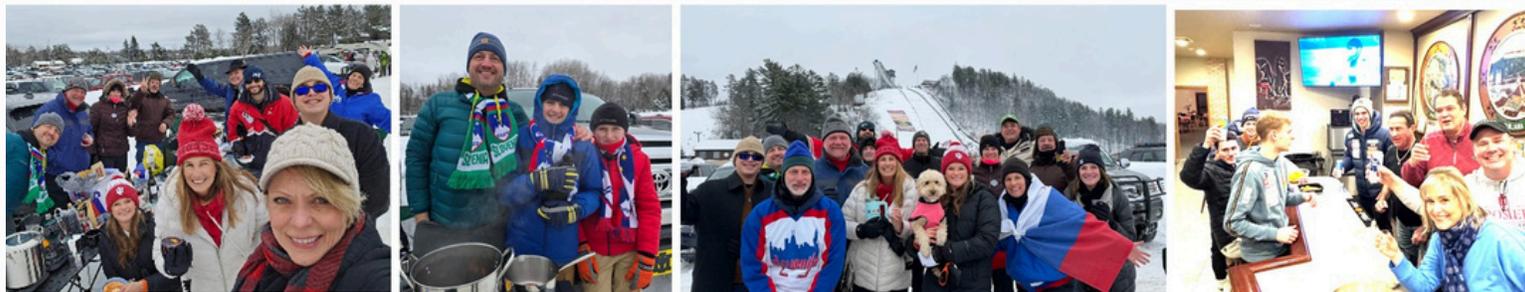
I hope you were able to attend one of our events this past quarter. Our team of volunteers worked incredibly hard putting together a number of great events, highlighted by our Koline Dinner, where more than 300 attendees helped raise over \$12,000 for the Center.

Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed a wonderful feast. A special thanks goes to Karl Zorjan, Liliana Cepon, and Ljuba Novak in the kitchen, along with the Marela Dancers (Nada Petrovic) and our Slovenian School Program (Millie Hozjan, Teya & Maja Magajne). Also, of course, we can't forget the 50+ volunteers who helped make the event possible. What an incredible effort from our community!



Slovenian National Ski Jump – Iron Mountain, MI (Feb 21–22)

Wow! If this doesn't become an annual tradition, I'm not sure what we're doing! A huge thank you to the Marko brothers (Škof & Magajne) for hosting the event and to Madisyn Dederichs for planning and organizing. The weekend truly had something for everyone - World Cup skiers flying down the hill, affordable skiing, tailgating with homemade food and drinks, hotels and Airbnbs for lodging, and even a lively lodge bar with karaoke. To top it all off, we hosted the Slovenian National Team (10+ jumpers and coaches) back at the Dom when we returned. Whew! What a weekend. We're already looking forward to next year!



Annual Membership Meeting & Town Hall

Please mark your calendars for our Annual Membership Meeting/Town Hall on Sunday, April 26th. This will be a free Member Appreciation Dinner for all paid SCC members. During the meeting we will hold board nominations and approvals, along with a Dom update and financial walkthrough, plus printed committee reports available in hard copy.

Following the meeting we will hold our annual Town Hall discussion, where we'll gather ideas and input from the community to help shape the future of the Dom for the next 30 years.

And yes - rumor has it that last year's famous free shots and mints may return for those brave enough to ask questions. Don't worry, we'll also have dessert and coffee available as well.

Board Initiatives & Recognitions

Center Refresh/Redesign Project - We continue to move forward with plans to refresh and redesign the Dom, expanding our work to include the broader campus - both inside and outside. We have also approved funding to replace the flooring in the Big Hall, which will begin once the hall design is finalized. A big thank you to our Design & Architecture Team: Nandi Marcic, Kevin Loftus, and Olena Chychula for their ongoing efforts.

