

# NARÓD POLSKI Polish Nation

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## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST LEADERS 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF KAROL WOJTYŁA'S BIRTHDAY

Karol Wojtyła - Saint John Paul II has a special place in the history of Poland, Europe and the world, and in the hearts of Poles around the world.

Karol Józef Wojtyła was born on May 18, 1920 in Wadowice, a small town southwest of Kraków in Poland. He was the son of Karol, a lieutenant and clerk in the Polish Army and Emilia (nee Kaczorowska). The Wojtyłas had two other children, a daughter Olga, who died in infancy before Karol was born, and a son Edmund, who was 13 years older than Karol, became a physician and died in 1932 of scarlet fever. His mother died in 1929 when Karol was only 8 years old.

The family were devout Catholics. Karol was baptized at St. Mary's Church in Kraków on June 20, 1920. He received his first communion on May 25, 1929 and was confirmed by Archbishop Adam Stefan Sapieha on May 3, 1938.

In 1926, he began his education at the local elementary school in Wadowice and in the fall of 1930, he entered the Marcin Wadowita State Secondary School, an all-boys junior high school. All throughout his elementary and high school education, Karol was an avid and talented student and athlete, interested in literature, theater and languages.

In 1938, Karol graduated high school in Wadowice and in the summer of that year, the Wojtyłas moved to Kraków, where he enrolled at the Jagiellonian University and intended to study philology and languages. The university was closed after World War II broke out on Sep-

tember 1, 1939. Karol continued his education by taking underground studies and worked as a manual laborer in a limestone quarry to avoid deportation.

During the first years of war, his spiritual life took shape and his priesthood vocation began to form. He was also deeply immersed in his second passion - the theater (which was also active underground) and wrote several dramatic plays. The theater nurtured his stage presence and his love for poetry.

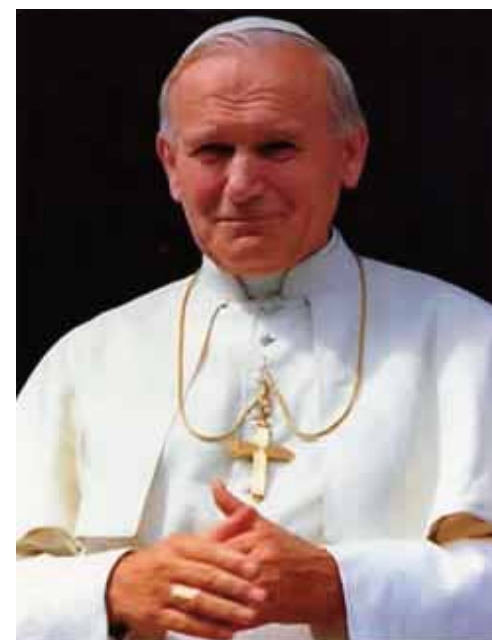
On February 18, 1941 Karol Wojtyła lost his only living relative, his father, who died of a heart attack.

In 1942, Karol decided to enter the underground seminary in Kraków. He was ordained to the priesthood on November 1, 1946 by Cardinal Sapieha, Archbishop of Kraków.

After his ordination, he was sent to Rome to study at the Angelicum University for advanced Church teaching, where he spent two years and graduated with honors, upon which he returned to Poland in the June of 1948. In July, he received his first pastoral assignment as assistant pastor of in the village of Niegowic near Kraków.

In December 1948, Karol Wojtyła received his Doctorate in Theology from the Jagiellonian University.

In the spring of 1949, Wojtyła was transferred to the parish of Saint Florian in Kraków. In the early 1950s, he taught ethics at Jagiellonian University and later obtained a professorship at the Catholic University of Lublin (KUL).



During his studies and the first years of his priesthood, Wojtyła wrote poems, plays and articles on Church affairs, faith, religion and other topics that were published in *Tygodnik Powszechny*.

On July 4, 1958 Karol Wojtyła was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the Kraków Archdiocese by Pope Pius XII, making him the youngest bishop in Poland. He was consecrated on Sept. 28, 1958 at the Wawel Cathedral.

On July 16, 1959, Wojtyła was selected as Vicar Capitular (temporary administrator) of the Archdiocese.

In 1962, Bishop Wojtyła attended the Second Vatican Council, where he was a highly involved participant, making numerous interventions, made compelling recommendations on several decrees and made a significant contribution to the drafting of the *Dignitatis humanae* Declaration (Declaration on Religious Freedom) and the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes* (Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World). (Continued on pg. 4)



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All PRCUA events scheduled for May have been cancelled or postponed due to the concerns for the safety of our members and public exposure restrictions associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Please check your local PRCUA Districts, Societies and schools for updates. Further information will be available on the PRCUA website: [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org).

## MAY

3 POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY

10 MOTHER'S DAY (USA)

25 MEMORIAL DAY - THE PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.

26 MOTHER'S DAY (POL)

Members of St. John Paul II Society #1593 interested in receiving updates on the 100th Anniversary of St. John Paul II celebration, scheduled for May 17 at St. Anne Church, 32000 Mound Rd., in Warren, MI, please contact Wally Ozog, at 586-519-3775.

## JUNE

1 DEADLINE FOR PRCUA SCHOLARSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

4 ST. STAN'S SOC. #718 SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE DRAWING

5 PMA SUMMER GALA - GALA IS POSTPONED TO AUGUST 28.

11 CORPUS CHRISTI

14 FLAG DAY

20 SUMMER BEGINS

21 FATHER'S DAY (USA)

23 FATHER'S DAY (POLAND)

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Polish Museum of America and the PMA Library will stay closed to the general public until further notice. The safety, health, and welfare of PMA staff, volunteers and guests is our priority.

Thank you for your continued support.



May 3rd Polish Constitution - A Governance Act (*Ustawa Rządowa*), adopted by the Grand Sejm (parliament) of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth on May 3, 1791, was Europe's first and the world's second modern codified national constitution.

