

## VELIKA GOPSA NEWSLETTER



### WELCOME!!!

We sincerely welcome all of you who join us this Velika Gospa; those who return year after year, who take time off of work to attend our grand, solemn procession and Mass as well as those who are here for the first time!

We especially welcome Fr. Tomislav Dukić, OFM, our main celebrant who comes to us from Germany; Fr. Mario Križanac from Koprivnica, Croatia; Fr. Joe Grbeš, Custos of the Croatian Franciscans; and Jelena Grčić Polić, Consul General of the Republic of Croatia.

### DOBRO DOŠLI!!!

Dobro došli svi! Dobrodošli vi koji ste nazočni svake godine, kako bi sudjelovali u našoj svečanoj procesiji i svetoj Misi, kao i vi koji ste s nama po prvi puta.

Izražavamo srdačnu dobrodošlicu našem fra Tomislavu Dukiću, koji nam dolazi iz Njemačke, te predvodi današnje misno slavlje; don Mariju Križancu iz Koprivnice; fra Jozi Grbešu, kustosu hrvatskih franjevaca; te Jeleni Grčić Polić, generalnoj konzulici Republike Hrvatske.

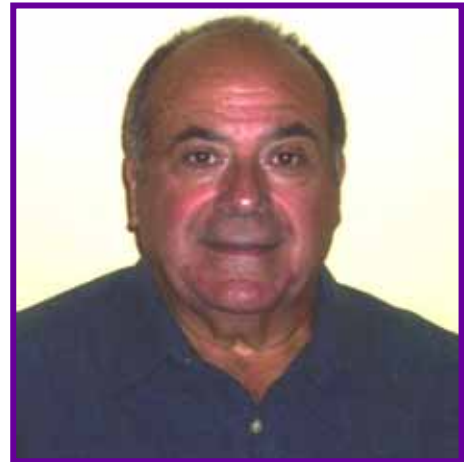
## GRAND MARSHALL 2014: FRANK MUNIZZI

**T**he Grand Marshall for the Velika Gospa Procession in our parish this year is Frank Munizzi, a parishioner for 40 years.

Frank was born the third child to Frank and Catherine Munizzi of 32<sup>nd</sup> and South Wells Street, which at that time was the settling place of many Italians who came to America through Ellis Island from their homeland in Sorbo San Basile, Calabria, Italy. Many of them worked their way tirelessly to America, as cooks, farmers and laborers. This was to build a better life for their children. Frank is one of 6 children. The family includes Carmen, James, John, Tom and Cathy. Frank is uncle and great-uncle to many nieces and nephews.

He was baptized at Santa Lucia Church on South Wells Street. Frank attended Visitation Grammar school and Kennedy High School on the southwest side of Chicago.

Frank met his wife, Luanne Pešo in 1969 in Bridgeport. They were married in 1973 in St. Jerome Church by Fr. Mark Kozina. Luanne, of Croatian descent, is the daughter of John and Jenny (Stanich) Pešo, of the 2900 block of South Princeton Avenue. Luanne is one of 4 children. The family includes Peter, John and Jeannie who are active in the Velika Gospa feast.



**F**rank had also been involved in parish life over the years. Frank has sung for Midnight mass, Velika Gospa novenas, funerals and weddings. His talented voice and style of song has always given any occasion a personal touch. He sings with feeling and leaves many with lasting memories.

**F**rank has been involved with our Velika Gospa celebration for over 30 years. He is involved with every aspect of the feast. Beginning with the planning and preparation, Frank gives his assistance with the set-up, helps organize the procession and works tirelessly the entire day of the feast in whatever area he is needed. He is always looking for new ideas to improve the success of the feast. In the days after the feast he is always looking ahead to the following year.

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## NADOLAZEĆI DOGAĐAJI....

- ♦ **Velika Gospa Golf**  
17. kolovoza
- ♦ **Hodočašće Holy Hill**  
23. kolovoza
- ♦ **Predavanje Catholic  
Financial Life**  
24. kolovoza
- ♦ **Piknik Hrvatske  
škole**  
30. kolovoza
- ♦ **Hrvatska škola  
počima**  
6. rujna
- ♦ **Misa obljetnice  
brakova**  
28. rujna
- ♦ **Godišnji ručak  
Marijinog društva**  
12. listopada
- ♦ **Hrvatska žena**  
85. Obljetnica i  
Modna Revija  
25. listopada
- ♦ **KUD Hrvatska  
Baština - Martinje**  
8. studenoga
- ♦ **KUD Hrvatska  
Baština godišnji  
koncert**  
29. studenoga
- ♦ **Božićni program  
Hrvatske Škole**  
13. prosinca