Digital Marketing & Communication - We recently launched online membership registration and kicked off our 2026 Membership Drive. Your membership plays an essential role in preserving our Slovenian heritage, strengthening our faith, and fostering a vibrant and welcoming home for everyone in our community. Memberships can now be set up online with automatic renewal, making it easier than ever to stay connected. A big thank you to our Membership Team (Greg Remec & Kristina Cepon) and our Communications Team (Emelia Szarek, Grace Puc, and Mark Puc) for their work sharing updates through weekly emails and social media.

Martin Hozjan Award of Distinction - This spring we will recognize Stan Markun Sr. and John Zerdin at our Appreciation Dinner and Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 26th. Please come out and help us celebrate these deserving honorees. This award has become such a wonderful tradition for our community.

Welcoming New Volunteers

- David Leonardy - General Manager for the Dom. David will help us think strategically about our facilities and operations, including staffing, equipment, inspections, operations planning, escalation processes, and long-term strategy.
- Janez Arko - Newsletter Editor (Content Review & Editing)
- Ed Burjek - Volunteer Philanthropy Officer. Ed will help provide guidance on charitable giving opportunities and tax-advantaged donation strategies, as the Dom is a 501(c)(3) organization. See the Charitable Giving Options article in this Newsletter for more information,

Upcoming Events (see the 2026 calendar at the end of the Newsletter for all events)

- Friday, March 27th - Šola/SCC Egg Coloring for Palm Sunday
- Saturday, March 28th - Butarice Day & Living Stations of the Cross @2pm
- Sunday, March 29th - Palm Sunday Mass & Luncheon
- Sunday, April 5th - Easter Sunday Mass - @11am
- Sunday, April 26th - SCC Annual Meeting/Appreciation Dinner/Town Hall
- Sunday, May 17th - Last Day of Slovenian School/Performance

Get Involved - Do you have a skill to share or a few hours to spare?

- \$10,000 Raffle Ticket Sellers - Help raise \$ for the Dom & access to \$1,000 in prizes for sellers!
- Adopt-a-Plot - Take ownership for a section of flowers around the Dom for the season. We provide tools, flowers & access to water, etc., you provide the maintenance. See the Adopt-a-Plot article.
- Promotions & Publicity Chair (includes media coordination)
- Website Manager (content mgmt. & form designs)
- Friends of St. Mary's (FOSM) volunteers (to help maintain the grounds of the SCC & St. Mary's)
- And many other roles

To get involved, please visit www.slovenian-center.org and click on Volunteer, or feel free to email me directly.

Before I wrap up, I just want to say Thank You again to everyone who continues to support the Dom. Our community works because people show up - whether it's helping cook, volunteering at events, supporting our programs, or simply coming out to enjoy time together. The Dom has always been a place where friendships grow, traditions continue, and good memories are made. So if you see me at the next event, please stop by and say hello... and if you're looking for a way to help, be careful - that's usually how people end up volunteering around here!

Warm regards,
Tony Vukšinič
President, Slovenian Catholic Center
president@slovenian-center.org





March 22: Confirmation Candidates - Those who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year are welcome to join us at 11 am Mass where they will be welcomed and sent forth.

March 29: Palm Sunday, @11:00 am - Blessing of the 'butarice' and other greenery will be in front of the Dom. The procession to the church will follow. During the mass there will be the solemn reading of Jesus' passion according to Evangelist Mathew. There will be a gathering for Easter brunch in the Center afterwards.

- On Saturday morning, before Palm Sunday you are invited to make "butarice" in the Center.
- **March 28: Living Stations of the Cross @12pm** - (a volunteer in Lemont, Larry Baron, is organizing - if you are prepared to have a role in it, you are invited to call Larry at 708-662-0478)

April 2: Holy Thursday @7pm - Liturgy in memory of Jesus' last supper with the Apostles. Holy Mass will be at 7:00 pm, followed by a holy hour with Jesus in the 'jail'.

April 3: Good Friday @7pm - There will be a Celebration of the Passion of the Lord.

