



POLISH AMERICAN PRIESTS ASSOCIATION

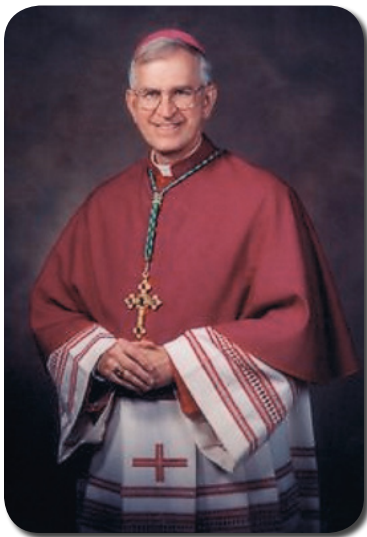
PAPA

BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2007

New Archdiocese/Diocese For Polish-American Ordinaries

The Polish American Priests Association (PAPA) extends its sincerest congratulations and best wishes to Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz and Bishop David A. Zubik upon their appointments as episcopal heads to the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Diocese of Pittsburgh, respectively. **Szczęść Boże! Sto Lat!**



HIS EXCELLENCY
ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH E.
KURTZ
ARCHBISHOP OF LOUISVILLE

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, was among the 51 archbishops from around the world to be invested with the Pallium by Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican. The new Archbishop of Louisville, Kentucky, was ordained in 1972 by Bishop

Joseph O'Shea for the Diocese of Allentown, Pennsylvania and had served as Bishop of Knoxville, Tennessee, since 1999. He was installed as Archbishop on August 15, 2007, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as the 9th episcopal head of the Archdiocese of Louisville. He serves as Chair for the USCCB Bishops' Committee on Marriage and the Family and as a Committee Member of the USCCB Bishops' Committee for Pro-Life. He succeeds Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly, OP.



HIS EXCELLENCY
BISHOP DAVID A. ZUBIK
BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH

Bishop David A. Zubik was installed as the 12th Bishop of Pittsburgh with a Mass of Installation at St. Paul Cathedral on September 28, 2007. After his ordination as a priest by Bishop Vincent Leonard in 1975, he served many parishes until he

began graduate studies in the School of Education at Duquesne University, where he earned a master's degree in education administration in 1982. In 1987, he entered the ministry of diocesan administration when he was appointed Administrative Secretary to then-Bishop Anthony Bevilacqua, who is currently the retired Cardinal Archbishop of Philadelphia. In 1997, he was

ordained an auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Pittsburgh. On October 10, 2003, Pope John Paul II named Bishop Zubik the 11th Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay.





A Message from the President –

Niech Będzie Pochwalony, Jezus Chrystus!

I begin by expressing the thanks of our National Officers and our Board of Directors to our Brothers in Cleveland for taking on the responsibility of hosting our 2007 Annual Convention. Special thanks is given to Fr. Eric Orzech, who served as Chairman. This was our 18th convention and over the years it is amazing to see how we have grown from an idea in the mind of our founder, Bishop John Yanta, to such a wonderful group of priests who take our call to service of God's people so seriously.

We gathered April 16-20 in Cleveland for the PAPA Convention. In our prayers during the convention, we remembered in a special way our leaders: Our Holy Father, Benedict XVI, as he leads our Church as the Vicar of Christ on Earth. Our thoughts and expectations are also running high as we anxiously await the Beatification and Canonization of the Servant of God, John Paul II. We remembered in our prayers our own Archbishops and Bishops who have been chosen to lead our dioceses.

As an organization of Polish American Priests, we are facing many important and critical questions in our ministry. Some of the topics we discussed were vocations, seminarians, priests from Poland, the immigration question, and ways of improving our Polish parishes. There was not enough time to discuss these issues at length, but we exchanged our thoughts with one another, sharing our successes and concerns.

I hope that we can encourage more members to join us for our convention to share their experiences and suggestions with us. Next year's convention is scheduled for March 31, 2008 in Orlando, Florida.

We have opportunities to share what works in our parishes and dioceses as well as what can be improved. We continue to recognize the accomplishments of our members as well as their priestly dedication to the Lord's work here in the United States. We are brothers, called by the Lord to serve God's people. We need His continued blessings as we rely on one another for support as we continue to minister to God's people.

May the Risen Lord Jesus Christ continue to be the shining light that lights the way in our work and ministry as we labor in His vineyard for the greater honor and glory of God.

Sczczęś Boże!

Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk

Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk, PAPA President, Sacred Heart Church, New Britain, CT

From the PAPA Bulletin Editor –

Summer is behind us. Vacations are over. Depending on your location on life's clock, it does make a difference what your priorities are at this juncture. Some of you are perhaps unpacking at new assignments or new residences. Some have entered that stage where for the first time you are recognized as a *Senior Priest*. Others have just been ordained. We congratulate you and welcome you to PAPA. We need you very much.

One of the most memorable lines created by one of our members of PAPA, a past-president of St. Mary's College at Orchard Lake, and currently pastor at both St. Hedwig's and St. Patrick's parishes in South Bend, Indiana, Father Leonard Chrobot, is "*In the midst of all this, salvation takes place.*" And there certainly is a lot of "*this*."

Some of you may search these pages for items from your neck of the woods. If you didn't find any, we need to remind ourselves of another saying: *Nemo dat quod non habet*. Correspondents are hard to find. Some haven't responded for reasons known only to them. We all are less fortunate and less knowledgeable for it.

The names of the responding correspondents appear under the items they submitted. As always, I welcome news from you, about you or other brother priests, whether from organized groups with officers or individuals, perhaps even the only Polish priest in the entire diocese. Humility is truth. Write and share with us information that you want the *about 2500* of us to know.

I hope and pray to hear from you by Pentecost 2008, so that news from, and/or about you, or your Diocese can be part of our next edition. I'm hoping. **Dum spiro, spero**. God bless, and don't forget: **Oremus pro invicem**.



Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski

Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski, Editor, Orchard Lake, MI

POLISH AMERICAN BISHOPS AS OF 10-24-2007

1. Most Rev. Eusebius J. Beltran, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
2. Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Diocese of Toledo, P.O. Box 985, Toledo, OH 43682
3. Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Diocesan Center, P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840
4. Most Rev. Robert Brom, D.D., P.O. Box 85728, San Diego, CA 92186
5. Most Rev. Fabian Bruskewitz, Diocese of Lincoln, P.O. Box 80328, Lincoln, NE 68501
6. Most Rev. Robert J. Carlson, D.D., Diocese of Saginaw, 5800 Weiss St., Saginaw, MI 48603-2799
7. Most Rev. Raphael M. Fliss, 1201 Hughitt Ave., P.O. Box 969, Superior, WI 54880
8. Most Rev. Edmund Grosz, 123 Townsend, St. Stanislaus, Buffalo, NY 14212
9. Most Rev. Thad J. Jakubowski, 6002 Berteau Ave., Chicago, IL 60634
10. Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C., 607 N. E. Madison Ave., P.O. Box 1406, Peoria, IL 61603
11. Most Rev. Edward U. Kmiec, Diocese of Buffalo, 795 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14203
12. Most Rev. Joseph E. Kurtz, Archdiocese of Louisville, P.O. Box 1073, Louisville, KY 40201-1073
13. Most Rev. Jerome F. Listeki, 3710 East Ave. South, P.O. Box 4004, LaCrosse, WI 54602-4004
14. His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, 1234 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226
15. Most Rev. Dale J. Melczek, Diocese of Gary, 9292 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410-7088
16. Most Rev. Robert C. Morlino, 702 S. High Point Rd., P.O. Box 44983, Madison, WI 53744-4983
17. Most Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, 1400 S. Austin Blvd., Cicero, IL 60804
18. Most Rev. Daniel E. Pilarczyk, 100 E. 8th St., Cincinnati, OH 45202
19. Most Rev. Francis R. Reiss, D.D., 1400 Sherwood Ct., Dearborn, MI 48124-4014
20. Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Eastern Vicariate, 320 Cathedral St., Baltimore, MD 21201
21. Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample, 444 S. Fourth St., P.O. Box 550, Marquette, MI 49855
22. Most Rev. Roger Schwietz, 225 Cordova St., Anchorage, AK 99501
23. Most Rev. Gilbert I. Sheldon, 609 North Seventh Street, Steubenville, OH 43952-1748
24. His Eminence Edmund Cardinal Szoka, 00121 Vatican City State, Europe
25. Most Rev. Thomas G. Wenski, P.O. Box 1800, Orlando, FL 32802
26. Most Rev. John W. Yanta, 1800 N. Spring St., P.O. Box 5644, Amarillo, TX 79117-5644
27. Most Rev. David A. Zubik, Diocese of Pittsburgh, 111 Blvd. of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Perpetual Members of PAPA

