

VELIKA GOSPA 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 in attendance for the first time.

We especially welcome Father Frano Prcela, a Dominican, who is the main celebrant of today's Mass, Father Marko Puljić, Custos of Croatian Franciscans; and Zorica Matković, General Consul of the Republic of Croatia in Chicago.



DOBRO DOŠLI!

Dobro došli svi! Oni koji prisustvuju svake godine, te izostanu s posla da sudjeluju u našoj svečanoj procesiji i svetoj Misi, kao i oni koji su s nama prvi puta.

Izražavamo srdačnu dobrodošlicu i fra Frani Prceli, dominikancu, koji predvodi današnje misno slavlje, fra Marku Puljiću, kustosu hrvatskih franjevaca i Zorici Matković, generalnoj konzulici Republike Hrvatske u Chicagu.

BISHOP GUSTAVO GARCIA GREET'S ST. JEROME PARISHIONERS

August 2005

Feast of the Assumption of Holy Mary

Dear friends at St. Jerome Croatian Church:

On this beautiful feast, I send you my warm thoughts and sincere embrace in our loving Savior, Jesus Christ! May you, your children and your children's children know the rich blessings and abundant graces from this feast for generations to come.

The Feast of Holy Mary's Assumption is a time of special celebration for you, my friends at St. Jerome and for all Croatians. I greatly rejoice knowing you, here in our Vicariate, are so ready to cherish this glorious faith heritage. Today recognizes that the Croatians have been entrusted with special spiritual favors from Our Lady of Sinj. Your faith in the Church, your love of Holy Mary, your cherished tradition all give



Photo: M. Goravica

honor to Velika Gospa. Today we unite in a graced way with history and your homeland that gratefully and humbly honor Our Lady.

Especially this year I wish to acknowledge your wonderful spirit of community, living faith and church unity. You grow and grow in grace, surely through the intercession of Our Lady of Sinj.

My prayers is that you will encounter our beautiful

Mother, Our Lady of Sinj. She will, indeed, intercede for you - her loving children - to receive grace beyond what can ever be counted or even realized! Our Mother of Grace will enable you, then, to see and to love in Christ, all that she sees and knows in Him. What a beautiful privilege and faith heritage is yours.

In Our Lady and Jesus Christ:

Bishop Gustavo, M.Sp.S.

www.stjeromecroatian.org

Voice of St. Jerome Radio
Saturdays
at 10 a.m.
750 AM

NADOLAZEĆI DOGAĐAJI....

- **Hodočašće na Holy Hill**
20. kolovoza
- **Hodočašće u Washington**
3./4. rujna
- **Fra Ivan Strmečki pomoćni župnik**
6. rujna
- **Hrvatska škola:**
10. rujna
Za upis, javite se
Nevenki Jurković: 773-525-8571
- **Izložba rada Danice Igić**
10./11. rujna
- **Sastanak mladih župe: 20-29 godina**
16. rujna, 8 p.m.
- **Misa za obljetnice braka**
18. rujna
11:00 na hrvatskom
- **Koncert "za otplatu parkirališta": "American English-The Complete Beatles Experience"**
15. listopada
- **Hrvatska žena Fashion Show**
16. listopada

GRAND MARSHALL - DUŠKO & JADRANKA KRALJEVIĆ

Godine 1960. rodio se Anti Kraljeviću i Vinki r. Skoko najstariji od triju sinova. Duško Kraljević pohađao je osnovnu školu u Ljubuškom, te fakultet u Mostaru i Sarajevu. 1986. emigrirao je u SAD te učio engleski jezik na Columbia University u New Yorku.

Posjetio je rodbinu u Chicagu i tako je odlučio i ostati u ovoj zajednici. Oženio je Jadranku r. Žgela, jedino dijete Ante i Ane r. Čengija. Jadranka se rodila 1967. u Zagrebu. Sa samo četiri godine doputovala je u Chicago zajedno s majkom tu započeti novi život. Njen otac Ante emigrirao je u Chicago tri godine ranije. Jadranka je pohađala prvi razred u St. Thomas Apostle školi, a zatim je nastavila školovanje u Sv. Jeronimu. Pohađala je Maria High School, te diplomirala kompjuterske nauke sa sveučilišta DePaul.

1988. Duško i Jadranka su se vjenčali u Hrvatskoj župi sv. Jeronima. Njihovo prvo dijete, kćer Antonia, rodila se 1989., te na jesen ide na treću godinu u St. Ignatius High School. Njihov sin Ante rodio se 1994., te Adriana se rodila 1996. godine. Oboje pohađaju osnovnu školu sv. Jeronima; Ante u šesti, a Adriana u četvrti razred.