April 4: Holy Saturday-Vigil of Easter - We are invited to remember and visit Jesus who was buried on Good Friday. At 2:00 pm blessing of the food (which traditionally entails bread-meat as a symbol of Jesus' body; coloured eggs (a symbol of Jesus's blood and also of the resurrection), horse radish (a symbol of Jesus's nails), and 'potica'(a symbol of Jesus' crown). At 7:00 pm will be a special liturgy of the day, concluding with the Easter procession, also a blessing of the Easter food, followed by a gathering in the Dom.

April 5: Easter @11am - Solemn mass of Easter Sunday - Jesus' resurrection.

April 12: Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick @11am - Also called the Divine Mercy Sunday.

Sundays @11am - Šmarnice - Slovenian devotion to Mary will take place in May during mass (as in the last two years) and, after the mass, the singing of the litany to Mary with responses will be held.

June 7: Corpus Christi Procession - Starting with the solemn mass at **11:00 am** at the Lourdes Grotto (weather permitting). After the mass there will be a procession with the Blessed Sacrament around 'Lake Bled'. Children are especially invited to participate by bringing flower petals to the procession and laying them before the altars during prayers.

All the Slovenian organisations are invited to participate with their banners.

June 14: Acceptance of the children who received the First Holy Communion this year will take place at **11:00 am** Mass.

June 21: Prekmurje Social Club - Father's Day pilgrimage and picnic - Mass will be held at the Lourdes grotto with devotions to Mary (singing litanies) immediately following.

June 26-28: Slovenian Sport's Club weekend - On Sunday Mass will be held at **11:00 am** at the Lourdes grotto.

Slovenian Catholic Center's Member Appreciation Dinner

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Please join us for the 2026 Member Appreciation Dinner on Sunday, April 26th, to be followed by our Slovenian Catholic Center Annual Meeting & Town Hall. All current 2026 members are invited at no cost. **Reservations received after April 20th will be charged a late fee of \$5 per adult guest.**

If you have not signed up or renewed your 2026 membership, please scan this QR code, click on it, or use the Membership form in the Newsletter to sign-up.



Reservations – MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION 2026

Reservation Contact Name: _____ Contact phone #: _____

Contact email: _____

<u>MEMBERS</u>	Cost	Total	Names
_____ # of Adults	Free		
_____ # of Students (Ages 7-14)	Free		
_____ # of Children (Ages 0-6)	Free		
<u>GUESTS</u>			
_____ # of Adults	\$15		
_____ # of Students (Ages 7-14)	\$8		
_____ # of Children (Ages 0-6)	Free		
TOTAL COST			



I am paying by: (select one):

Cash Check Enter Check Number _____ (Make Checks Payable to: Slovenian Catholic Center)

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

3-Digit Verification Code (on the back of your card): _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

Please indicate with whom you would like to be seated other than those listed above. We will do our best to accommodate the request provided all individuals have a paid reservation by Monday, April 20, 2026. **We are unable to guarantee seating preferences for reservations made after Monday, April 20, 2026.**

Retreat House & Other News



Retreat House News: We hosted the Slovenian Ski Jumpers in February as they returned from their competition in Iron Mountain Michigan. We are booking retreats and meetings during the week.



Knights of Columbus: The Lemont Council has been active in holding events on our monastery property. They are inviting all interested men to join. If you are a member of a council already, please let me, Dcn. Janez Vidmar, know. We are trying to determine how many Knights we have among our SCC members. Joe Vučko, a SCC member, is the current Grand Knight for the Lemont Council. This council met for many years in the Retreat House.



Bishop Baraga Association News: The English translation of Fr. Jaklič 's Baraga biography is available at the Retreat house for \$25. It is the most extensive Baraga biography published in English to date..



Hope's On The Way: Shipped over 3,000 buckets of cleaning supplies in 2025 all over the USA as well as Haiti. Spring is a time of violent weather and we will be collecting supplies and funds in April. Thanks to all who have helped in the past.



Tours of Slovenia: Currently SUA and SGSI are sponsoring tours late summer and early fall. Maria Velikonja is hosting a tour in late September of sites associated with mass executions after WWII. If any of these are of interest, contact Dcn. Janez Vidmar.