During the Saxon dynasty, Poland became a protectorate of Russia. By the early 17th century, the magnates of Poland and Lithuania were in near-total control of the commonwealth, looking after their own interests while neglecting the commonwealth.

From the beginning of the 18th century, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth had declined from the status of a major European power and various ideas of political reforms arose in the commonwealth. Russian influence and King Stanisław II Augustus's submission to the demands of Russian Empress Catherine the Great caused growing disappointment and opposition from the Polish magnates. On August 5, 1772, in St. Petersburg, Russia, the three neighboring powers - Russia, Prussia and Austria - signed the First Partition treaty.

Supported by King Stanisław August, new reforms were introduced: establishment of a Commission of National Education (*Komisja Edukacji Narodowej*), the Commonwealth's military was modernized; a standing army was formed, the peasants were given some rights, and some economic and commercial reforms were introduced.

Between 1788 and 1792, the The Great Sejm (*Sejm Wielki* or *Sejm Czteroletni*) of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was held in Warsaw. Its principal goal was to restore sovereignty to, and reform, the Commonwealth politically and economically. The Sejm established the May 3rd Constitution.

The May 3rd Constitution was designed to change Commonwealth's traditional system of "Golden Liberty". Eleven articles of the Constitution abolished *liberum veto*, a veto exercised by a single member of a legislative body, and permanently established the principle of majority rule. It also limited the rights of land councils, introduced the separation of powers (into legislative, executive and judicial), hereditary monarchy, legal protection over peasants, and the middle class.

The May 3rd, 1791, Constitution remained in effect for only a year before being overthrown by Russian armies.



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**As the school year ends, we applaud all PRCUA Members!**

**Bravo! Congratulations!**

**Good Job!**

**Way to Go!**

**Yay!**

**Well Done!**

**Stay Safe!**

**2019 2020**



FROM THE PRCUA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## CELEBRATING THE LIFE...

(Continued from page 1)

On January 13, 1964, Pope Paul VI appointed Bishop Wojtyła as Archbishop of Kraków - the installation ceremony took place on March 8, 1964.

On June 26, 1967, Archbishop Wojtyła was elevated to cardinal by Pope Paul VI and was named Cardinal-Priest of the titulus of San Cesareo church in Rome. He received his biretta at the ceremony in the Sistine Chapel on June 28, 1967.

In the early 1970s, Wojtyła was instrumental in organizing the Pastoral Synod of the Archdiocese of Kraków (1972-1979). The synod produced numerous recommendations which changed the life of the diocese.

After the death of Pope Paul VI on August 6, 1978, Cardinals Wyszyński and Wojtyła attended the Conclave, which opened on August 25 and elected Pope John Paul I. John Paul's I papacy lasted only one month, until his sudden death of a heart attack on September 29, 1978.

Again, the two Polish cardinals traveled to Vatican City to elect a new head of the Roman Catholic Church. Conclave II began on October 14. There was a presumption that the next Pope might not be Italian. Wojtyła's name had already been presented at Conclave I. The cardinals considered Wojtyła a highly respected and talented man, but also stipulated that the election of the pope from a communist country would be a great threat, because it could lead to a conflict with the Soviet leaders. On the other hand, some of them believed that choosing the next pope from Poland could establish cooperation between east and west.

On October 16, 1978, the College of Cardinals chose Karol Wojtyła to be the 264th bishop of Rome. He chose the name John Paul II to honor his three immediate predecessors.

He was the first non-Italian Pope in 455 years and the first slavic pope ever. Unknown to the Italians and most of the world, John Paul II immediately began to win their approval and hearts with a shy but friendly demeanor, and by speaking to them in their native languages when he entered the basilica and spoke his first greetings.

The Papal inauguration took place on October, 22, 1978.

He was the 264th bishop of Rome, second-



John Paul II making his first appearance after the election

longest documented pontiff (for over 26 years) from 1978 until his death in 2005.

Pope John Paul II committed himself to service to the people. He dealt with such issues as world peace and the welfare of humankind, freedom of religious worship, freedom of the press and basic human rights. He took on the role of world leader through a human approach - teaching and traveling throughout the world with apostolic journeys which carried his message to the faithful in the most direct way.

During his pontificate, Pope John Paul II made 104 international trips and visited 130 countries. He also made 95 pilgrimages in Italy. His first pilgrimage to Poland in June of 1979 was, according to some historians, a breakthrough which initiated the collapse of the communist system.

He declared 482 saints during his papacy, more than his predecessors did in the past five hundred years, beatified 1,338 people, and created 232 cardinals. He wrote 14 encyclicals, 14 apostolic exhortations, 11 apostolic constitutions, 42 apostolic letters and numerous others, and five books which are revered by churches all around the world.

John Paul II established a dialogue with Jews and Muslims and built harmonious relations with multiple nations during his papacy (Russian Federation and the Palestine Liberation Organization, among others.) At present, the Vatican has diplomatic relations with 174 countries (there were 85 at the beginning of his pontificate).

He was the first pope to visit the White House, address the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, visit Cuba and the first modern pope to visit a synagogue.

He taught the world about love and forgive-

ness. In 1983, John Paul II visited Mehmet Ali Ağca in prison. They had a private conversation, and Pope forgave him for his assassination attempt on May 13, 1981, in St. Peter's square in Vatican City. As he was entering the square, the Pope was wounded by Ağca.

In 2000, John Paul II formally apologized for the Church's past errors.

Pope John Paul II died in the Apostolic Palace at 9:37 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2005.

His funeral took place on April 8, 2005 in St. Peter's Square. 140 Cardinals, 10 royalty leaders, 200 past and present presidents and prime ministers, leaders from Eastern Orthodox and Protestant Churches as well as representatives and heads from Judaism, Islam and Buddhism, numerous dignitaries from 18 multilateral organizations, 15 religious movements, and an estimated two million pilgrims from 112 countries filled St. Peter's Square and the streets adjacent to the square to attend this Mass. The Mass was the first Mass of Requiem for a pope to be televised live in almost every nation in the world. John Paul II was buried in a crypt under Saint Peter's Basilica.