A priest can become a perpetual member of PAPA with a donation of \$500. The list of Perpetual Members has been compiled from past **PAPA BULLETINS** and from notification received from the Perpetual Members. Recent issues of the **PAPA BULLETIN** have published notices requesting corrections to the list. This is the most current list, as of October 18, 2007. Perpetual memberships are part of the Endowment Fund of PAPA as are Memorial Gifts in any amount.

PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIPS IN PAPA AS OF OCTOBER 18, 2007 AND CORRECTIONS

Rev. Lawrence Bukaty – Mahoney, PA
 Rev. Stanley Conrad – Waco, TX
 Rev. Louis M. Dytkowski – CT
 Rev. Henry V. Fiedorczyk – New Britain, CT
 Rev. Stefan Fisiak – Genoa, NE
 Rev. Walter S. Florczyk – Syracuse, NY
 Most Rev. Edward M. Grosz, D.D. – Buffalo, NY
 Rev. Canon Anthony D. Iwuc – Central Fall, RI
 Deacon Joseph Jachimczyk, M.D. – Houston, TX
 John Cardinal Krol – Philadelphia, PA
 Msgr. Joseph M. Krysztofik – Manville, NJ
 Rev. Francis B. Lachowicz – McKeesport, PA
 Rev. John Lysogorski – Schenectady, NY
 Rev. Leo Mallets – Monersville, PA
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 Rev. James Miara – New York, NY
 Msgr. John Michalak – Omaha, NE

Msgr. Henry Moczygemba – San Antonio, TX
 Rev. Joseph Moskal – Syracuse, NY
 Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk – Hartford, CT
 Rev. Stephen Ptaszynski – Bristol, CT
 Rev. Walter Rakoczy – Portage, IN
 Rev. Ferdinand Slejzer – Salem, MA
 Rev. Frederick V. Slota – Providence, RI
 Rev. Daniel Spsychala – Annadde, VA
 Rev. Wacław Swierzbiolek – New Rochelle, NY
 Rev. John Terepka – Belleville, IL
 Rev. Carl Urban – Schenectady, NY
 Rev. Raymond Wadas – Washington, DC
 Rev. Ted Wesolowski – Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
 Msgr. John Wodarski – Hartford, CT
 Rev. Alexander J. Wytrwal (2) – New Boston, MI
 Most Rev. John Yanta, Amarillo, TX

35 Memberships @ \$500 = \$17,500

PAPA CORRESPONDENTS

Diocese of Albany

The Polish community of Metro Albany participated in *Polish Day* on Sunday, August 26, 2007, at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville, New York. The day began with the Sacrament of Reconciliation followed by Holy Mass, which was celebrated by Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Francis R. Reiss, who also delivered the homily.

The Polish community also participated in *Kosciuszko Day* at the Saratoga Battlefield National Park on Sunday, September 23.

The five remaining Polish parishes in the Diocese of Albany are part of the Diocese's **CALLED TO BE CHURCH** pastoral planning process together with other parishes in their local area. The Polish parishes have received Diocesan permission to be a *sub-group* in planning their ministry for the future. Events mentioned above were coordinated by Father Carl A. Urban.

— Rev. Carl Urban
Correspondent

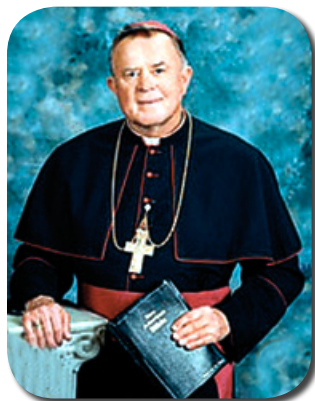


Grounds at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs

Diocese of Amarillo

Praise God for Benedict XVI, chosen to succeed our John Paul II in the Chair of Peter! I think his latest Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, **SACRAMENTUM CARITATIS**, on the Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Church's Life and Mission, needs to be a lifetime spirituality companion for us priests and bishops.

"Priestly spirituality is intrinsically Eucharistic" hits the nail on the head (#80). May I recommend this section for meditation often, entitled, "*The Eucharist and Priestly Spirituality*."



The Eucharist, A Mystery to be Believed, to be celebrated, and to be lived! We are in need of a great reform in the Church. "Every great reform has in some way been linked to the rediscovery of belief in the Lord's Eucharistic presence among his people." (#6)

— Bishop John W. Yanta
Correspondent

Archdiocese of Boston

Polish parishes in Boston are more than 100 years old. Originally there were twelve Polish parishes, about three were Franciscan parishes, the rest were

diocesan. Today there are five remaining parishes, one is Franciscan, the others are diocesan. Originally there were six parochial schools, today only one remains. Six priests belong to PAPA of Boston. Of this group, three are from Poland, three are Polish Americans and retired.

— Msgr. John A. Abuciewicz
Correspondent



Diocese of Brooklyn

One Sunday every month, Mass in Polish is celebrated downtown in the Cathedral, the Basilica of St. James, by one of the priests of the Polish Apostolate and transmitted electronically to the faithful of the Diocese who are Polish-speaking on the *Prayer Channel*, the cable TV station of the Diocese of Brooklyn.

The priests meet bimonthly to discuss matters pertinent to the life of Polonia in the Diocese. They also gather regularly at the various parishes for *Forty Hours*, *Confirmations*, *Odpust* celebrations, and *imieniny* celebrations. There is also a schedule prepared each Advent and Lent so that the priests can travel from parish to parish and help with hearing Confessions before Christmas and Easter.

On August 22, 2006, clergy and laity of the Polish Apostolate took part in the ceremonies connected with the Episcopal Ordination of three new Auxiliary Bishops for the Diocese of Brooklyn — The Most Reverends Francis J. Caggiano, Octavio Cisneros and Guy A. Sansaricq.

The Polish Apostolate participated in the Annual Polish Night at Shea Stadium on August 23, 2006. Before the game against the St. Louis Cardinals, there was Polish Music and dancing on the field by the Polonaise Folk Dancers and the Ablemen Polka band. In pre-game ceremonies, the New York Mets presented the Very Rev. Canon Thomas C. Machalski with a plaque thanking him for coordinating the event. Others honored included Rev. James J. Meszaros, Pastor of St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Parish, Ozone Park, NY, and Sister Francis Marie Wysteppek, CSFN, Principal of Nativity-St. Stanislaus School, Ozone Park, for their strong support of the event.