Vesela Aleluja**Palm Sunday/Cvetna nedelja****Sunday, March 29, 11:00 am**

Palm Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, March 29th. The blessing of butarice and other greenery will take place at 11:00 am in front of the Dom. Following the blessing, there will be a procession to the church (weather permitting), where Mass will be celebrated at the Slovenian Catholic Mission.

After Mass, sponsoring Slovenian organizations will host a special Easter brunch for their members.

**Egg Coloring & Hall Setup****Friday, March 27th, 6:00 pm**

Families, children, and adults are invited to color eggs for our Palm Sunday/Cvetna nedelja luncheon and hall decorating for Easter! These fun and meaningful activities will take place Friday, March 27th, starting at 6 pm. Pizza/salad will be provided to keep everyone fueled and happy. Looking forward to an evening of fun and community!

Butarice Making**Saturday, March 28th, 8:00 am**

Everyone is invited to our annual event of making "Butarice". Butarice/butare are bundles of greenery, flowers & painted wood curls. While some people also add oranges and apples, we modify our Butarice with ribbons instead of painted wood curls. In tradition with our Slovenian heritage, people come to church on Palm Sunday/cvetna nedelja with these butarice where they are then blessed.

Living Stations of the Cross**Saturday, March 28th, 2:00pm**

Saturday at 2pm there will be Living Stations of the Cross. Preparations will begin at 12pm. One of our volunteers in Lemont, Larry Baron, is organizing with the Knights of Columbus. If you are interested in taking part, call Larry at 708-662-0478.



SLOMŠEK SLOVENIAN SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS: EXCITING HAPPENINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

In February, Slomšek Slovenian School had the privilege of participating in the annual Koline celebration – always a beloved and lively event in our community! Our grade school students delighted the audience with a humorous skit set to the song “Jager gre na jago.” The story took a playful and unexpected twist, revealing who the true “hunted” character really was – followed by a most unusual burial attended by the animals themselves! The creativity, enthusiasm, and humor of our students brought smiles to everyone in attendance. After the skit, the entire school joined in our traditional Koline dance. While our grade school students began the dance on stage, the legendary pig made surprise appearances, sneaking through the audience and catching many off guard! Eventually, the pig found his way to the stage. Although he did his best to escape the determined butchers, he ultimately lost the chase. The dance concluded in festive fashion with the grand arrival of our beloved krvavice(sausages).

Fun was truly had by all – both in preparing for the presentation and in performing for our community. Events like Koline beautifully combine laughter, tradition, and cultural heritage, reminding us why these celebrations are so meaningful.

As we approach the end of the school year, our students will begin preparing for their Year-End Performance on Sunday, May 17th, at 12:45 PM. We warmly invite our Slovenian community to join us for the Fellowship Lunch that Sunday, followed by a short šola performance showcasing what our students have learned throughout the year. It will be a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate our students’ achievements, and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and Slovenian spirit. We hope you will join us in supporting our students and celebrating another successful year at Slomšek Slovenian School!

As we celebrate these joyful moments, we are reminded that the strength of our Slovenian community lies in its commitment to passing on faith, language, and tradition. Slomšek Slovenian School is honored to play a role in this important work. With the continued support and participation of our community, we continue to look forward to nurturing the next generation of proud Slovenians.



2026 SLOVENIAN CELEBRATION HONORING FIRST COMMUNICANTS AND CONFIRMANDS

Each year, our Slovenian community gathers to celebrate children who have received the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. As we prepare for this year’s Mass, we ask families to let us know if your child received either sacrament in 2026.

All First Communicants and Confirmands are warmly invited to join us at the 11:00 am Mass at the Slovenian Catholic Mission on Sunday, June 14th, as we come together in gratitude and joy to honor these important milestones in their faith journey. First Communicants are invited to wear their Communion attire, and Confirmands should come in Sunday dress. All honorees will participate by reading a petition. A group photo will be taken after Mass.