In May of 2005, Pope Benedict XVI waived the wait period for review for beatification and canonization of John Paul II (customary time is at least five years after death), and on May 1, 2011, John Paul II was beatified.

On July 5, 2011, the Vatican announced that Pope John Paul II would be made a saint. Pope John Paul II was raised to sainthood together with Pope John XXIII in a joint canonization ceremony on April 27, 2014.

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland established the year 2020 as the Year of Saint John Paul II.



Visit of Pope John Paul II in Chicago in October, 1979 (photo: Paul Pawlowski)



Cardinal Karol Wojtyla visiting the PRCUA Home Office and the PMA in September, 1969





# Happy Polish Constitution Day!



# MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> PARADE flashback with PRCUA





# ST. STAN'S SOCIETY #718 ONE GAME KNOCKOUT (1GKO)

By Ed & Janet Rys



Winners: Dennis Rocheleau ("Blackjack"), Barb Ozog, Kevin Bak

Redford, MI – On March 7, St. Stan's Society #718 held its 18th Annual Bowling One Game Knockout (1GKO) at Mayflower Lanes in Redford, MI. The tournament and dinner were open to members from all societies as well as family and friends of members. We would like to thank all of those who participated.

The men's fifth and final round saw Greg Kendziorek and Kevin Bak fighting for the championship. Kevin Bak was the victor! For the women, Barb Ozog and Jaime Cantrell fought for the championship and tied! The final decision was made by a roll-off with Barb Ozog winning by 1 pin.

In addition to the bracket play there was a chance for someone to win a "Blackjack (21 Pin)" challenge. Each participant was given the chance to knock down exactly 21 pins in 3 balls. Every bowler, except those in the championship round, was able to attempt a "Blackjack." 6 bowlers who hit 21 participated in a roll off for the winnings. Dennis Rocheleau was the only bowler to roll a Strike to win. A big thank you to Ultra Aluminum

for sponsoring the "Blackjack" challenge.

Thanks go out to Barbara Bak, Renee Szlag, Rob Szlag, Donna Gdowski, Diane Mack and Frank Nasiatka for handling the jackpots, 50/50 raffles, Lucky Strike, and "Blackjack", but mostly for their help in keeping the day running smoothly. Also, thank you to those volunteers who jumped in and helped in any other way.

We hope to see everyone again next year. Remember that ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS are invited as well, so spread the word that a great time was had by all!



Winners and runner-up: Greg Kendziorek, Janet Rys, Barb Ozog, Ed Rys, Kevin Bak (missing Jaime Cantrell)

## POLISH NEWS BYTES

Robert Strybel,  
Warsaw Correspondent

**Poles celebrate pandemic-era Easter and spring** - Even the oldest Poles could not recall another Easter as weird and unreal as that of 2020. All the religious traditions of Lent and Easter had to be experienced vicariously via television and the net. For the first time, families did not take Easter baskets to church for the traditional blessing, and only those living under the same roof were allowed to share the traditional Easter meal. Poles who usually visited relatives over the holidays were told to stay home this year. "The COVID-19 pandemic has required all of us to change our living habits," Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki wrote on Facebook shortly before Easter. In order to limit the spread of the coronavirus, First Holy Communions normally held in May have also been postponed.

**Some 55,000 Poles return home for Easter** - When Poland closed its borders to foreigners on March 15th in an attempt to curb the spread of COVID-19, Polish citizens were ex-

empted. Under an agreement between the Polish government and Polish LOT Airlines, special flights were arranged to bring home any Poles stranded abroad and wishing to return. Some 55,000 have availed themselves of the opportunity. All passengers returning to Poland have their temperature taken and then have to undergo a mandatory 14-day quarantine. It was not immediately known how many had been working abroad and decided to call it quits, were taken by surprise by the border closure while traveling or simply wanted to spend Easter with their families.

**Remote lawmaking – a sign of things to come?** - When the Sejm passed the government's stimulus package to save jobs and prevent bankruptcies, it did so in a hitherto unprecedented, partially remote manner. During the session, most lawmakers were physically absent, and those who did show up in person were loosely scattered over 11 different halls of parliament. Most took part in the proceedings electronically from their offices or homes. The legislation was debated,

as always by MPs seen on monitor screens followed by voting. The proceedings took somewhat longer than usual during the initial trial run, but the legislation was passed. It comprises incentives and assistance totaling 212 billion zlotys (over 5 billion dollars). Some politicians wonder whether remote lawmaking would continue after the pandemic-linked precautions are lifted.

**EC head praises Polish medics for helping virus-plagued Italy** - Poland was among the countries singled out for praise by European Commission's German chairman Ursula von der Leyen for its solidarity in the battle against the coronavirus. She expressed her gratitude on Twitter for "the surge of compassion" spreading across Europe, while noting that it had experienced "a slow start." Poland was one of the few European countries that swiftly reacted to the health threat. The EC chief acknowledged the help a Polish medical team was providing to Italy's overworked and understaffed healthcare sector in Lombardy, the world's major coronavirus hub. She also took note of assistance from the Czech Republic and Austria to Spain as well as the German hospitals that have been treating Italian patients. The Euro-

pean Commission is the European Union's executive or actual "government."

**"Buy Polish" campaign to aid farmers and economy** - Polish President Andrzej Duda and Agriculture Minister Jan Krzysztof Ardowski have launched a campaign urging shoppers to consciously buy Polish food products. Its purpose is to help Poland's cash-strapped farmers, save jobs in the food-processing industry and aid the country's overall economy after the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic broke down supply chains and idled food exports. "We call on everyone to check the country of production on goods when shopping and select those produced in Poland," the President said. "Buying Polish products supports our economic development, the struggle against the crisis and our entrepreneurs." Food processed in Poland is marked with a code starting with the numerals 590.