— Con't on p. 5

Diocese of Brooklyn

Very Rev. Canon Peter W. Zendzian was present at the meeting of the National Polish Apostolate in Doylestown, PA held in conjunction with the Annual Odstup Celebration of the Shrine. These events take place on the weekend closest to the feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa in late August each year.

The Polish Apostolate took part in the declaration of Polish Heritage Month in both the Boroughs of Queens and Kings as declared by the Honorable Helen Marshall, President of the Borough of Queens and the Honorable Marty Markowicz, President of the Borough of Kings. During the ceremony in Queens, the Very Rev. Canon Peter W. Zendzian, Pastor of Holy Cross, Maspeth, was honored for his work in service to Polonia in the borough.

On September 30, 2006, the Very Rev. Canon Thomas C. Machalski, Adjutant Judicial Vicar of the Tribunal of Brooklyn and the Very Rev. Canon Witold Mroziewski, Pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa-St. Casimir Parish in Brooklyn were inducted into the Equestrian Order of the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulcher-Eastern Lieutenancy, at a Mass celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. A banquet followed in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

On October 1, 2006, many Polish parishes participated in the Annual Pulaski Day Parade on Fifth Avenue in New York City. The parade follows Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral and a breakfast at the Marriott Marquis Hotel. A week before the parade, a gala banquet was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

The Migration Office of the Diocese of Brooklyn held its annual Shining Stars Dinner in October 2006 at the famous Gargiulo's Restaurant in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn. Each ethnic apostolate presents the name of an individual from their ethnic group who is an immigrant to our shores and who had established himself in our country and added to the fabric of life in our nation and Diocese. The Polish Apostolate's Shining Star for 2006 was KAZIMIERZ AMBROZIAK. The dinner was attended by many priests and laity of the Polish Apostolate.

The Polish Apostolate of the Diocese hosted its 15th Annual Polish Heritage Day Mass on Sunday, October 22, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. James in Downtown Brooklyn. The celebration this year focused the New Evangelization and the theme, *PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP*.



Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio,
Ph.D., D.D.

The celebrant and homilist of the Mass was the Most Rev. Andrzej Wojciech Suski, Bishop of Toruń. The Most Rev. Nicholas A. DiMarzio, Bishop of Brooklyn, presided. The Most Rev. Rene A. Valero, former Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn concelebrated along with the Episcopal Vicars of the Diocese and the priest members of the Polish Apostolate.

Scores of children were present in various Polish regional costumes as were

Polish veterans, Liga Morska, and students from many Polish Saturday supplemental schools, which are located at Polish parishes. The Polish Apostolate presented Bishop Suski with a chalice as a sign of their gratitude for his presence and Bishop DiMarzio with a set of hand-embroidered palls in the various liturgical colors, made in Poland. Our former Coordinator, Rev. Marion A. Gural, on the occasion of his 50th Anniversary of Sacerdotal Ordination, received a special plaque. Father Gural could not be present due to health and family issues so his classmate, the Most Rev. Rene A. Valero, accepted. The celebration was followed by a reception for all the people, which was attended by Bishops Suski and DiMarzio. The chairman of the celebration was the Very Rev. Canon Thomas C. Machalski, Secretary of the Polish Apostolate and Past President and Secretary of PAPA.

In the fall, the Very Rev. Canon Peter W. Zendzian, Pastor of Holy Cross, Maspeth, and Coordinator of the Polish Apostolate, was named to a commission established by the Polish Episcopal Conference to deal with the pastoral care of Polonia. The appointment is for five years.

Some Polish parishes and members of the Polish Apostolate supported the New York Metro Alumni Chapter of the Orchard Lake Schools Annual Red & White Ball, held at the Polonaise Terrace in the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn, on Sunday, November 5, 2006. The Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop of Brooklyn, Most Rev. Ignatius A. Catanello, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, and Most Rev. Rene A. Valero, former Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn (who was made an Honorary Alumnus of the Orchard Lake Schools), were among those present. More than \$10,000 was raised for the Orchard Lake Schools that evening.

On November 26, 2006, the Parish of Our Lady of Czestochowa-St. Casimir celebrated the 110th Anniversary of the founding of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish (St. Casimir's Parish joined the parish in 1980) with a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by the Most Rev. Octavio Cisneros, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn. A banquet followed the Mass.

Priests of the Polish Apostolate took part in the Christmas gatherings/optatek's of various Polonian organizations, i.e., the New York Chapter of the Pope John Paul II Foundation, Pulaski Association of Business and Professional Men, Inc., Polish-American Congress-Downstate New York Division, to name a few.

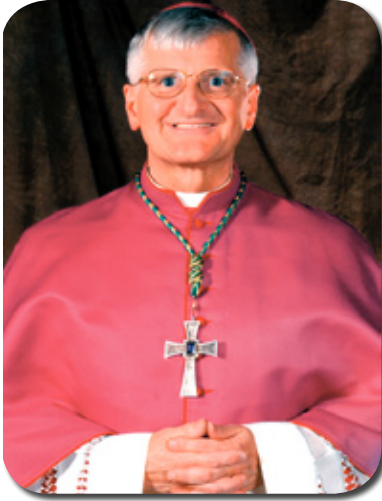
In mid-March 2007, the Rev. Peter W. Zendzian, pastor of Holy Cross, Maspeth, and Coordinator of the Polish Apostolate, was named a Chaplain of His Holiness with the title of Monsignor by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI.

The Very Rev. Canon Thomas C. Machalski has been appointed pastor of St. Josaphat's Parish, Bayside, in addition to his position as Adjutant Judicial Vicar (Vice-Officialis) and Master of Ceremonies/Secretary to the Most Rev. Rene A. Valero, D.D., retired Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn. The New York Chapter of the Pope John Paul II Foundation honored the Very Rev. Canon Thomas C. Machalski as Guest of Honor at their annual banquet on June 3, 2007.

The Most Rev. Zygmunt Zimowski, Bishop of Radom, was the main celebrant and homilist at the 2007 Annual Polish Heritage Mass, on October 21, 2007 at St. Frances de Chantal parish in the Boro Park section of Brooklyn.

— Rev. Thomas C. Machalski, Jr.
Correspondent

Diocese of Buffalo



Father Gary J. Szczepankiewicz was appointed by Bishop Edward U. Kmiec as pastor of St. Casimir's Parish in Buffalo, succeeding Msgr. Matthew S. Kopacz, who had served as pastor until his retirement in February 2007. Born in Buffalo, Father Szczepankiewicz was ordained in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1975, and was assigned to

a parish there until he returned to Buffalo in 1976. His assignments in the Buffalo Diocese have been at St. Rose of Lima, Buffalo; St. Josaphat and Resurrection, Cheektowaga; St. Leo the Great, Amherst; St. Issac Jogues, Sherman; St. Thomas More, Ripley; St. Mary, Mayville; and Ascension, North Tonawanda.

Bishop Kmiec has named Father Piotr F. Zaczynski administrator of Holy Cross and St. Patrick parishes in Salamanca. Father Zaczynski had been parochial vicar at St. Gregory the Great parish, Williamsville, since his ordination in 2004.