If you know of other children in our community who received either sacrament this year, please share this invitation with their families.

Kindly respond by **May 31st to Mojca Anaya**, mmagajne@firstam.com, 847-207-0963 with:

- Your child’s name
- The sacrament received (First Communion or Confirmation)
- Preferred language for the petition

We look forward to sharing this joyful celebration together!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH IN JOLIET

May 17th - 135th Anniversary of St. Joseph Parish

Solemn Mass at 10:30 AM

Banquet at St. Joseph’s Park at Noon

May 19th - SUA Branch 20 Member of the Year Banquet

At St. Joseph Park at 6:00 PM

May 27th - Marija Pomagaj Mass at 6:30 PM

Followed by a reception in Ferdinand Hall next door; the event is sponsored by the Joliet KSKJ lodges



SCC ANNUAL "BIG" PICNIC

Vendor, Seller & Sponsor Opportunities

Sunday, August 9th • Lemont, Illinois

\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE



Event Highlights

- Mass at the Grotto
- Traditional Roasted Pork & Lamb Dinner
- Bakery & Beer Tents
- Bocce, bags, volleyball
- Children's games & playground
- Live music & pavilion dancing



Ways to Participate

- Event Sponsors – Support the picnic and receive community recognition.
- Raffle Ticket Sellers – Help promote our \$10,000 Grand Prize raffle & be included in the Sellers Raffle.
- Vendor Booths – Sell products or promote your business.



Let us know if you can help us out by emailing us communications@slovenian-center.org or contact us via our Website at www.slovenian-center.org

Charitable Giving Options for the Slovenian Catholic Center

Supporting The Dom at the Slovenian Catholic Center helps sustain our facilities, traditions, and programs so that future generations can continue to gather, celebrate, and build community together. Please consider the following Charitable Giving Options to help support our Dom:

Cash Gifts

Cash donations are the most straightforward way to support the Center. If you itemize deductions, cash gifts may generally be deducted up to 60% of adjusted gross income (AGI). They are simple, flexible, and allow the Center to immediately put your generosity to work.

Appreciated Stock or Securities

Donating appreciated stocks, mutual funds, or ETFs may provide significant tax advantages. You may be able to deduct the full market value of the investment while avoiding capital gains tax that would normally be due if the asset were sold.

Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)

A Donor-Advised Fund allows you to contribute cash or securities, receive an immediate tax deduction, and recommend grants to charities like the Slovenian Catholic Center over time. Many donors use DAFs as a flexible way to plan long-term charitable giving.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

For individuals age 70½ or older, funds can be transferred directly from an IRA to a qualified charity. The distribution counts toward required minimum distributions while not being included in taxable income, which may help reduce overall taxable income.

Summary of Tax Benefits

Giving Method	Key Tax Benefit	Ideal For
Cash Gifts	Deduction up to 60% of AGI	Simple & Flexible Giving
Appreciated Stock	Deduct Value + Avoid Capital Gains Tax	Highly appreciated Investments
Donor-Advised Fund	Immediate Deduction; Tax-Free Growth	Strategic Long-Term Giving
QCD (IRA Giving)	Excluded from Income, Counts Toward RMD	IRA Owners Age 70 ½ +

For more information about planned giving opportunities supporting The Dom, please contact:

Ed Burjek - Volunteer Philanthropy Officer
Slovenian Catholic Center
630-532-8778 | efburjek@aol.com

Your generosity helps ensure that The Dom remains a vibrant home for Slovenian culture, community, and tradition for generations to come.



SMS MARELA (SLOVENSKA MLADINSKA SKUPINA MARELA)

Recently, in February, we had the joy of helping and performing for Koline, continuing a cherished Slovenian tradition at the Dom that brings families and friends together in celebration.

We are now preparing to participate in the upcoming Palm Sunday procession and to process for the Slovenian Catholic Mission. These events are always meaningful moments in our liturgical year, and we are honored to contribute in special celebrations of faith.