**Gasoline drops to unprecedented \$3.20 a gallon in Poland** - With people not driving to work, taking trips, driving kids to school and in general using their cars less than ever before because of the pandemic, the world is awash (Cont. on pg. 7)

# PGSA APPEALS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Do you have a little or a lot of free time on your hands? Do you like to organize things: books, your pantry, your genealogy or parties?

If so, the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA) is in need of volunteers. Won't you please consider volunteering? Without volunteers, PGSA cannot exist. People from all over the country can help; you don't need to live in the Chicagoland area. These are not lifelong commitments, but would provide satisfaction to both you and members of the society.

PGSA can not help others without YOU!

Volunteers throughout the year, if you live locally:

1. Library Chair - Work in the Polish Museum of America (PMA) library fulfilling research and obituary requests and answering inquiries from researchers.

2. Library Volunteer - Help answer genealogical inquiries (something that can also be done from home).

3. Hospitality Greeter - Greet attendees at one or more of our general quarterly meetings. These are usually the 3rd Sunday of February, May, August, and November, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at a library in and around Chicago.

4. Quarterly Program Chair - Work with 4-5 libraries around Chicago, finding topics/speakers for our

quarterly meetings. Programs for 2020 have already been determined, consequently, you would be working on programs for 2021.

5. Conference Chair - Responsible for overseeing the planning and execution of the PGSA conference (detailed information available).

6. Volunteer Coordinator - Find individuals interested in working for the society in a volunteer capacity, matching their skills to an appropriate job/function as needed.

Volunteers needed throughout the year, residing anywhere.

1. Website help - If you're familiar with Word Press, help with uploading, updating articles on the PGSA website (not the webmaster).

2. Genealogy Notebook (e-newsletter) help either by finding articles of interest, writing an article or two and/or pulling it all together and posting.

3. Website Chair - Gathers information from board members that needs to be placed on the website, and communicate to the Webmaster.

4. Media Chair Assistant - Help process orders from our on-line bookstore (detailed information available).

If anything catches your eye and you'd like more information, don't hesitate to contact Debbie Greenlee, PGSA Board member, at: daveg@airmail.net

## POLISH NEWS BYTES (Cont. from pg. 6)

with petroleum. Suppliers are storing the unsold fuel and don't know what to do with the excess. In Poland, the price of a gallon of gasoline plunged on average to \$3.61 a gallon, and some stations were filling car tanks at an unheard-of price of only \$3.20. Prior to the outbreak, Polish motorists were paying \$4.51 and more per gallon. Normally motorists would welcome such budget prices, except now they have no place to go and many cars rarely leave the garage. For their part, Polish refiners have begun producing anti-coronavirus disinfectants.

**Arbitration court orders Russians to pay Poland's PGNiG \$1.5 billion-** Poland's largest gas distributor PGNiG has emerged victorious in its litigation with Russian gas giant Gazprom. The Stockholm-based international court of arbitration said in a ruling that the price of gas in the Yamal Contract failed to reflect market prices and overcharged the Polish company. Gazprom was ordered to pay PGNiG \$1.5 billion. Warsaw sees its latest victory as a vital sign that proves its long-standing policy of reducing reliance on Russian-sourced gas. Poland is expanding its Liquid Natural Gas facilities and is building a pipeline to import Norwegian gas which should enable Warsaw to scrap Russian gas when its deal with Gazprom expires in 2022.



Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States celebrated on the last Monday of May commemorating men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Originally known as the Declrved in memory of the soldiers who died in the Civil War, and was celebrated by placing flowers on the graves of the soldiers.

Annual celebrations began in the town of Waterloo, NY in 1866 and the town is recognized as the "Birthplace of Memorial Day."

New York was the first state to designate Memorial Day a legal holiday in 1873, followed by other north-

ern states. The South didn't adopt the May 30 Memorial Day holiday until after World War I.

After World War I, the nature of the holiday changed to honor the memory of all Americans who died in any war.

In 1971, the U.S. Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Monday in May.

On December 28, 2000, President Bill Clinton signed the "National Moment of Remembrance Act," which designates 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day each year as the National Moment of Remembrance.

## Polish music giant succumbs to long illness at 86

### KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI (1933-2020)

By Robert Strybel,  
Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW—World culture sustained an irreparable loss recently with the death of Polish music giant Krzysztof Penderecki. A prolific composer, dynamic conductor and charismatic professor who educated several generations of music students, he died following a prolonged illness in his adopted hometown of Kraków at the age of 86. Up to his death, Penderecki was widely regarded as one of the world's greatest living composers.

A master of large, often monumental musical forms, Penderecki's speciality were oratorios, symphonies and operas. The oratorio "Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke" (1966), his greatest religious-themed work, ranked among his best-known compositions. Other works honored the victims of Hiroshima, Auschwitz and Katyn. He also produced numerous smaller sacred and secular works including choral pieces, concertos and chamber music.

Penderecki, whose creativity defined the Polish music scene in the latter half of the 20th century and into the 21st, without a doubt ranks among such Polish musical greats as Chopin, Moniuszko, Paderewski, Szymanowski, Lutosławski and Górecki.

Although mainly regarded as a representative of high musical culture, Penderecki also contributed to popular mass entertainment and was the favorite composer of horror-film directors. His wild, terrifying and haunting music greatly enhanced such Hollywood movies as The Exorcist, Inland Empire, The Shining and Shutter Island.

A recipient of Poland's highest distinction, the Order of the White Eagle, the Polish maestro had brilliantly conducted some of the world's major symphony orchestras. He won a Grammy on four separate occasions as well as as many other prestigious prizes and held numerous honorary doctorates from European and American universities. Penderecki's recent death marked the end of an era of contemporary music. May He Rest in Peace!



# 86<sup>TH</sup> PRCUA NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The 86th PRCUA National Basketball Tournament was held in Muskegon, MI over the weekend of March 7, 2020.

The weekend started off Friday night with a meet and greet hosted by PRCUA Society #78 Vice President Jay Jurkas, his wife Julie, and a host of Muskegon players, while some members were present at the Fish Fry held at the Polish Union Hall.