Father Józef Dudzik has been named parochial vicar at St. Mary, Mayville; St. Isaac Jogues, Sherman; Our Lady of Lourdes, Bemus Point; St. Matthias, French Creek; and Our Lady of the Snows, Panama.

St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Church, Mother Church of Polonia for the Western New York area located in the Broadway-Fillmore section of the City of Buffalo, is now completing three and a half years of extensive restoration-renovation work on buildings which comprise the entire complex of the Mother Church of Polonia. The final work is being completed on the restoration of the cupola. The historic pipe organ is undergoing a complete restoration with a re-dedication of the organ and organ recital scheduled for Tuesday, October 16, 2007, featuring the famed Frederick Swann.

On Friday, May 18, 2007, a special *Service of Prayer and Musical Tribute* to honor Pope John Paul II the Great on the occasion of his 87th Birthday was held in the Mother Church of Polonia, attended by hundreds of individuals. The program included reflections on different



St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Parish

contributions of the Holy Father not only to the Church, but to the world as well. An audio of John Paul II concluded the service, after which all joined in singing *CZARNA MADONNO*. The local Polish American Congress, in conjunction with the Mother Church of Polonia has maintained the practice of a special commemoration of the birthday of our Holy Father each May 18. St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Church is the only Church in the Diocese of Buffalo to have a life-size statue of Pope John Paul II.

As far as the restoration of the Mother Church of Polonia, a beautiful icon of Blessed Mary Angela, Foundress of the Felician Sisters, was commissioned and blessed. In addition, images of St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Faustina were added to the area of the Nave, to bring to date the great Saints of Polish ancestry.

The Mother Church of Polonia has issued a brochure indicating all the programs, services, concerts, and observances for the entire year. The Mother Church of Polonia continues to encourage members of Polonia, particularly those in the suburbs, to focus on the need to hold their services, programs, and activities at the Mother Church of Polonia, so as to assure the future of the Mother Church of Polonia for all members of Polonia in Western New York.

In the month of November, all the members of the Association of Priests for Polish Affairs gather with clergy, religious, and laity of the Diocese at a designated Church to offer Mass for all the deceased Polish clergy and religious of the Diocese of Buffalo. Special commemoration is offered to those Polish clergy and religious who have died within the past year.

The Diocese of Buffalo continues to promote a re-configuration of parishes through the "Journey in Faith and Grace". At present, proposals are being submitted to the Planning Commission, which reviews the proposals and then submits the final proposal to the Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Edward Kmiec, for his decision. Obviously, the proposals are going to affect Churches of the Polish American Community. While mergers of particular parishes will be made, hopefully the re-configuration will strengthen the remaining Churches for the Polish American Community in the Diocese of Buffalo.

— Bishop Edward M. Grosz, D.D., V.G.
Correspondent



**NEXT PAPA CONVENTION
BEGINS MARCH 31, 2008
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

Archdiocese of Detroit

The entire executive board of the Priests Conference for Polish Affairs of the Archdiocese of Detroit (PCPA) was re-elected to another term in March: Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski, president; Rev. Stanley Ullman, vice-president; Rev. Gary Michalik, secretary, and Rev. Lawrence Zurawski, treasurer.

PCPA supports the Orchard Lake Schools by annually contributing for the live broadcast of five Polish Radio Masses every Sunday morning at 9 AM from the Chapel of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary on station WNZK-690 AM.

PCPA also purchases four tickets annually to the annual Orchard Lake Founder's Day and is a member of both the Chancellor's Senate and the Orchard Lake Ambassadors.

The prestigious **BISHOP STEPHEN WOLNICKI AWARD** was presented this year to Fr. Mitchell Szarek for his outstanding contribution to the Detroit metropolitan Polish community. The presentation of the award was made at the Spring meeting of PCPA held at Orchard Lake prior to the Clergy Appreciation Day reception and dinner for all the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit sponsored annually by the Orchard Lake Schools.

Celebrating their 50th anniversary of ordination to the Priesthood this year are Msgr. Herman Kucyk, Rev. Mitchell Szarek, and Rev. Eugene Wojtowicz.

PCPA marked the 20th anniversary of the visit to Detroit of our beloved Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. The exact date of his visit with Polonia in Hamtramck, September 19, was marked with Mass at St. Florian's Church in Hamtramck, followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Pope Benedict XVI elevated Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski to the rank of Protonotary Apostolic on April 12, 2007, in response to the request issued by the Episcopal Conference of the Bishops of Poland and with the approval of Cardinal Maida in recognition of his contributions to the causes of the Church in Poland and the Catholic League. His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida was the principal celebrant of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Shrine



Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake on Wednesday, August 15, 2007, at 7 PM, during which he presented the document of elevation to Msgr. Milewski.

PCPA again sponsored hospitality favors to all the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit attending the convocation for the priests of the archdiocese at Boyne Highlands in northern Michigan on September 22-27, 2007.

— Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski
Correspondent

Diocese of Fort Wayne

The Diocese of Fort Wayne, founded in 1857, took in all of northern Indiana from Ohio to Illinois. Because of extensive manufacturing jobs available at the turn of the 20th Century, its population was very ethnic; the Gary and South Bend areas were very Polish. The Diocese was split in the 1960s, forming the separate Dioceses of Gary and Fort-Wayne-South Bend.

Fort Wayne-South Bend now has 84 parishes and 89 Diocesan priests. Seven parishes are Polish-founded; six Roman and one National. One closed: St. Hyacinth in Fort Wayne. Gary now has 72 parishes and 154 priests; eight are Polish-founded; three are closed.

The shortage of priests and demographic transition has greatly changed Polish ministry in South Bend. At one time one-third of the City was Polish (about 35,000), with seven parishes, four had large elementary schools. Saint Hedwig, the Mother Parish (founded in 1877) also had a high school.



Today Fort Wayne has no Polish ministry. South Bend has a Polish Mass on the last Sunday of the month at St. Hedwig, conducted by priests and sisters from Chicago-affiliated with Radio Maryja. St. Adalbert Parish (founded 1910) is now the center for Hispanic Ministry for the South Bend area. It has a hybrid Polish Mass on the

third Sunday of the month (with readings and songs in Polish, the Mass in English). St. Stanislaus B.M. (founded 1900), and St. Casimir (founded 1899) Parishes each use some Polish in their hymns and practice Polish customs and traditions, but have no Polish Mass. St. Stanislaus Kostka (founded 1884, a western farm Parish) and St. John Kanty (founded 1890, now in the Diocese of Gary) have no Polish ministry. St. Mary's Polish National Catholic Church (founded 1921) celebrates an English Mass with Polish hymns.

— Con't on p. 8

PAPA BULLETIN is the periodical of the Polish American Priests Association (PAPA). **CORRESPONDENTS** are alphabetical by diocese, except where page space takes precedence. Please send news items, features, and photos to: Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski, Editor, **PAPA BULLETIN**, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, MI 48324

Phone comments to 248-683-0501, or send via e-mail to:

OLChancell@aol.com

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Distribution services courtesy of the Orchard Lake Schools Mailroom, Rev. James K. Mazurek, Vice Chancellor.

Diocese of Fort Wayne

Consolidation under a single pastor has taken place between St. Hedwig and St. Patrick Parishes, between St. Stanislaus B.M. and Holy Cross Parishes, between St. Adalbert and St. Casimir Parishes. There are only two Polish-speaking priests in the Diocese, Rev. Leonard F. Chrobot and Polish-born Rev. Jan Klimczyk, both at St. Hedwig. There are virtually no recent immigrants coming from Poland to this area. Most of the Polish-speakers are post-World War II displaced persons and their children.