In addition, SMS Marela will be helping with the Dom's Easter Brunch. We look forward to volunteering and adding to the joyful atmosphere as our community gathers to celebrate Easter together.

As spring continues, we will begin preparing for our summer performance schedule. A special focus will be our trip to Slovenefest in Enon Valley, PA in July. We are excited to represent our community, share Slovenian music and culture, and connect with fellow performers and friends at this beloved festival.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support SMS Marela. Your encouragement allows us to keep our musical traditions alive and thriving. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

As always, we welcome anyone of Slovenian descent, who may be interested in joining our group, to come check us out. Please contact Nada Petrovic at 630-863-5648 or any member of Marela!



Slovenian Sports Klub Nation!



Texas Hold'em Recap

Thank you to those that came out for Texas Hold'Em and LRC on January 20th! It was exciting to watch the Chicago Bears beat the Packers that night! Too bad they didn't make it to the Superbowl! The bar was filled with boisterous LRC players with multiple winners. Congrats to everyone, especially the Texas Hold'em winners, that won cash prizes. We paid out more than \$1,000 in prize money! (WHAT????!!!). What a fantastic time!

- 1st place: Johnny Krawczyk
- 2nd place: Charlie Buh
- 3rd place: Aljaž Supevec
- 4th place: Kevin Egan
- 5th place: Max Petrovic



Final Table



SSK Texas Hold'Em Finalists 1/10/26



TRIVIA *night*

We held a fun night of trivia on February 26th. We had 75 participants that showed off all that useless information they've been storing in their heads!

Start getting your teams together for next year! Remember, anyone age 12 and up is welcome to participate. - A big thank you to Tony Purkart and Kristin Louapre for organizing and running this annual event.



37th Annual Softball, Golf, Bocce, and Music Festival - June 26th-28th

We hope you will be able to attend our upcoming golf and softball tournaments the weekend of June 26th-28th. Details are below.



Annual SSK Co-Ed Golf Outing - Friday, June 27th

Location, time and cost TBD. 18 holes of golf with a cart. Format is a 4-man scramble with winners' names going on the Sports Klub trophy. A scramble format means players of all levels are welcome! Handicaps will be assigned. Please contact Mike Breszach to sign up as a team or as an individual, or for more information: 630-781-6675. Don't forget to wear your patriotic gear for the golf outing!



36th Annual SSK Softball Tournament - June 27th & 28th - Co-ed Softball Tournament & Music Festival

We're always looking for more players! You can sign up as an individual and we'll put you on a team. Even if you don't play, come out to socialize, play bocce ball, enjoy the playground, play volleyball or pickleball, and take in the beauty of the grounds of St. Mary's. Once again, donations of potato salad, pasta salad, green salad, or finger desserts are appreciated! Simply bring them to the hut anytime Saturday or before noon on Sunday. Thank you in advance! For information on playing, contact Jake Gregorich. (jakobgregorich@gmail.com).

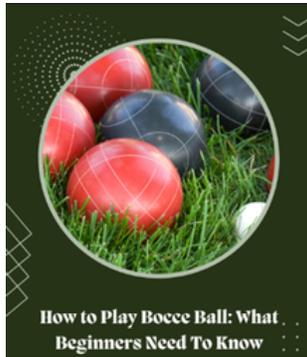
Bonfire and live music - Saturday, June 27th

Join us Saturday night around 8pm for a bonfire and live music!

Sunday, June 28th - Lunch "On the hill" at noon

Immediately following the 11am mass at the outdoor grotto. Softball semi-finals and championship games to follow immediately after lunch.