The 50 and Over division began early the next morning, followed by an opening ceremony led by PRCUA National President James Robaczewski. President Robaczewski welcomed all gathered for this tournament and led in the singing of the national anthems of Poland and the United States.

The 50 and Over championship game took place shortly after lunch between St. Stan's 718 Red and St. Stan's 718 Blue. St Stan's 718 Blue won the Championship. The Men's Open division started around 10:00 in the morning and after a lot of bas-

ketball, the championship game was between P.R.C.U. #162 and St. Stan's 718 Family. St. Stan's 718 Family were victorious and won the championship. After a long day of basketball, a banquet was held at Society #78 Polish Union Hall in Muskegon, MI with an awards ceremony, live music, and a delicious Polish meal prepared by Society #78 President Frank Swiatek and his crew. Congratulations to Mike Muranski, the MVP of the tournament, and all the following All Stars: Thomas Rudy (P.R.C.U. #162), Justin Kennert (Muskegon #78), Marco Radjenovic (Taskforce), Steven Moser (St. Stan's 718 Boomba Boys), Maxwell Hojnacki (St. Stan's 718 Dare Bar), Daniel Newell (St. Stan's 718 Family), David Butka (St. Stan's 718 Red), Paul Mardeusz (St. Stan's 718 White), and John Belczak (St. Stan's 718 Blue).

See you all at the next year's PRCUA National Basketball Tournament hosted by Society #718!

*Additional photos on next page.*



Champions - Men's Open - St. Stan's 718 Family



Men's Open - St. Michael's #78



Men's Open - St. Stan's 718 Boomba Boys



Men's Open - St. Stan's 718 Dare Bar



Men Over 50 - St. Stan's 718 White



Men Over 50 - St. Stan's 718 Blue



Men Over 50 - St. Stan's 718 Red





Men's Open - PRCU #162



Men's Open - Taskforce

## PRCUA GWIAZDA DANCERS' LATEST HAPPENINGS

By Nicholas J. Nowakowski,  
Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus



The last couple of months have been quite challenging. Like the rest of the world, the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers have been staying safe and staying at home. As a result, our dance lives have been put on hold. However, we've done our best to stay active with our dance family, and active in the community.

Before the implementation of Michigan's Executive Order on March 23, Gwiazda had some regular events. On February 29, the group performed at the annual Polish Folk Festival in Troy, MI. On March 6, Gwiazda parents attended the annual Empty Bowls fundraiser.

On March 8, Gwiazda, along with several other PRCUA Michigan dance groups participated in the annual Detroit Red Wings Polish Heritage Night.

On March 15, Gwiazda mom Aimee Chambers Baranski coordinated a craft workshop to make memory books for the group's 60th anniversary.

Things changed a lot in the following weeks. As a result of COVID-19, our dress rehearsal and 60th Anniversary recital were cancelled (we plan to celebrate 60 next year though) as well as a number of performances (from March and going into the summer).

Despite the changes, we've found ways to keep everyone together. There have been several

Zoom meetings (even one where trophies were presented virtually). There's also been lots of sharing of folk-themed items through various social media sites. Gwiazda's choreographer, Basia Nowakowski started a photo essay on Facebook called "60 days of Gwiazda" where she shares a photo or memory about the ensemble. The group has also been very active in collecting items and money to donate to frontline medical workers at local hospitals.

We hope that everyone continues to stay safe and healthy. We thank all first responders, frontline medical personnel, and essential workers. We look forward to being able to return to the dance floor and spread our love of Polish folk to our audiences. In the meantime, we invite you to like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter (@PRCUA\_Gwiazda).







## The Open Door Otwarte Drzwi

Micheline "Misia" Jaminski

Vice President | wiceprezes  
micheline-jaminski@prcua.org

A world of "movers and shakers" has been brought to an abrupt halt by a faceless enemy who promises to introduce a new normal. Although our primary concern is and must be for the sick, dying and those on the front lines, we who have been spared being touched physically by this faceless enemy must take on our roles as the "movers and shakers" of our own families. As human beings, we have inundated our daily routines with so much purpose that to be stopped dead in our tracks leaves confusion and fear to take center stage in our lives. Once we take a moment to steady ourselves, we shift into survival mode, allowing for action, compassion, understanding and hope in ourselves, in our neighbors and friends, the medical and science experts, and in the mandates of our government. "We are in this together" is the motto of the moment and each of us can do our part by making the best of this challenging situation and first and foremost take care of ourselves. As we applaud the survivors, the professionals, and all essential workers, we also applaud the parents (and guardians) who have taken their responsibilities to new heights and the students who are challenged more than ever in their own lives. Being quarantined in your sanctuary gives you time to appreciate it as it evolves into your place of worship, work office, children's classroom, and/or gym. In order to keep yourselves and your families safe, you have some down time to catch up on unfinished projects including the great outdoors if you have a yard, to prioritize your life's ambitions and to be thankful that you live in a time where technology is so advanced. Society as a whole has become more tech-savvy as time moves forward. ZOOM used to mean something else and now it and similar forms of video conferencing connect many people for a variety of purposes; social media, in all its glory, has expanded communication between friends; mass media

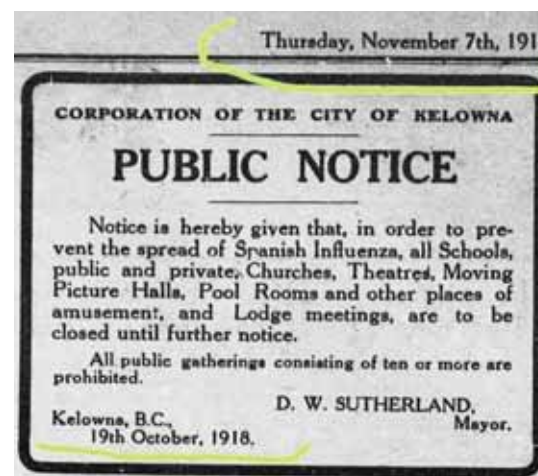
with television at the forefront transmits Roman Catholic Masses daily as well as providing entertainment in many forms, and, of all our "gadgets", what would we do without our cell phones? As much as it saddens us that we will not physically gather together for a while, we have the means to stay connected, all the while remembering that we need to stay safe, stay healthy, stay home and when out in public, wear a mask (in some states, it's the law). A statistic that seems to be engraved in my head is that 60% of Americans do not know anyone who contracted the Covid-19 virus and thus, do not believe this crisis is significant enough to shut down the economy. I wish that statistic was 100%, because I know of several who valiantly fought and lost the battle and others who fought and won. Let us not forget those who are battling other illnesses as well. The other maladies did not subside once Covid-19 arrived. Remember to keep all in our prayers.