Obitelj Kraljević su dugogodišnji župljani svetog Jeronima kao i hrvatske župe Srca Isusova u Chicagu, te često dobrovoljno pomažu i vrlo su aktivni u društvenom životu same škole kao i župe. Obitelj Kraljević također je vrlo aktivna u Hrvatskoj školi Kardinal Stepinac u kojoj je Duško bio predsjednik četiri godine, podpredsjednik dvije godine, kao i učitelj. Jadranka je pomagala konzultacijama svojim kompjuterskim znanjem, u župnom popisu, te s raznim video prezentacijama za razne župne prigode.

JEDNO SJEĆANJE NA VELIKU GOSPU....

U mojoj obitelji Velika Gospa je najveći blagdan poslije Božića. Kad sam imao oko devet godina, ovaj blagdan se slavio u staroj dvorani s dvorištem otraga. Od tih godina mom prijatelju Mike Vladoviću i meni dopušteno je bilo na proslavu bez naših majki. Nakon dugog vrućeg dana letajući po Princetonu od crkve do kuća naših baka, jedeći slanu janjetine s kapulom, krumpirom i kruhom, bili smo super žedni. Kupili bismo sok, te bi se popeli na skele na školi, te pratili kako se Martin i Miro Vidović i njihov orkestar spremaju za nastup. Taman bi sunce zalazilo i počele su pjesme! Sve one koje smo čuli od malih nogu. Narod se veselio, a kad je počelo prvo kolo, onda se stvarno zaigralo. Čim je jedno kolo završilo, narod je vikao za drugo. Oni bi svirali do kasno u noći, a narod bi ostao do kraja. Bez obzira što smo bili umorni, bilo nam je žao da je gotovo. S našeg mjesta, vidjeli smo svakoga jer bi svi naši uvijek tu došli. U tome je bila i jest plemenitost toga dana. Iako mnogi, mnogi od njih više nisu s nama, ipak su nama u duhu, i vjerujem da se i sad vesele tom blagdanu, tom danu i toj glazbi zajedno s nama. Mi častimo sjećanje na njih.

Sretna 99. proslava Velike Gospe!

Joe Balich, 2005

OUR LADY OF SINJ

Velika Gospa and being Croatian go hand-in-hand. This day (August 15th) is to Croatians what St. Patrick's Day is to the Irish, or what Columbus Day is to the Italians. The tradition of Velika Gospa originated in the town of Sinj, Croatia.

History tells us that in the year 1716, the barbaric armies of the Turkish Empire were advancing toward the town. Their plan was to capture Sinj and press forward. 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 Mother. Throughout the night of August 14th, they prayed before

the portrait of the Virgin Mary then called "Our Lady of Grace." The following morning, Assumption Day, August 15th, an apparition of a beautiful lady,



whom the faithful recognized as the Blessed Virgin Mary, appeared in the sky. The Turkish

soldiers became violently ill. They were unable to cross the river to Sinj, and thus retreated.

Through Our Lady of Sinj's miraculous intervention the attack was repulsed and the powerful Turks fled. Ever since that day the Croatians have maintained a unique love and devotion to Mary. Thousands of pilgrims still make the annual pilgrimage to the church in Sinj.

This religious tradition was brought to Chicago in 1912 with the blessing of a new parish for Bridgeport: St. Jerome Croatian Church, and thus began our feast of Velika Gospa.

A VELIKA GOSPA MEMORY....

In my family Velika Gospa has always been the biggest day of the year, next to Christmas. When I was about nine or ten years old the feast was still celebrated in the old church hall with the old picnic grove in the yard behind it. At that age, my friend Mike Vladovic and I were allowed to hang out on our own instead of being with our mothers. So after a long, hot day of running back and forth up Princeton between St. Jerome and our grandmothers' homes, eating salty lamb with green onions and potatoes and bread, we were ready to drown ourselves in soda pop. So, by about 8:00 PM we got some drink tickets (donated by our tipsy fathers and their friends at the bar) and went to the big old-fashioned drink cooler out behind the hall. Dipping our hands in the icy water we fished out bottle after bottle of Nehi grape and orange. Then we climbed the fire escape to the top and sat there to watch Marty and Miro Vidovic and their orchestra set up for the night. Just about then the sky began to darken and the strands of light bulbs around the yard began to glow. On cue, the music started, and they played and played all the Croatian songs we had heard from birth, and a few new ones. The crowd got into it more and more until the first Kolo was played. Then it really got intense, everybody dancing in line and circling around to the music. As one dance finished, the crowd yelled out for another and another. It was so hot and the band played so long I thought Miro's Maracas would fall off. They played late into the night, but we stayed to the end, and as tired as we were, we were sad it was over. From our vantage point high up on that fire escape, we could look down and see just about everybody we ever knew, because they were all there. That was and still is the beauty of that day. Though many, many of them are gone now, they are all still there in spirit enjoying the feast, the day, and the music with us. We honor their memory.

Happy 99th Anniversary Celebration of Velika Gospa!