Secular Polish activity, however, continues. There are two active Falcon homes and groups: Z.B. Falcons and M.R. Falcons. The Westside of South Bend is known for its Dyngus Celebrations, consisting of a political rally at the Westside Democratic Club and Polka dancing at various clubs and halls. Polish Heritage Month is celebrated in October with a banquet. An Oplatek Dinner is celebrated in January. By far the most popular meal served at weddings and banquets at several Polish halls is the traditional chicken, sausage, noodles, fresh cabbage, mashed potatoes, and green beans.

A detailed study of the South Bend Polonia is contained in Janusz Mucha's *Everyday Life and Festivity in a Local Ethnic Community: Polish-Americans in South Bend, Indiana* (Boulder: East European Monographs), 1996.

Rev. Leonard F. Chrobot, Ph.D.
Correspondent

Archdiocese of Newark

Three deacons who completed their studies at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan were ordained to the Priesthood this spring by Archbishop John J. Myers:

Rev. Robert Gajewski has been assigned to St. Joseph, Oradel, NJ

Rev. Piotr Koziolkiewicz has been assigned to Our Lady of Czestochowa, Harrison, NJ

Rev. Maciej Zajac has been assigned to St. Teresa of Avila, Summit NJ



— Rev. James Spera
Correspondent



Father Gajewski



Father Koziolkiewicz



Father Zajac

Diocese of Greensburg

On Sunday, October 29, 2006, five priests concelebrated at the annual Pielgrzymka Wiary with confessions, Holy Mass in Polish, and Marian Devotions at St. Joseph Church, Uniontown, with newly arrived Poles and Polish-Americans.

Rev. Lawrence Hoppe aired four prepared Advent talks on the weekly Catholic radio program on WMBS, Uniontown. He was also invited by Rev. Joseph Sredzinski to deliver four specially prepared talks for the weekly radio program, **THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE** on WMBS.

In March 2007, Rev. Joseph Sredzinski, national chaplain of the Polish Falcons of America for the past 25 years, received the highest honor in the fraternal organization, the *Gold Medal Legion of Honor* in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to

the organization. A member since 1974, Father Sredzinski also writes a monthly Chaplain's Corner in the SOKOL POLSKI.

Rev. Henry S. Preneta observed the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May

13, 2007. He is retired and living at Neumann House, Greensburg. He joined Rev. Hoppe at St. Stanislaus Church in Calumet for Divine Mercy Sunday with confessions, Mass and Devotions.

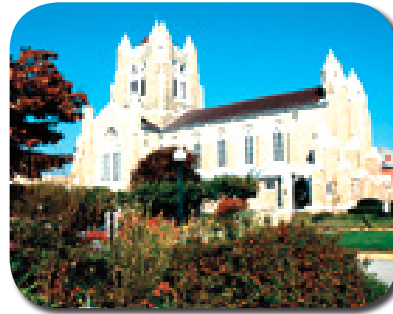
Rev. Paul A. Whalen observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 1, 2007. He is retired and living at Neumann House, Greensburg.

At the 75th anniversary of Polish Day in Kennywood Park near Pittsburgh on August 2, 2007, Rev. Joseph Sredzinski concelebrated Holy Mass and delivered the bilingual homily.

Rev. Dennis Bogusz conducts his weekly polka party radio program over WEDO.

Rev. Joseph Sredzinski was made Canon of the Archdiocese of Lublin in Poland. He led a 14-day pilgrimage to Italy and Poland from July 22 to August 4, 2007.

— Rev. Joseph Sredzinski
Correspondent



There will never be a worthwhile peace, until we find it at the feet of the Prince of Peace.

Diocese of Fall River

Rev. Joseph Blyskosz (ord. 1995) has been appointed by Bishop Coleman as a part-time parochial vicar at St. Anthony of Padua Parish. He has also been assigned as part-time chaplain at St. Luke's hospital. Fr. Joseph was born in Poland and responded to the appeal for seminarians to come to the United States to be formed to serve in U.S. Dioceses. He was ordained a priest in 1995 by Bishop O'Malley. He has gained experience in several parishes of the diocese, but he also served several years as Parochial Vicar in our diocesan mission in Guimaca, Honduras.

Rev. Roman Chwaliszewski, OFM Conv., has been pastor of (Polish) Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church (235 North Front St. New Bedford, MA). Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church merged with St. Casmir Church after the retirement of Fr. Henry Kropiwnicki and closure of another Polish Church St. Hedwig offering one Polish Mass on Sundays. Clubs and organizations of that parish are; the Polish-American Women's Business and Professional Club, Polish-American Women's Citizens Club, Henry Dabrowski Society (Lodge 536 of the Polish National Alliance), Woodrow Wilson Club (PNA Lodge 1667), Maria Sklodowska (PNA Lodge 2715), Adam Mickiewicz Club and Society (Polish Roman Catholic Union 889), White Eagle Polish Workers Aid Group 4, Polish-American World War Veterans Association Inc., Polish-American World War Veterans Auxiliary, Friends of Poland Inc., St. Casimir Seniors, St. Hedwig Seniors and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Seniors.

Rev. Marek Chmurski (Ord. 1995) serves as a Parochial Vicar at Holy Trinity Church in West Harwich. Rev. Chmurski served also at other churches in the diocese including St. Pius X in East Yarmouth, Immaculate Conception in North Easton, Our Lady of Victory in Centerville and Our Lady of Hope in West Barnstable.

Rev. Dariusz Kalinowski, (ord. 1999) has been assigned as Hospital Chaplain and a part-time Parochial Vicar at (Cape Cod) Our Lady of Victory Parish, Centerville. Previously, Rev. Kalinowski ministered at St. Mary's in Mansfield.

Rev. Henry Kropiwnicki (1958) is a retired priest of Fall River Diocese after closure of St Casimir Church in New Bedford.

Rev. Andrzej Kozanko (ord. 2000) has been appointed as Parochial Vicar at St Francis, Hyannis by Bp Coleman. Rev. Kozanko has studied for the priesthood at SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan. He has assisted at several parishes Norte Dame Church and St. Anne's Hospital in the Fall River Diocese during the summers of his seminary years. He is from Lubowo, Poland, where his mother Helena Kozanko, still resides after the death of her husband Czeslaw few years ago.

Rev. Krzysztof Stanibula was ordained in 1995 in Fall River by Bishop Sean P. O'Malley. His father Czeslaw

died in 1998. He has four brothers and mother Janina living in Poland. The oldest brother Ryszard has served three terms in Polish Parliament as a House Representative. Rev. Stanibula received his academic training in Philosophy and Theology at the Catholic University of Lublin in Poland, (1986-90). He later



received his Master of Divinity degree (M. Div.) from Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan, (1995). He also has a Master of Theology degree (Th., M.) from Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Massachusetts which he earned in 2000. Rev. Stanibula previously served as parochial vicar

at various parishes and as a full and part-time Catholic Hospital Chaplain in Fall River and the Attleboro area. Presently he is assigned as Parochial Vicar at St. Anne's Parish in Fall River.

Rev. David Stopyra, OFM Conv. is appointed to Parochial Administrator of St. Jacques Parish in Taunton, while remaining Pastor of Holy Rosary Polish Parish in Taunton. This parish is famous for well attended ANNUAL POLISH PICNIC on 2nd Sunday in August despite relatively small parish.