We know that we will get through this crisis, although it is a matter of "when." We are a world of instant gratification. Patience needs to be nurtured, especially at a time when it is being tested. "Patience is not simply the ability to wait – it's how we behave while we're waiting" (Joyce Meyer). History teaches us that the world rebounded after past pandemics. In an email forwarded to me by former PRCUA President Edward G. Dykla, "Déjà vu...we are not the first, nor will we be the last! History does repeat itself every 100 years!" (David Fry) referencing the Plague in 1720, Cholera in 1820, the Spanish Flu around 1918-1920 and now the 2020 Coronavirus. It is the timing and similarities of the past pandemics with the current crisis that piques interest and concern. The Spanish Flu which began in January of 1918 and ended in December of 1920 affected a third of the global population of the times (500 million people), resulting in approximately

17 to 50 million fatalities. "As scientists raced to find a vaccine, public health officials turned to time-tested methods of social distancing and quarantine. State and local officials around the country banned public gatherings, closing schools, churches, theaters, bars and other spots where people typically met in groups." (Sarah Pruitt writing about the 1918 Pandemic). Sound familiar? We continually learn from the past and yet, although being proactive is the key, how should WE have better prepared ourselves? How do WE do so for any future outbreaks once the current contagion is controlled? Are we willing to continue to wear masks and limit physical contact once the crisis subsides? Or will we forget and hope for the best? Food for thought. "Better to be safe than sorry."

As for the economy, we will bounce back as we have at many times in our personal lives and as a nation. Perseverance and frugality may be the hallmark of the immediate future, but when did they stop being important virtues? My Dad often reminded us to "save for a rainy day." In times like these, his words ring true, especially for those who have temporarily lost their income and livelihood. You will "rise like a phoenix from the ashes," tougher, wiser and better.

My articles are usually filled with wonderful PRCUA events hosted by amazing people exercising their organizational skills, artistic talents, athletic prowess and flair for entertaining. I wish that I could recount to you the camaraderie felt in attending the (Continued on pg. 11)



Mask courtesy of  
Marysia Dziadkowiec



Natalia and Agnieszka Bastrzyk



PRCUA National Bowling Tournament or the PRCUA traditional Święconka luncheon hosted by District 9; the joy and pride felt at the milestone anniversary concerts of Gwiazda (60th), Southwest Center of Polish Song & Dance (35th) and Zajączek (15th), as well as at the school graduations and dance recitals: Malbork (scheduled for 3/28), Halka (3/29), Wieliczka (3/29), Polskie Maki (4/5), St. R. Kalinowski and Mała Polska (4/25), and Rogalin (4/25), but they were postponed. I will however, proudly acknowledge the ingenuity of the staff of these schools and groups who, in many cases, provided alternate ways to educate and celebrate until "they meet again" in person. Bravo to the Polish language schools who provide online lessons for their students and although dance classes online are tricky, interaction with the dancers remains. Several of the school directors participated in distributing food to healthcare workers on behalf of their students. I commend you all for your kindness, dedication and compassion.

With the uncertainty of when shelter-in-place orders will be lifted and how the dictates of social distancing will be modified, events for the month of May in Illinois have been cancelled, which include the festivities surrounding Chicago's celebration of the May Third Polish Constitution.

It is "business as usual" at the PRCUA Home Office except that it is closed on Wednesdays and weekends and personnel alternates two days weekly, with several individ-

uals working from home. The Office is not open to the public, but to personnel only. To all our PRCUA members, please be assured that while markets may be in turmoil, our portfolio is liquid and PRCUALife is financially sound. PRCUALife is with you through all the stages of life.

For me personally, these past few weeks have been also intense and surreal. To pay my respects to two individuals who passed (one unfortunately from Covid-19), I virtually watched the Funeral Mass and gravesite services of Janina Edwarda Chachula (aunt of my BFF Teresa Pazdziora) and the Memorial Mass for Andrzej Gędek (an active leader within the Polish American community of Chicago), one on my cell phone and the other on my IPAD. To the families of these and all who also lost a loved one during this pandemic, please accept our sincerest condolences. "Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may their souls and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen."

In order to relieve my angst over the current crisis, Richard and I began work on the unfinished projects in the garden (weather permitting) and a plethora of others within our home. I do not think I ever "watched my garden grow" as much as this year – the snowfall twice in April made me wince, but the daffodils and chionodoxa (soft blue flowers) are resilient – I took it as a sign from God that we too are resilient. My article comes to a close and with it, the lyrics to a song by David Mallett entitled "Garden Song."

Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones,  
We are made of dreams and bones  
I feel the need to grow my own  
'Cause the time is close at hand  
Grain for grain, sun and rain,  
I'll find my way in nature's chain  
I tune my body and my brain  
To the music of the land.

Inch by inch...

Inch by inch, row by row, I'm gonna make this garden grow  
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground  
Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow  
Someone warm them from below 'til the rain comes tumbling down

So plant your rows straight and long,  
Temper them with prayer and song  
Mother earth can keep you strong  
If you give her love and care  
Now an old crow watching hungrily  
from his perch in yonder tree  
In my garden I'm as free  
As that feathered thief up there.

Inch by inch...

STAY SAFE! STAY HEALTHY! STAY HOME!