**Volunteer Needed - 1 hour of time required
to teach kids how to play balina (bocce ball)**



Last year was the first time the SSK held a short, one hour camp for a small group of kids to teach them how to play bocce ball. In the Slovenian language, we call it Balina. We would like to host this again this year but need a volunteer teacher! We are looking for one teen or adult volunteer to teach kids ages 4 and up the basics of how to play. You just need basic knowledge of the game and it will only take about 1 hour of your time! We are looking to hold this event on Saturday, June 27th, “up on the hill”, on the grounds of St. Mary’s. Last year we had just 6 participants but we’re hoping for a few more this year. Contact Jeanie Gregorich if you are able to volunteer! 630-967-8508

PICKLEBALL UPDATE



Just a reminder that the SSK has two portable pickleball nets, paddles, and balls that anyone can borrow on the weekends when you’re on the grounds of St. Mary’s. One court is marked with chalk on the south side of the Slovenian Catholic Center, in the parking lot. The other is in the parking lot just east of the Retreat House up on the hill. The equipment is stored on-site. If you’d like to borrow it, please ask the bartender at the SCC to get the equipment out for you.

If you’re not familiar with pickleball, it’s America’s fastest growing sport and is a cross between tennis, ping pong and badminton. It’s played with a paddle and a perforated plastic ball. It’s addictive and fun for all ages!

If you would like more information about these events or would like to be added to our email list, please send an email to sloveniansportsklub@gmail.com or access our Facebook page. Search under Chicago Slovenian Sports Klub.

Adding Life & Beauty

ADOPT A PLOT

Through Gardening!



SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC CENTER

S E R V I N G O P P O R T U N I T Y

If you have a servant's heart and a willing spirit – please join our team to build and care for our community through God's creation.

- * Adopt a specific plot for maintenance – you choose the time weekly.
- * Share a plot with a sibling, friend, or your kids/grandkids, etc.
 - Slovenian Catholic Center, Retreat House, Grotto, Rosary Valley
 - Plots will be designated around the Slovenian Lemont property for volunteers to “take on” ownership of maintenance with weeding, trimming, watering, and clean-up as needed, about 1 hour a week per area.
- * **WATER BRIGADE** – Memorial Day to Labor Day
Come **ONCE** a week to water new plantings and potted plants.

Join our team – contact Olga Kastelic Voss for more info
630-660-8086 o_voss@msn.com

SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC CENTER~PO Box 634 ~ Lemont, IL 60439

Membership

Thank you for supporting our Slovenian Catholic Center! We very much appreciate your contributions in prior years, and hope you will renew your membership. Please return the completed form and payment, or apply online at www.slovenian-center.org. If you are not a member but would like to keep receiving our newsletter, please return the form confirming your contact information.

Membership Year: _____

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Dependent Children: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Type:

Individual Membership - \$50

Senior Membership - \$35

Family Membership - \$100

Total donation: \$ _____

Method of payment:

Cash

Check #: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

3-digit verification code: _____ Billing zip code: _____

Signature: _____

Ingredients (makes about 45 krvavice)

Pork Shoulder/Pork Shoulder Blade Chops (you will require enough pork meat to make about 5 heaping cups of ground pork shoulder)
 A large pot of Pork Stock
 3 1/2 cups, pork blood
 7 cups cooked barley, cooked using pork stock
 2 1/2 cups white hulled millet, cooked using pork stock
 4 1/2 cups buckwheat porridge, cooked using pork stock
 2 cups long grain white rice, cooked using pork stock
 5 cups ground pork shoulder, cooked
 3/4 cup ground ground pork crackling
 1/2 cup minced garlic, in oil
 2 1/4 cups diced onions, sautéed
 Pork lard for frying onions
 1/2 cup melted pork lard, for Krvavice mixture
 Pig intestines, washed toothpicks, string

Spices

1 1/2 Tbsp's paprika
 1 1/2 Tbsp's marjoram
 1/2 Tbsp black pepper
 1/2 Tbsp all spice
 1 Tbsp sea salt
 1 Tbsp garlic powder



Let's start by making a LARGE pot of pork broth. Into a large pot add in the pork shoulder with bones, 3 carrots, 3 celery stems, about 15-20 parsley sprigs, 2 onions, 2 leeks (roots & stems removed), 5 thyme sprigs, 4 bay leaves. Cover with water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to maintain a gentle simmer for about 1-2 hours. Season with salt & pepper to taste. Cool. Remove the pork and place into a large bowl. Using a fork remove all the meat from the bones. Pour the broth through a sieve into another pot, and place in the refrigerator until ready to use as you will be using this broth to cook the barley, millet, buckwheat and rice in.

