

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 Mijo Džolan, our main celebrant here from Split, Croatia; Father Marko Puljić, Custos of the Croatian Franciscans; Kolinda Grabar Kitarović, Ambassador of Croatia to the U.S.; Renee Pea, Acting Consul General of Croatia in Chicago; Cook Co. Treasurer, Maria Pappas; Cook Co. Commissioners, John Daley and Tony Peraica; Alderman James Balcer; and others.



DOBRO DOŠLI!

Dobro došli svi! Dobrodošli Vi koji ste nazočni svake godine, te izostajete s posla kako bi sudjelovali u našoj svečanoj procesiji i svetoj Misi, kao i Vi koji ste s nama prvi put.

Izražavamo srdačnu dobrodošlicu fra Miji Džolanu, koji nam dolazi iz Splita i koji predvodi današnju misu; fra Marku Puljiću, kustosu hrvatskih franjevaca; Kolindi Grabar Kitarović, veleposlanici Republike Hrvatske; Renee Pei, v.d. generalne konzulice u Chicagu; Cook Co. rizničarki Mariji Pappas; Cook Co. povjerenicima Johnu Daleyu i Tonyju Peraici; gradskom vijećniku Jamesu Balceru i drugim gostima.

GRAND MARSHALLS ANTON I ANA HOSTIČKA

Anton (Tony) Hostička je rođen 19. veljače 1933. godine u Grubišnom polju pokraj Daruvara, od majke Marije. Anton, mladi i sposobni čovjek, ne slažući se s komunizmom, odlučio je pobjeći iz tamnice naroda, u slobodu, u Ameriku. Njegov rođak Joe Horak koji je već otprije živio u Americi ponudio mu je smještaj. Anton dolazi avionom u veljači 1962. godine na uzletište O'Hare.

Ana Lišnić je također rođena u Hrvatskoj, u selu Vrpolju pokraj Sinja, 14. prosinca 1936. godine od majke Luce rođ. Bilonić i oca Andrije. U Ameriku dolazi u ožujku 1963., u Bridgeport gdje živi sa svojom sestrom Ljubicom i zetom, sada pokojnim Stipom Bajićem.

Kao što nam je već poznato, Velika Gospa je svetkovina Gospina uznesenja u nebo, a u Svetom Jeronimu slavi se već stotinjak godina kao glavno proštenje gdje svi mi rado dolazimo kako bi se utekli u zagovor Blažene Djevice Marije, bilo sunčano ili kišovito, bilo radnim danom, bilo vikendom. Ovo je također mjesto gdje se rado okupljamo svake godine kako bismo bili zajedno s



obitelji ili prijateljima. Ana i Anton upoznali su se ovdje pred našom crkvom, na sam blagdan Velike Gospe, 15. kolovoza 1963. godine. Već iste godine, 19. studenog u crkvi Sv. Jeronima vjenčao ih je fra Marko Kozina. Anton i Ana oduvijek su bili aktivni članovi naše župe.

Obitelj Hostička živjela je u Bridgeportu od 1963. do 1989. godine, a njihova zadnja adresa, prije nego su se preselili u predgrađe, bila je 3411 S Union. Ana, Anton i njihova obitelj nastavili su svoju aktivnost u našoj župi dobrovoljno radeći na svim područjima, od Hrvatske škole, čišćenja, do organiziranja glazbe za feštu Velike Gospe. Posebice je Anton (Tony) pomagao u pripremama

za Veliku Gospu, te preko 40 godina pomagao pri pečenju janjaca.

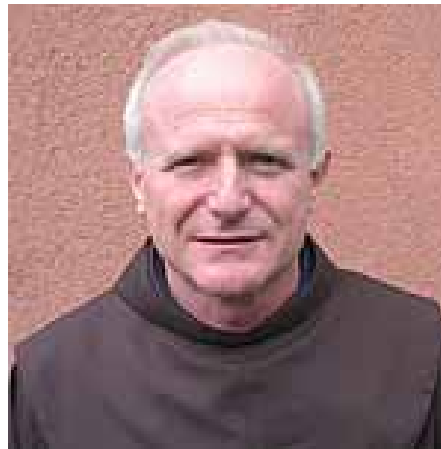
Anton i Ana ponosni su roditelji, a njihova djeca su Mary, +Tomislav (1966 – 2000) i Ivica. Također se ponose i svojim unucima: Mark i Jeena Carlson i Kristian, Adriana i Marina Hostička. John, Jeena i Mark su pohađali Hrvatsku školu kardinal Stepinac, a Kristian (peti razred) i Adriana (treći razred) su učenici škole Svetog Jeronima, a Marina stiže slijedeće godine.