## ARE YOU TIRED OF JIGSAW PUZZLES, CROSSWORDS AND SUDOKUS?



If you said yes, we ask you help us identify some of the to PRCUA members on these photos of the past PRCUA sport tournaments.

The top photo depicts PRCUA President Stanley Turkiewicz in the middle, but we are asking if anyone can identify the two players. This picture is from between 1958 and 1962.

The middle photo was taken at the softball tournament between 1978 and 1986, and depicts President Joseph A. Drobot, Sr. on left. We are looking for the names of the other two people.

The bottom photo depicting six people was taken at the 1975 PRCUA bowling tournament in St. Louis, MO. The man in the tie is Edward Forsys, Director of PRCUA District #6; the man second from the right is Joe Os-manski, Sports Director for PRCUA. We would like to identify the other four persons.

We are constantly updating information on the old documents and photographs, and your help will be greatly appreciated. If you can identify any of these people, please contact: [prcu-president@prcu.org](mailto:prcu-president@prcu.org).





# Kids Activity Page!



2. This year, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of birth of Karol Wojtyła who became Pope John Paul II and a saint. Color the picture of St. John Paul II.



4. Memorial Day quiz (some answers can be found on pg. 7)

1. What was Memorial Day originally called?
2. What year was it legally named Memorial Day?
3. When was Memorial Day proclaimed a federal holiday?
4. What town did the U.S. Congress declare to be the birthplace of the Memorial Day holiday in 1966?
5. When and where was the first national Decoration Day celebrated?
6. What war originated a Decoration Day celebration?
7. What is a National Moment of Remembrance?
8. What flower is the symbol of Memorial Day remembrance?
9. Soldiers of which war are celebrated on Memorial Day?
10. What unofficially begins on Memorial Day?
11. What is placed on U.S. soldiers' graves besides the flowers?
12. How should the U.S. Flag be raised on Memorial Day?



1. To solve the puzzle, write down the names of these cute critters in the appropriate fields.



3. Unscramble the names of ten flowers to find a secret message.

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. SMARYILLA | 6. SR II   |
| — 1 —        | — 6 —      |
| 2. DDLIFAOF  | 7. SROE    |
| — — — 2 —    | — — 7 —    |
| 3. PLITU     | 8. ISADY   |
| 3 — — —      | 8 — — —    |
| 4. CIORDH    | 9. CILLA   |
| — — — 4 —    | — — — 9 —  |
| 5. OPENY     | 10. SAYPN  |
| — 5 —        | — — — 10 — |





# ZAJĄCZEK DANCE ENSEMBLE MONTHLY NEWS

By Karrie Westphal, Secretary  
Zajączek Dance Ensemble

## GIVING BACK

On Wednesday, April 1, Zajączek Dance Ensemble chose this to be a Community Service Day for our group. Colleen Bonkowski, group director, delivered Polish plate dinners to the ICU unit at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Clinton Township, MI and to the respiratory therapist staff at McLaren Macomb Hospital in Mount Clemens, MI. Working at both hospitals were a current dance ensemble parent Stephanie Marcincavage, an alumni parent Michael Manczyk, as well as Katherine Rice, niece to Mrs. Bonkowski. Continuing on, Mrs. Bonkowski also delivered dinners to the first responders at the Sterling Heights Fire Department in Sterling Heights, MI. All dinners were prepared and donated by the American Polish Century Club and their volunteer staff, which have been hosting Wednesday night Polish meals and Friday night Lenten menus. Zajączek has been giving back to those who give so much.

## MEALS WITH MEANING

With gratitude and thanks..... "the staff of Henry Ford Macomb's SICU area would like to extend a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the Bonkowski Family, Zajączek Dance Ensemble, and the American Polish Century Club for the generous donation of Polish dinners that were provided for our staff. You not only filled our stomachs, you filled our hearts with warm wishes and prayers. It was greatly appreciated. Bardzo Dziękuję to our Polish Family! Smacznego!"

The Manczyk Family  
Megan Manczyk - 2014 Zajączek graduate  
Eric Manczyk - 2018 Zajączek graduate



## IT'S ON

On April 5, Rachael Kasperek, choreographer, presented her Zajączek Dance Ensemble students with a Pisanki challenge, "whether you create traditional pisanki eggs or paper, share your pisanki with us." And so a few of our dancers did!! The Barth and Brown families posted pictures of their beautiful creations. Ms. Kasperek stated, "Since Zajączek cannot give out traditional Easter gifts this year on time, we want you to share your designs with us." Great job, Zajączek Dancers! Stay healthy and safe.



Brown family Pisanki



Barth family Pisanki

## ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES ON PG. 12

- 1. Solve the puzzle:** 1. Grasshopper; 2. Caterpillar; 3. Butterfly; 4. Spider; 5. Ladybug; 6. Dragonfly; 7. Bee
- 3. Unscramble the names:** 1. Amaryllis; 2. Daffodil; 3. Tulip; 4. Orchid; 5. Peony; 6. Iris; 7. Rose; 8. Daisy; 9. Lilac; 10. Pansy
- 4. Memorial Day quiz:** 1. Decoration Day; 2. 1967; 3. 1971; 4. Waterloo, NY; 5. May 30, 1868 at Arlington National Cemetery; 6. The Civil War; 7. An act of national unity, established by the U.S. Congress in 2000, asking Americans to pause for one minute at exactly 3 p.m.; 8. Red poppy; 9. All soldiers that died while serving in the U.S. Army; 10. Summer vacation season; 11. American flags; 12. First, at half mast, then it should be slowly moved to half-mast until noon and then, back to the top.



# THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING FASHION SHOW

By Elizabeth Dynowski

Photos by J&D Studio Photography

In 1975, the Adult Culture Group of the PRCUA, in an effort to raise funds for scholarships given to the candidates in the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball, hosted its 1st Spring Fashion Show. 45 years later, the PRCUA Adult Culture Group continues this tradition. The talents of Cinderella, Prince Charming, ball candidates, and parents of the candidates participating in the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball were showcased in the 45th Anniversary Spring Fashion Show.