1. Rinse and Cook the barley, white hulled millet, buckwheat porridge, long grain white rice according to packages using the pork broth above. *you must also reserve about 3 to 4 cups of pork broth for the 'Krvavice' mixture - see step 6 below.
2. Grind the pork meat using a Food Grinder. We use a kitchen aid stand mixer attachment. You will need 5 cups of ground pork. Refrigerate.
3. Grind pork crackling. You will need 3/4 cup of ground pork crackling.
4. Saute 2 1/4 cups of diced onions in lard. Add a little broth or water. You will need them to be a bit juicy but not too soft of a mixture.
5. Mince garlic using a garlic press. You will need a 1/2 cup of minced garlic. Add minced garlic to a small bowl. Add enough oil to make it juicy. Cover with plastic wrap. Set aside.
6. To make the mixture you will need a large bin. To the bin add; cooked barley, hulled millet, buckwheat porridge, long grain rice, 5 cups of ground pork shoulder, 3/4 cup ground pork crackling, 1/2 cup minced garlic in oil, 2 1/4 cups sautéed onions, 1/2 cup melted (cooled) lard. Add in all the spices. Mix until well combined. Taste the mix before adding the blood. Add more spices if you desire to your taste. Finally, add the 3 1/2 cups of pork blood, and enough pork broth to make a juicy mixture (start by only adding 1 cup of broth at a time). Mix and stir until well combined, until the blood is evenly absorbed.
7. Wash, rinse and clean the casings. Make sure the insides are cleaned well.
8. Gently pull the pork intestine over the front of the sausage stuffer. Tie up the end. Fill the stuffer with the mixture, make sure there is no extra air in the mixture. Begin to gently fill the intestine with a slow careful motion. When the intestine is filled to about 12 to 14 cm, squeeze the sausage with your fingers to allow any air to escape. Spin and twist the sausages making links. We usually just make 2 links together and secure with a toothpick. *watch video to follow these steps
9. Place sausages in salted boiled water. Reduce to medium heat. Cook for about 12-15 minutes on a low simmer (not a rolling boil or the sausages can split open), or until they float to the top and when you prick them with a toothpick it is a clear liquid that comes out. Take them out of the water and leave on a board until they cool.
10. Preheat oven to 325F (150C)
11. Place kravice onto a greased baking tray. Prick the Krvavice with a toothpick several times on top. Roast in a 300F (150C) oven for 20 minutes. After 20 minutes, remove the kravice from the oven, and flip them to the other side. Increase the oven temperature to 400F (200C) and bake for an additional 10 minutes (or longer) until the skin is nice and crispy to your liking. Dober tek!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- March 22, Sunday** - Confirmation Candidates
- March 27, Friday** – Šola/SCC Egg Coloring for Palm Sunday
- March 28, Saturday** - Butarice Day
- March 28, Saturday** - Living Stations of the Cross @2pm
- March 29, Sunday** - Palm Sunday Masa & Luncheon
- April 2, Thursday** - Holy Thursday Mass @7pm
- April 3, Friday** - Good Friday Celebration of the Passion of the Lord @7pm
- April 4, Saturday** - Vigil of Easter @2pm
- April 5, Sunday** - Easter Sunday Mass @11am
- April 12, Sunday** - Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick @11am
- April 26, Sunday** - SCC Annual Meeting/Appreciation Dinner/Town Hall
- May 17, Sunday** - Šola Year-End Performance @12:45pm
- June 7, Sunday** - Corpus Christi Procession @11am
- June 14, Sunday** - First Holy Communion Acceptance @11am mass
- June 21, Sunday** - Prekmurje Social Club, Father's Day Pilgrimage & Picnic
- June 26-28, Friday-Sunday** - Slovenian Sports Klub Weekend
- August 9, Sunday** - SCC Picnic & Raffle