## Naš gost: Fra Tomislav Dukić

**F**ra Tomislav Dukić, OFM, je rođen u Sinju 10. rujna 1966. Osnovnu školu završio je u Košutima i Trilju, Franjevačku klasičnu gimnaziju u Sinju, a studij teologije studirao na Franjevačkoj visokoj bogosloviji u Makarskoj i Zagrebu gdje je diplomirao 1992. Đakonsku pastoralnu godinu proveo u župi Gospe Sinjske 1992.-1993. Za svećenika Franjevačke provincije Presvetog Otkupitelja sa sjedištem u Splitu zaređen 27. lipnja 1993., u konkatedrali sv. Petra u Splitu. 1993.-1994. vrši službu župskog vikara u Otoku kod Sinja. Na postdiplomskom studiju pastoralne teologije bio je u Münchenu u Njemačkoj 1994.-1997. Službu župnika župe Gospe Sinjske u Sinju vrši od 1997.-2003. Voditelj je Hrvatske katoličke misije München 2003.-2011. "Anno sabatico" 2011.-



2012. Služba dušobrižnika u samostanu St. Gabriel u Münchenu 2012.-2014. odakle pastoralno djeluje u njemačkoj župi Maria Hilf u Geretsriedu kod Münchena, a nakon toga u Kelkheimu kod Frankfurta. Na jesen 2014. preuzima Hrvatsku katoličku misiju Offenbach kod Frankfurta.

**M**oto i misao vodilja moga djelovanja kao kršćanina i svećenika jest slijedeća: Kao što je Bog postao čovjek u Isusu, kao što se kruh i vino pretvaraju na misi u tijelo i krv Kristovu, tako se i naš ljudski i kršćanski život treba trajno tako preobražavati da postajemo Božji ljudi, što sličniji Bogu, da Bog po nama bude vidljiv i opipljiv u ovom svijetu, da kršćani budu duša ovog svijeta i kruh koji se jede.

## Welcome Karen DeNardo! New Principal of St. Jerome School

**K**aren DeNardo has been in professional education for almost 35 years. Her credentials include twenty-seven years of full-time teaching experience and seven years as an elementary school principal. Ms. DeNardo started out in 1979 as a teacher of the Chicago Archdiocese, later also teaching in Chicago Public Schools. In 1997, she moved to Wisconsin where she continued her teaching career. She became principal of Grand



Marsh Elementary School in the Adams-Friendship Area School District in 2006 where she served in that capacity until last year. Among other distinctions to her credit, Grand Marsh Elementary won the prestigious "Wisconsin School of Recognition Award" five of the years Ms. DeNardo was principal. Ms. DeNardo is a graduate of the University of California - Santa Cruz and holds a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Northern in DeKalb. We look forward to the future!

## GRAND MARSHALL 2014: FRANK MUNIZZI

**G**rand Marshall ovogodišnje proslave Velike Gospe je g. Frank Munizzi, naš župljanin već 40 godina.

Frank je rođen kao treće dijete Franka i Catherine Munizzi na 32. ulici i Wells. Frank je jedan od šestoro djece u obitelji, a ostali su Carmen, James, John, Tom i Cathy. Frank je stric i ujak brojnim nećacima i nećakinjama. Frank je kršten u crkvi sv. Lucije na Wellsu, pohađao je osnovnu školu Visitation i srednju školu Kennedy.

Frank je upoznao svoju suprugu Luanne Pešo 1969. godine u Bridgeportu, a vjenčao ih je fra Marko Kozina 1973. godine u crkvi sv. Jeronima. Luanne je hrvatskog porijekla, kćerka

Johna i Jenny Stanich Pešo. Luanne je jedna od četvero djece u obitelji, a ostali su Peter, John i Jeannie, koji su svi aktivni u pripremanju proslave Velike Gospe.

Frank je godinama aktivan u radu naše župe, pjeva na Misi ponoćki, sudjeluje u devetnicama, na sprovodima i vjenčanjima. Frank preko 30 godina sudjeluje u pripremanju proslave Velike Gospe, u organizaciji, planiranju i pripremanju procesije, zauzimajući se neumorno u svim vidovima gdje je potrebno. Čestitamo Franku na izboru za Grand Marshalla ove godine i zahvaljujemo na svemu što je činio za našu župu kroz svih dosadašnjih 40 godina kao župljanin.

## OUR HONORED GUEST, Fr. Tomislav Dukić

**F**ather Tomislav Dukić, OFM, was born in Sinj on September 10, 1966. He attended elementary school in Košute and Trilj and high school in Sinj. He studied theology at the Franciscan seminaries in Makarska and Zagreb from which he graduated in 1992. He spent his first pastoral year as a deacon in Our Lady of Sinj parish.