Rev. Pawel Swiercz (ord. 1994) has served as Parochial Vicar at St. Anne's in Raynham, Our Lady of the Assumption Church. His most recent assignment is at St. Anthony in East Falmouth.

Rev. Marek Tuptynski (ord. 1997) is a Director of Pastoral Care at Fall River Hospitals and Pastor at St. Patrick's Church in Somerset. Previously Rev. Tuptynski ministered at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in New Bedford and Charton Hospital in Fall River.

– Rev. Pawel Swiercz
Correspondent

Diocese of Norwich



On May 22, 2007, Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, D.D., Bishop of Norwich, ordained Rev. Mr. Gregory Jednaki and Rev. Mr. Tomasz Albrecht to the transitional diaconate at St. Joseph Church, Williamantic, Connecticut.

– Rev. Mr. Gregory Jednaki
Correspondent

Archdiocese of Hartford

On November 25, 2006, Daniel Wojtuń was ordained to the transitional diaconate by Archbishop Henry J. Mansell, at Sacred Heart Church, New Britain, where Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk, PAPA president, is pastor.



Father Wojtuń, Archbishop Mansell, and PAPA President Msgr. Plocharczyk

On July 7, 2007, Daniel Wojtuń was ordained a priest at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford by Archbishop Henry J. Mansell. Rev. Wojtuń offered his First Mass on July 8, 2007, at Sacred Heart Church in New Britain. He came from Poland and is a graduate of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Another notable event for the Polonia of Connecticut was the unveiling and blessing of a monument of Pope John Paul II on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church, New Britain, on April 1, 2007. Archbishop Henry J. Mansell blessed the granite statue and shared some thoughts on the life and accomplishments of the late Holy Father with more than one thousand people and Polish organizations present for the ceremony. A committee

was formed from the Polish American community to have a permanent memorial to John Paul II in New Britain. While visiting the United States in 1969, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła visited New Britain, stayed in the rectory, and offered Mass in Sacred Heart Church. The committee thought that the most appropriate location for the statue would be on Sacred Heart Church grounds.

– Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk
Correspondent



Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, pastor of Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, has published the 2007 handsome **POLISH HERITAGE CALENDAR AND DAILY PLANNER**, featuring information about saints, historic events, holidays, and famous Poles. Copies of the 2007 are most probably still available. Call 215-673-8127 to check and you can place your order for the 2008 edition now.

– From Philadelphia, PA



Diocese of Orlando

On May 6, 2007, Bishop Thomas Wenski dedicated the new St. John the Evangelist Parish Life Center in Viera where Holy Cross Father Laurence Olszewski is pastor. St. John the Evangelist Parish was established six years ago with Father Olszewski as the founding pastor and had outgrown its temporary facilities.

– Rev. Laurence Olszewski
Correspondent

Diocese of Pittsburgh

The Fraternity of Polish American Priests of the Diocese of Pittsburgh sponsors three functions every year for the general public:

1. Gorzkie Zale on the fourth Sunday of Lent. This year it was hosted by Rev. Joseph Swierczynski at Immaculate Heart Church, Polish Hill, Pittsburgh.
2. Mass at Kennywood Amusement Park on Polish Day, first Tuesday in August. The choir, under the direction of Dr. Donald Mushalko, is excellent. The congregation of about 800 joins in the singing of Polish hymns.
3. Mercy Devotion in October — all churches are invited. A good congregation usually attends.



The Reverend Msgr. Leon Darkowski celebrated 90 years on June 10, 2007. Msgr. Darkowski is a retired Navy chaplain with the rank of Captain and lives at St. John Vianney Manor.

Rev. Francis A. Majda reached 95 on July 8, 2007, and lives at the Vincentian Nursing Home.

Rev. Zygmunt V. Szarnicki had his 12th book published in April, 2007, entitled, **Fascinating Holy Land and Captivating Jesus Christ**.

Rev. Edward C. Maliszewski died in November, 2006.

— Rev. Zygmunt Szarnicki
Correspondent

[Father Szarnicki, one of the most dedicated and faithful correspondents to the PAPA BULLETIN died on June 3, 2007. One of his last articles is on page 14. Please remember him in your prayers. — Editor]

Diocese of Scranton



After 19 years as pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, Rev. Louis Garbacik, 78, assumed senior priest status on July 6. He will continue to reside in the rectory, will assist at Masses and services, and will assist the new pastor, Msgr. Francis J. Beeda.

— From Scranton, PA

Diocese of Providence

Rev. Canon Frederick Slota, pastor emeritus of St. Adalbert's Church in Providence, was honored by the Polish government on May 2 at an award ceremony and reception at the Polish Consulate in New York City. The **Golden Merit Cross** was presented by Lena Dabkowski-Cichocka on behalf of Polish President Lech Kaczynski. Fr. Slota was honored for his significant contributions to the Rhode Island Polish American Community in the promotion of Polish heritage, tradition and social service. He led in the establishment of the Rhode Island Coordination Committee and Rhode Island Polonia Scholarship Foundation. As pastor of St. Adalbert's, he worked with the church committee in building the parish center and in the renovation of the church for its 100th anniversary. This distinctive Polish award is in gratitude for Fr. Slota's lifelong dedication and service.

Bishop Thomas J. Tobin announced the following assignments:



✦ Rev. Dariusz J. Jonczyk, while continuing as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Central Falls, has been also appointed as Administrator of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Woonsocket.

✦ Rev. Marcin A. Mioduszewski, ordained in June 2007, has been assigned as Assistant Pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Woonsocket.

— Rev. Canon Anthony Iwuć
Correspondent

Diocese of Worcester

Pope Benedict XVI has chosen Msgr. Michael W. Banach, a priest of the Diocese of Worcester, Massachusetts, to be the Vatican's representative to several international agencies based in Vienna, Austria. Msgr. Banach, 44, has served in the Vatican diplomatic corps since 1994, most recently serving in the Vatican Secretariat of State's section for relations with states. Born in Worcester, November 19, 1962, he was ordained to the priesthood July 7, 1988. After

earning his degree in canon law, he entered the Vatican diplomatic corps and served at Vatican embassies in Bolivia and Nigeria before moving to the Secretariat of State.

Rev. Edward Michalski has been appointed as associate pastor at St. Cecilia Parish, Leominster. His former assignment was at St. Aloysius in Gilbertville, and St. Augustine Mission, Wheelwright.

— From Worcester, MA



Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.

In May 2006 and again in November 2006, Rev. Matthew Rzczkowski, OP, of the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C., was a guest lecturer at Wyzsze Seminarium Duchowne Lwowskie, the Latin Rite seminary for Western Ukraine. The official language of instruction is Polish, and so, using a combination of English and Polish, he taught both New Testament and English. In May he offered a mini-course on St. Mark's Gospel, and in November, he gave one workshop on the Infancy Narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel and another on the First Letter of St. John.

With the help of an Italian foundation, the Seminary built and dedicated a brand new library and classroom building. More importantly, seven deacons were ordained to the priesthood in May; this is the largest ordination class in seventy years. In 1946 the communist authorities closed the old seminary in downtown Lwow, but in 1996 the archdiocese was finally able to open a now seminary in the suburb of Briukhovychi.

The Seminary is very dependent on priests coming in from the outside, both priests living in parishes nearby and priests who live and teach in Poland but visit Lwow for a few days or a few weeks at a time. The Seminary would very much appreciate anyone from the States who would be willing to volunteer a little of his time.