„Velika nam je čast što nam je povjereno voditi procesiju ove godine. Hvala vam od srca i neka vas Bog blagoslovi!“ – kaže zahvalna obitelj Hostička.

NADOLAZEĆI DOGAĐAJI....

- **Velika Gospa Golf Turnir - nedjelja 16. kolovoza**
- **Hodočašće na Holy Hill - 22. kolovoza**
- **Hrvatska škola - početak 12. rujna 312 842 1871**
- **Misa za obljetnice braka - 20. rujna**
- **Hrvatski dan na nogometnom stadionu Chicago Fire 20. rujna**
- **Koncert Klape Lišnjak, Split - dvorana sv. Jeronima 26. rujna 312 287 3454**
- **Respect Life - Biskup Gustavo i mladi - crkva sv. Jeronima 9. listopada**
- **LADO, Zagreb, Millenium Park Harris Theatre 312 842 1871 21. listopada**
- **Hrvatska žena Modna revija 25. listopada 773 450 2811**
- **Hrvatska baština, Martinje, dvorana sv. Jeronima - 14. studenoga**

Naš Gost, fra Mijo Džolan



Fra Mijo je rođen 7. listopada 1949. u Rumbocima, Rama. U Franjevački red je stupio 14. srpnja 1968. u Kraljevoj Sutjesci. Za svećenika je zaređen 11. travnja 1976. u Sarajevu. Na Provincijskom kapitolu franjevačke provincije Bosne Srebrene godine 2000. izabran je za provincijala, te na toj dužnosti ostaje sve do 2009. Ove godine imenovan je voditeljem centra *Justitia et pax* (Pravda i mir)

svih hrvatskih franjevačkih zajednica sa sjedištem u Splitu.

GRAND MARSHALLS TONY & ANA HOSTIČKA

Anton (Tony) Hosticka was born in Croatia, in the village of Grubisno Polje, near Daruvar, on February 19, 1933, to Marija Hosticka. In February 1962, Anton arrived in Chicago. His cousin, Joe Horak, who already lived in America, had offered him a place to stay.

Ana Lisnic was also born in Croatia. She was born in the village of Vrpolje, near Sinj, on December 14, 1936 to Luca and Andrija Lisnic. Ana came to America and lived with her sister, Ljubica, and brother-in-law, +Stipe Bajic. She arrived in Bridgeport in March 1963.

As we know, Velika Gospa is the celebration for the Feast of the Assumption. For over 100 years, St. Jerome has celebrated this feast day. We all come, rain or shine: weekday or

weekend to celebrate Mary. This is also a place where we gather every year to be with family and friends. On August 15, 1963, Velika Gospa – right here, in front of our church, Anton and Ana met. On November 19th of that same year, at St. Jerome, they were married by Father Marko Kozina. Anton and Ana have been active in the St. Jerome community ever since.

The Hosticka family lived in Bridgeport from 1963 to 1989. The last address they lived at before moving to the southwest suburbs was 3411 S. Union. Ana, Anton and their family continue to be active members in the St. Jerome community. They volunteer for functions ranging from Croatian school programs, and cleaning the church, to

providing the music for the Fest. Let us not forget that Anton (Tony) has been helping with the Fest's lamb roast for over 40 years.

Anton and Ana are the proud parents of Mary, +Tommy (1966 – 2000) and John (Ivica). They are also the loving grandparents of Mark and Jeena Carlson and Kristian, Adriana and Marina Hosticka. John, Jeena and Mark all attended Cardinal Stepinac Croatian school. Kristian (grade 5) and Adriana (grade 3) are students of St. Jerome. (Marina will be in preschool – in 2010.)

"It is a great honor that we were asked to lead the procession this year - thank you from the bottom of our hearts and God bless!" – expressed the grateful members of the Hosticka family.

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 Ottoman 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.

A VELIKA GOPSA MEMORY....