Father Tomislav was ordained a priest on June 27, 1993 in the Con-cathedral of Saint Peter in Split. More specifically, he became a priest of the Franciscan Province of the Most Holy Redeemer with its seat in Split. He spent one year as vicar in a parish near Split. Afterward, from 1994-1997, he continued his post-graduate education in pastoral theology in Munich. Upon completion, he became pastor of Our Lady of Sinj parish in Sinj where he served until 2003. That year, he was named head of the Croatian Catholic Mission in Munich. He served in this capacity until 2011.

Father Tomislav took a year-long sabbatical, then was named Spiritual Director at St. Gabriel's Monastery in Munich (2012-2014). During this period, he also served pastorally in a German parish (Maria Hilf) in Gerestried near Munich as well as later in another in Kelkheim near Frankfurt. In the fall of 2014, he took charge of the Croatian Catholic Mission in Offenbach by Frankfurt.

**O**n a more personal note, Father Tomislav says: "My motto or the guiding principle, if you will, of my actions as a Christian and priest are as follows: Just as God became man in Jesus, just as bread and wine at Mass become the Body and Blood of Christ, that is how our human and Christian life needs to continually transform, so as to continue becoming God's people, all the more resembling God, so that God may become visible and tangible in this world by way of us; that Christians become the soul of this world and the bread which is consumed."

## UPCOMING EVENTS . . .

- ◆ **Velika Gospa Golf**  
August 17th
- ◆ **St. Jerome School starts**  
August 21st
- ◆ **Pilgrimage to Holy Hill**  
August 23rd
- ◆ **Catholic Financial Life Presentation**  
August 24th
- ◆ **Croatian School Picnic**  
August 30th
- ◆ **Marriage Anniversary Masses**  
September 28th
- ◆ **Marian Society Annual Luncheon**  
October 12th
- ◆ **Croatian Woman 85th Anniversary & Fashion Show**  
October 25th
- ◆ **KUD Hrvatska Baština Annual Concert**  
November 29th
- ◆ **HSA Dinner with Santa**  
December 6th
- ◆ **Croatian School Christmas Show**  
December 13th





**St. Jerome Croatian Catholic Church, Chicago**

**2823 S. Princeton Ave.  
(Cardinal Stepinac Way)  
Chicago, IL 60616**

**Phone: (312) 842-1871  
Fax: (312) 842-6427  
Emails:  
stjeromecroatian@gmail.com  
or VelikaGospa@gmail.com**

**VELIKA GOPSA  
PARKING**

Please call and tell your friends and relatives that we have plentiful parking available for our feast. Thanks to our neighbors, we have the following:

**\*\*\*\* Old Neighborhood Italian American Club parking (30th & Shields)**

**\*\*\*\* State of Illinois parking under the highway (27th & Wells, entrance on 27th)**

***Croatian Catholic Radio  
- Saturdays***

***10 a.m. - 750 AM***

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

**Frank Munizzi....**

*(Continued from page 1)*

He takes inventory and keeps reference files in order to keep us fully stocked with supplies. His accuracy contributes to a successful day. We look forward to the novena coffee nights and annual bake sale night because Frank makes it a special event for the priests and the volunteers by bringing his homemade Italian delicacies to enjoy at the end of the night.

He also joins the bandstand on the day of the feast along with other singers entertaining the crowd.

Frank has been a part of many special occasions at St. Jerome's. Many of his life-long friendships have begun at St. Jerome's and continue to this day. The parish has played a huge part in Frank's spirituality and continued faith. Congratulations to Frank on being this year's Grand Marshall and a parishioner for over 40 years in our church!

**OUR LADY OF SINJ**



The feast day of Velika Gospa (Assumption Day, August 15th) is to Croats what St. Patrick's Day is to the Irish, or what Columbus Day is to the Italians.

In 1715 the barbaric army of the Ottoman Empire was advancing toward the town of Sinj, Croatia. The army's plan was to capture Sinj and press forward. Indeed, the Turks hoped to conquer all of Europe. The people of Sinj, fearing certain annihilation in the face of overwhelming odds, implored the intervention of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Throughout the night of August 14th, they held a prayer vigil before their painting of the Virgin Mary, under the title at that time of "Our Lady of Grace."

The following morning, August 15th, on the great feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven, an apparition of a

beautiful lady appeared in the sky. The faithful recognized her as the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Turkish soldiers saw her and became violently ill. They were unable to cross the river to Sinj, and returned to their territory. Through Our Lady of Sinj's miraculous intervention, the attack was repulsed

and the powerful Turks fled.

Ever since that day, Croats have maintained a unique love and devotion to Mary. Thousands still make the annual pilgrimage to Sinj. Many more around the world seek Our Lady of Sinj's miraculous intervention.

The religious tradition of a Velika Gospa Procession and Mass was brought to Bridge-port in 1906 by Croatian immigrants from Sinj, the Bradarich brothers. St. Jerome's Velika Gospa tradition secured permanent and deep roots in Chicago.