Joe Balich, 2005

Calling all young adults 20-29 years old! The Catholic Church needs you! Our late Holy Father had a special relationship with the young; you are Church. Come join us Friday, Sept. 16th and let's build something here together at St. Jerome's!

UPCOMING EVENTS....

- **Midwest Croatians' Holy Hill Pilgrimage**
Aug. 20
- **St. Jerome School begins**
Aug. 24
To register, call 312-842-7668
- **Pilgrimage to Washington**
Sept. 3 / 4
- **Father Ivan Strmečki associate pastor**
Sept. 6
- **Art Exhibit Danica Igić**
Sept. 10 / 11
- **Meeting of Young Adults 20-29 yr. olds**
Sept. 16, 8pm
- **Wedding anniversaries' Mass**
Sept. 18
9:30 in English
- **Parking Lot Fundraiser: "American-English: The Complete Beatles Experience"**
Oct. 15
- **St. Jerome School Annual Benefit**
Nov. 12



St. Jerome Croatian Catholic Church, Chicago

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Chicago, IL 60616
Phone: (312) 842-1871
Fax: (312) 842-6427
Email:
church@stjeromecroatian.org



Pray
the
Rosary

PISMO BISKUPA GUSTAVA

Kolovoz 2005

Blagdan Uznesenja Blažene
Djevice Marije!

Dragi prijatelji u hrvatskoj
crkvi sv. Jeronima,

Uz ovu prekrasnu proslavu,
upućujem vam svoja topla
razmišljanja i iskreni zagrljaj u
našem voljenom Spasitelju,
Isusu Kristu. Neka vi, vaša
djeca i vaše djece djeca
spoznaju bogatstvo blagoslova
i obilje milosti ovoga blagdana
za sve buduće naraštaje.

Blagdan svetog Marijinog
uznesenja posebno je vrijeme
slavlja za vas, moji prijatelji iz
sv. Jeronima, kao i za sve
Hrvate. Istinski se radujem da
ste u našoj nadbiskupiji tako
spremni proslaviti ovaj slavni

blagdan. Sadašnjost
prepoznaje da je Sinjska
Gospa Hrvatima povjerila



posebne duhovne darove.
Vaša vjera u Crkvu, vaša
ljubav prema svetoj Mariji,
kao i vaša draga tradicija štuju
Veliku Gospu. Danas se
ujedinjujemo na milosnan način
sa povijesti i s vašom
d o m o v i n o m k o j a
veličanstveno i ponizno slavi
Veliku Gospu.

Želim posebno ove godine
pozdraviti predivan duh vaše
zajednice, koja živi u vjerskom
i crkvenom zajedništvu. Vi
rastete i rastete u milosti, uz
pomoć Naše Gospe Sinjske.

Moje su molitve da sretnete
našu predivnu Majku, našu
Gospu Sinjsku. Ona će uistinu
zagovarati vas – svoju
ljubljenju djecu – da primite
milosti veće nego li se ikad
daju izbrojiti ili shvatiti. Naša
Majka Milosti omogućit će
vam da vidite i ljubite u Kristu
sve što ona vidi i poznaje u
njemu. Kako je krasno i
privilegirano vaše vjersko
nasljeđe.

U našoj Gospi i Isusu Kristu:

Biskup Gustav

GRAND MARSHALL - DUŠKO & JADRANKA KRALJEVIĆ

In 1960, the first of three
sons was born to Ante
Kraljević and Vinka n.
Skoko. Duško Kraljević
attended grade school and
high school in Ljubuški, and
college in Mostar and
Sarajevo. In 1986 he
immigrated to the United
States and attended Columbia
University in New York to
learn the English language.
With family in Chicago,
Duško decided to visit
Chicago and embarked on a
new life. He married
Jadranka Žgela, the only
child of Ante and Ana n.
Čengija. Jadranka was born
in 1967 in Zagreb, Croatia.
At the age of four Jadranka
together with her mother Ana
arrived in Chicago to begin a

new life. Her father Ante
immigrated to Chicago three
years earlier. Jadranka
attended St. Thomas Apostle
school in the first grade and
was then transferred to St.
Jerome where she completed
grade school. She attended
Maria High School and then
went on to receive a
Bachlors degree in computer
science at DePaul
University.

In 1988 Duško and
Jadranka were married at St.
Jerome Croatian Church.
Their first child Antonia was
born in 1989 and currently
is a junior at St. Ignatius
High School. Their second
child Ante was born in 1994
and then Adriana born in
1996. The two youngest

children currently attend
sixth and fourth grade at St.
Jerome School.

The Kraljević family
have been parishioners of
St. Jerome Croatian Church
and Sacred Heart Croatian
Parish for many years and
have been active in the
school and parish social
events, fund raisers, volun-
teer efforts. The Kraljević
family is also very active
with the St. Jerome Croatian
School where Duško served
as president for four years,
vice president for two years
and teacher. Jadranka has
helped with parish computer
software consulting, parish
census and event video
presentations.