For many years, Mr. Viculin, Mr. Bogetić, and later, Mr. Alfirević would provide flowers as a donation for the feast of Velika Gospa. Sisters Bernadette and Valeria would decorate the altars and the image of Our Lady most beautifully for many years. They served as sacristans at St. Jerome for years. Also, our good Sisters would make certain that all the school children—from first grade through eighth—would march in the procession. The Sisters would accompany each grade to make certain that the children kept their line and were reverent. Fr. Francis Čuturić is, indisputably, the best sermon-giver the

Croatian Franciscans had. Perhaps others had better content, but no one could surpass him for his delivery. His sermons for the novena were never shorter than one-half to three-quarters of an hour. As if by magic, the entire congregation would be brought to its knees without any signal on Fr. Čuturić's part. This was a trademark of all his sermons. The entire Church would be packed even onto the sidewalk. People who had moved away would come by streetcar or bus to attend every night of the novena. They did not forget that the Gospa had answered their prayers over and over again.

Duško Simon Čondić

UPCOMING EVENTS....

- **Velika Gospa Golf Outing August 16**
- **Midwest Pilgrimage to Holy Hill August 22**
- **St. Jerome School begins August 24 312 842 7668**
- **Marriage Anniversaries Mass - Sept. 20**
- **Croatian Day at Chgo. Fire Soccer Stadium Sept. 20**
- **Respect Life-Bishop Gustavo & Youth at St. Jerome's Oct. 9**
- **LADO, Zagreb Millenium Pk. Harris Theatre Performance 312 842 1871 Oct. 21**
- **Croatian Woman Fashion Show Oct. 25**
- **St. Jerome School Annual Benefit November 21**



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

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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

Our Honored Guest, Fr. Mijo Džolan

The celebrant and homilist at our Velika Gospa Mass after the procession is Fr. Mijo Džolan, who was born Oct. 7, 1949 in Rumboci, in Rama. He entered the Franciscan Order on July 14, 1968 in Kraljeva Sutjeska. His priestly ordination took place in Sarajevo on April 11, 1976. In the Year 2000, he was elected Provincial Minister of the Franciscan Province of Bosna Srebrena for 6 years. He was re-elected and served the maximum tenure of 9 years, finishing his service earlier this year. Also this year, he was named head of the Justice and Peace Center of all the Croatian Franciscans, which is headquartered in Split. Welcome, Father Mijo!

Velika Gospa Charity Golf Outing

In 2002, a group of Croatians informally planned to schedule a golfing event, without the initial intent to raise money. 20 Croatians gathered to golf at Deer Run in Mundelein, Illinois.

Although an event was not held in 2003, planning began for the 2004 golf outing, headed by Miro Planinić, with the intent to raise money for the children of the men who fought in the War for Independence in Croatia. It was held at the Highland Park Country Club, in Highland Park, Illinois with 27 golfers in attendance. Without sponsors, golfers alone raised \$3700.00, which was sent to assist and benefit the children at an orphanage in Medjugorje.

Given the increase in support from the Croatian community and common cause to further assist those in need overseas, it was at that point decided to hold the event annually. The Golf Outing Committee expanded to include Marko Karačić and Ivan Kutleša, and there was an added focus to recruit sponsors.

The next golf outing event was held in 2005 at the Highland Woods Golf Course in Hoffman Estates, Illinois. There was a substantial increase in golfers, with 43 in attendance. Additionally, 30 sponsors provided financial support, and \$10,000.00 was raised and sent to an orphanage in Kiseljak.

In 2006, the Committee expanded even further to include Jerry Majić, Mark Pavljašević, and Brian Milić, totaling 6 Committee members. Due to positive

feedback and great success the prior year, it was decided to again hold the event at Highland Woods. The trend continued with an even greater number of participants, as 77 golfers attended and 91 sponsors recognized this great cause. \$18,000.00 raised and sent to an orphanage in Vukovar, which was the most comprehensively destroyed town of any size in either Bosnia-Herzegovina or Croatia during the wars of the early 1990s.

In 2007, the same Committee members planned for the event held at Highland Woods. 114 golfers participated and 47 sponsors provided support. Great success continued, as funds raised nearly doubled from the prior year: \$25,525.00 was raised and sent to a Health Center/Group Home in Vrlika, near Sinj, to assist youth and adults with various developmental and health needs.

In 2008, once again an excellent turnout and beautiful day greeted 83 golfers and 52 sponsors. The total money raised and sent to needy children in Zagreb, was \$21,000.00.

The Committee expects **this year's outing being held tomorrow, August 16th, at Highland Woods** to be just as successful. **To attend, please contact Ivan Kutleša at 312.315.1746.** The Committee hopes to continue this annual event raising awareness in our Croatian community and continue to remember its roots and support those in need in our homeland.