Śczęść Boże!

*Rev. Matthew Rzczkowski, OP
Correspondent*



Diocese of Syracuse



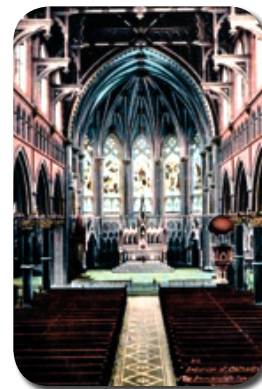
Last December in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, two of our brother priests were recipients of the Papal Title of Monsignor, together with several other diocesan priests.

✦ Right Rev. Msgr. Casimir J. Krzysiak was named Protonotary Apostolic. Msgr. Krzysiak is currently pastor

of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr Parish in Utica. He was a schoolmate of the late Pope John Paul II in Poland and continued their friendship throughout the late Holy Father's papacy.

✦ Pope Benedict XVI has named Father Peter W. Gleba, rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Syracuse, as Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor. Msgr. Gleba has continued to foster the programs and beautification of the minor basilica.

Our Diocese is in the process of parish reconfiguration. We were notified that upon the retirement of Msgr. Krzysiak, the Polish parish of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, will close. To the west in Rome, Transfiguration Parish will merge with St. John the Baptist. This process will be extended over time, accelerated upon the ending of either pastor's term. Transfiguration Parish, founded in 1909, has served the members of Polonia in the eastern region of the Diocese. Holy Trinity Parish in Utica will remain open. Fr. Arthur Hapanowicz has been asked to dialogue with neighboring parishes, especially relating to inner-city ministries. He has been an excellent pastor of his native parish which continues to serve Utica Polonia.



In Syracuse, the Polish parish of the Transfiguration of Our Lord with Fr. Thomas Kobuszewski will merge with its neighboring parish. The processes of merger and closure will have its own timeline.

As pastors of the Polish parishes, we continue to absorb the decisions of our Bishop and will work to facilitate the process with the needs of Polonia in mind at all times. Due to the twin challenges of economics and population in upper New York State, we invoke and trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit through the intercession of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

The presence of priests from Poland serving in the Diocese has been a welcomed addition to our **POLISH LEAGUE OF PRIESTS**. We look forward to more seminarians and priests from Poland to assist and serve in the Diocese of Syracuse.

*– Rev. Mark A. Pasik
Correspondent*



*A Blessed
Thanksgiving
To All Polish
American
Priests And
Our Brother Priests From
Poland, Serving the Church
Here in the United States!*

VOCATIONS STRESSED AT ANNUAL PAPA MEETING

Delegates from throughout the United States met in Cleveland, Ohio, at the annual meeting of the Polish American Priests Association from April 16-20, 2007. The meeting was hosted by the Polish American local priests' association headed by president, Father Eric Orzech, at the downtown Marriott Hotel.

Bishop Robert J. Carlson, Bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw, the keynote speaker at the banquet on Monday, shared his success story on recruiting men to the priesthood and encouraged the priests to make this a priority in their ministry.

During the five-day gathering the Polish American priests attending the annual meeting were treated to visits to the Cleveland diocese's many Polish churches where they concelebrated the Eucharist, prayed, and marveled at the accomplishments of past generation members of Cleveland's Polonia.

Among those making presentations were Rev. Ralph Bodziony of Cleveland; Rev. Czesław Krysa of Buffalo; Ben Stefanski II, Eugene Bąk, David Krakowski, Dr. Mitchell Bienia of Cleveland; and Rev. Leonard F. Chrobot, Ph.D., of Ft. Wayne/South Bend.

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, New Jersey, spoke on the ecclesial dimensions of the Polish parishes' relations among other parishes, with the diocese, the larger Church community, and the Church of Poland.

Cleveland's auxiliary bishops, the Most Rev. A. Edward Pevec and Most Rev. Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., were principal celebrants at two of the Masses while the ordinary of the Diocese of Cleveland, the Most Rev. Richard G. Lennon, was principal celebrant of

the Mass on Thursday at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida of Detroit presided at the Convention Banquet Liturgy. Bishop Thomas Wenski of Orlando, Bishop Thomas Paprocki of Chicago, Bishop John Yanta of Amarillo, and Bishop Francis Reiss of Detroit, were participants at the convention and concelebrants at the various Liturgies.

An icon representing the two great archbishops of Krakow, Poland: St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, and Pope John Paul II, previously blessed by His Eminence Stanisław Cardinal Dziwisz, was ceremoniously installed during vesper services on Wednesday at St. Stanislaus Church in Cleveland.

PAPA delegates heard the reports from the presidents of the various Polish American Priests' organizations from throughout the United States and PAPA's executive officers during the business sessions of the annual meeting. Bishop John Yanta of Amarillo, founder of PAPA, also addressed the delegates.

At the convention banquet held at St. Adalbert Church's Father Keller Center in Berea, Ohio, His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida presented Father Ralph Bodziony with the **2007 FATHER LEOPOLD MOCZYGEMBA AWARD**, the highest award of PAPA, for his lifetime of service to Polonia and the Church of Cleveland.

Bishop Thomas Wenski invited PAPA for its 19th Annual Meeting to Orlando, Florida, March 31-April 4, 2008 while the Polish Priests Association of Brooklyn announced its invitation to host the 2009 convention there.

— Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski
Correspondent



*Whom have you
asked today
to consider
becoming a Priest?*



Polish National Catholic-Roman Catholic Dialogue Held; Focus On Current Relationship and Validity of PNCC Sacraments

WASHINGTON (June 18, 2007) —The spring session of the Polish National Catholic-Roman Catholic dialogue took place on May 30 and 31, 2007, at the Four Points Sheraton hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was hosted by the PNCC, and organized by the Very Rev. John Z. Kraus, pastor of St. Mary's parish in West Allis, Wisconsin. The meeting was co-chaired by Bishop Edward U. Kmiec of Buffalo, and by Bishop Anthony Mikovsky of the PNCC Central Diocese. This was the first meeting co-chaired by Bishop Mikovsky, who was ordained to the episcopate on November 30, 2006. The session was also attended by Auxiliary Bishop Richard J. Sklba of Milwaukee, Chairman of the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

The main focus of this meeting was the current relationship between the two churches, and a review of the correspondence with the Holy See since 1991 concerning the validity of PNCC sacraments, sacramental sharing, and the extent to which the Catholic Church considers the PNCC to be in the same state as the Orthodox churches in these and other matters. The members were encouraged by the general direction of these discussions, which was brought forward by the dialogue's Joint Declaration on Unity of May 2006. There was a consensus that the Joint Declaration has created a new context in which further incremental steps towards unity might be explored. The full text of the Joint Declaration is available on the USCCB website at:



<http://www.usccb.org/seia/jointdeclaration.shtml>

In addition, the members heard a presentation by Msgr. John Strynkowski of the document issued earlier this year by the International Theological Commission, *THE HOPE OF SALVATION FOR INFANTS WHO DIE WITHOUT BEING BAPTIZED*. The text resonated with the PNCC delegation, since their church has always taught that unbaptized children can be saved.

Later in the same session, Rev. Ronald G. Roberson, CSP, Associate Director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the USCCB, offered a brief overview of the new book by Cardinal Walter Kasper, *A Handbook of Spiritual Ecumenism*. The cardinal's book offers a host of ways in which the churches can express the unity shared in various forms of spiritual activity. There was also a discussion of the new English translation of the Roman liturgy that is being prepared by the Holy See.

The next meeting of the dialogue is scheduled to take place in Buffalo, New York, on September 25 and 26, 2007. The dialogue between the Polish National Catholic Church and the Roman Catholic Church has been meeting semiannually since 1984. The present PNCC members include Bishop Anthony Mikovsky (Co-Chairman), Bishop John E. Mack, Very Rev. Marcell W. Pytlarz, Very Rev. John Z. Kraus, Very Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, and Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich, Jr. **The Roman Catholic participants include Bishop Edward U. Kmiec (Co-Chairman), Bishop Thomas G. Wenski, Msgr. John Strynkowski, Msgr. Thomas J. Green, Rev. Phillip Altavilla, and Rev. Ronald G. Roberson, CSP (staff).**

— From USCCB



MAY GOD BLESS US IN HIS MERCY

by † Rev. Zygmunt Szarnicki

Have you ever counted your blessings? Is it not true that we think more about our problems, our sicknesses, our misfortunes, our failures? Perhaps it is time for us to count our blessings.

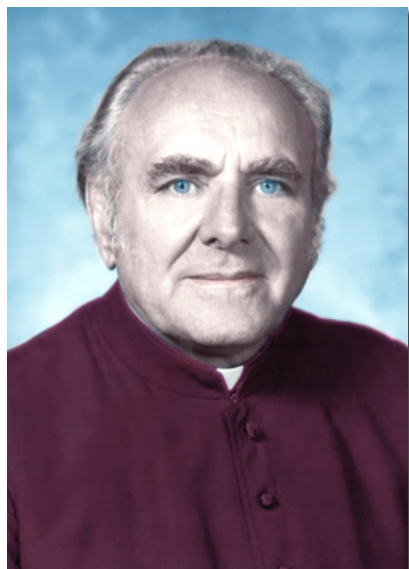
As we begin a new day, let us let bygone things be bygone. That is water over the dam. Yesterday and last year and what happened then are history. We are in a New Year, a year of hope, a year of expectancy, a year of a bright future. This future we can make for ourselves if we just think what God has done for us and what He expects from us and we expect from Him.

St. Paul reminds us that we are no longer slaves, but sons and daughters of God . . . we are heirs of God's glory. All this was made by Jesus taking upon Himself our human nature and elevating our human nature into His divine nature. We were by God's design given a new birth by water and the Spirit. We were given the privilege to eat His body and drink His blood. We were freed from the shackles of sin by the Mercy of God Who established the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

More blessings were given to us by Jesus for He gave His blessed Mother to us as our Mother. She accepted her role as His Mother and our Mother. She took care of Our Lord and she takes care of us. Look how she appears in the world to guide us and lead us to her Son. She intercedes for us with her Son and with the Father.

We are blessed because we have Faith in God, we have Hope in God, we have Love in our hearts for God and for our soul and for all people. We are blessed because we have an all merciful and good God, we have our Savior as our friend. We have the Holy Spirit to give us eternal life. We have the Blessed Mother to stand at our side.

Let us count our blessings. Let us look ahead for there are many blessings for us to come. May we have a year of good health, much love given and received, and a year of deep consolation. With cheerfulness we look forward to a blessed year, a good year, a year where we will feel every blessing of God. May our friendship abound. May our hearts be generous. May God fill us with confidence, good cheer and assurance that we will have life with Him in eternity. May God grant us peace in mind in our homes and in the world. When the time comes when God calls, may we have the greatest blessings ever and this eternal bliss with our God.



In Loving Memory

Msgr. Zdzisław J. Peszkowski

BORN: AUGUST 23, 1918

ORDAINED: JUNE 5, 1954

DIED: OCTOBER 8, 2007

Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski, who was a member of the Orchard Lake Schools Faculty since his ordination on June 5, 1954, died on October 8, 2007, at the age of 89, in Warsaw Poland.

Msgr. Peszkowski's funeral was held at the Cathedral of St. John in Old Town, Warsaw, on Tuesday, October 16, 2007. Burial followed in the lower crypt of the Shrine of the Providence of God in Wilanów, outside of Warsaw.

A Memorial Mass for Msgr. Peszkowski was offered on Wednesday, October 24, 2007, in the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake in Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Kindly remember Msgr. Peszkowski in your prayers.

A Plea From The Treasurer

There are approximately 2500 Polish American/Polish Priests who receive our **PAPA BULLETIN**. Sending individual dues reminders is a costly proposition. Priests who are not members of a Polish Priests Association within their diocese are requested to send in their 2008 due of:

\$25

*To: Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski
3535 Indian Trail*

Orchard Lake, Michigan 48324

Diocesan organizations of Polish priests are requested to send in their membership dues of:

\$20 per member

as soon as possible after January 1, 2008.

Thank You for Your Promptness!

Bóg zapłać!

*– Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski
PAPA National Treasurer*



Archbishop Życinski Appoints Father Sredzinski Lublin Honorary Canon

His Excellency, Archbishop Joseph Życinski of Lublin, Poland, appointed Rev. Joseph Sredzinski, currently resident chaplain to the Benedictine Sisters at St. Emma's Monastery and Retreat House, weekend chaplain at Westmoreland Manor, and Chaplain at the State Correctional Institute near Greensburg, Pennsylvania, as Honorary Canon.

In his letter of appointment, Archbishop Życinski acknowledged Father Sredzinski's merits and expressed gratitude for his pastoral work and priestly service, his kindness to his fellow priests, as well as his assistance to the Archdiocese of Lublin, and his involvement in service to the universal Church, especially in Polish communities.

Canon Sredzinski will receive the insignia of his appointment at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, D.C., in October during Archbishop Życinski's visit to the nation's capitol.

Thoughts for Thanksgiving

The Attitude of Beatitude is Gratitude.

– Bishop Robert Brom, Diocese of San Diego

Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour the mill;
Back of the mill is the wheat, and the shower,
and the sun, and the Father's will.

– Author Unknown

Thanksgiving is good; *thanksgiving* is better.

You'll be thankful, if your are *thankful*.

Let us thank God and take courage.

Get out of Grumble Lane and live on Thanksgiving Street.

– Moody

To give thanks sincerely one must give more than thanks.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us, lest we forget, lest we forget.

– Kipling



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President, Archdiocese of Hartford

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Honorary President, Bishop of Amarillo, TX

His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida
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Rev. Wojciech Reisch, Archdiocese of San Antonio

Rev. Msgr. Anthony Czarnecki (Ex-Officio)

Diocese of Worcester

Polish Apostolate Representative to USCCB



– PAPA WEBSITE COMING IN DECEMBER –

PAPA Board Members have voted to join the world of cyberspace. A website is planned for mid-December at:

WWW.POLISHAMERICANPRIESTSASSOCIATION.ORG

On the site, which will be launched in December, will be the current **PAPA BULLETIN**, as well as previous editions, current board members and their contact information, as well as other pertinent announcements important to PAPA members.

With a unanimous vote, Msgr. Milewski, PAPA Treasurer and **BULLETIN** Editor, was directed to move forward with his proposal to establish the PAPA website. Once the site is *live*, members may send Msgr. Milewski emails of content or links they would like to recommend for posting.

PAPA will have a link to the Vatican website as well as to select Polish Catholic organizations. Just a little Christmas present from your PAPA Board. Mark the date and visit next month.