The 45th annual Spring Fashion Show was held on March 8, at the Paradise Banquets in Bridgeview, IL. This year's event, chaired by Liz Dynowski, celebrated "Flowers are Blooming." Liz Dynowski welcomed everyone to the event, introduced honored guests, including President of the PRCUA Jim Robaczewski and wife Elaine, Vice President Micheline Jaminski and her husband Richard, and Secretary-Treasurer Agnes Basztryk and family. She also introduced the Adult Culture Group Dancers, a group organized by her District 8 co-director Mirek Cislo. This group honored the original Adult Culture Group that had traditionally danced a Polonaise at the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball. This new group of adult dancers are all PRCUA members who have ties to the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball as either parents of current, former or future candidates. Many of the members were former candidates, Cinderellas or Prince Charmings themselves. The dancers performed a classic Polonaise whose choreography, home and time was donated by Micheline Jaminski, Vice President of PRCUA.

After lunch, the commentators, Wieslawa Wildhirt and Andy Sacinski, welcomed everyone to the annual show. These commentators presented model runs from the following participating stores: DA-MA Fashion, Generation Bliss, Just Unique, JW Menswear, Kimberly Bond, Rue 21, Streets of Europe, and Vivi Lu Atelier.

The "Flowers are Blooming" Fashion Show opened with a dressy and casual combo from Rue 21 and a new hip vendor, Vivi Lu Atelier. The girls and boys that modeled to the song *Polskie Kwiaty* were Liliana Cislo, Teresa Czerwien, Veronica Przytula, Tanya Sacinski, Karolina Slomba, Claudia Walkosz, Jessica Wenc, AnnaMaria Williams, Olivia Witek, Emily Wozny, Thomas Czerwien, Andrew Handzel, Dominic Karkoska, Bartłomiej Klempka, Jacob Krasnicki, Łukasz Mazur, Jakub Niedzielski, Arthur Rykala, Lucas Skowyra, Kevin Wildhirt, and Oscar Witek.

Another new vendor to this year's show was Streets of Europe. Girls modeled to the song *Spring Fever*, showing the newest fashions for the upcom-

ing Spring Break: Joanna Burdzy, Katarzyna Burdzy, Liliana Cislo, Karolina Gal, Joanna Staron, Sabina Slubowski, Wioletta Stasinski. The moms that followed, modeled to the song *Białe Konwalie* and showed that they too can be fashionistas on the streets of Europe: Katarzyna Bielanski, Elizabeth Cislo, Ana Gal, Nathalie Skowyra, Marzena Staron, and Agnieszka Witek.

Following these model runs, a guest performer from HHPD company dancers, Olivia Schauer reminded us that you are "Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile." Her dance was choreographed by Liz Dynowski.

Models welcomed fashions by our next boutique called Just Unique. These candidates: Emily Wozny, Joanna Burdzy, Katarzyna Burdzy, Weronika Kaczmarczyk in the song *Nim zakwitnie tysiąc róż* and later candidate's moms showed their unique style in "Tip Toe Through The Tulips With Me": Agata Zgiet, Renata Krasnicki, Katarzyna Mazur, Agnieszka Wozny, Dorota Kaczmarczyk, and Renata Karkoszka.

Next came our second group guest performers that kept us "In the Mood" for spring fashions. Performed by: Carolina Kukulski and Kuba Stypula, members of the Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company of PRCUA; choreography by Richard Jaminski, had us all wanting to jump up and dance with them.

Continuing with the flower themed show, our moms and some of the girls modeled spring fashions from their own collections: *Million białych róż*: Anna Gal, Agnieszka Przytula, Beata Bafia, Asia Niedzielski and Kasia Williams; "Buttercup": Natalia Bafia, Teresa Czerwien, Karolina Gal, Veronica Przytula, Tanya Sacinski, Claudia Walkosz, Jessica Wenc, and Anna Maria Williams.

Next, came a model run from Generation Bliss, a store that has clothes for all generations as shown by our moms and girl runs. *Białe róże* models: Katarzyna Bielanski, Elizabeth Cislo, Diane Little, Nathalie Skowyra, and "Kiss From a Rose" models: Victoria Bielanski, Liliana Cislo, Alexandra Little, and Olivia Witek

Our fashion show would not be complete without a performance from future Cinderella and Prince Charming candidates. This year in "Lavendar Blue Dilly Dilly", Anthony Kroplewski and Kevin Wenc escorted the girls in their pretty dresses and then gave each of the girls a flower to give to their mom or grandma to celebrate International Women's Day. The girls that were in this sweet number were: Aleksandra Kroplewski, Emilia Kroplewski, Karolina Kroplewski, Isabelle Stanek, Olimpia Witek, Veronica Walkosz, Mia Muszalski, Paulina Karkoszka, Patrycja Stasinski, and Beata Stasinski.

Next came two model runs from DA-MA fashions: *Siedem czerwonych róż* models: Natalia Bafia, Victoria Bielanski, Weronika Kaczmarczyk, Alexandra Little, Karolina Slomba, Joanna Staron, Sabina Slubowski, and Wioletta Stasinski, and the moms that said "Send Me No Flowers": Beata Bafia, Dorota Kaczmarczyk, Renata Karkoszka, Katarzyna Mazur, Marzena Staron, and Agnieszka

Witek.

All the girls had an opportunity to feel like a princess in their evening wear for the final numbers. We were excited to see the evening dresses as Vivi Lu Atelier is the sponsoring boutique for the current Miss Polonia. Our Prince Charming, Arthur Rykala, with his Cinderella, Karolina Gal, along with the runners-up, Veronica Przytula and Kevin Wildhirt, were featured in this model run, surrounded by Natalia Bafia, Liliana Cislo, Teresa Czerwien, Karolina Gal, Weronika Kaczmarczyk, Alexandra Little, Veronica Przytula, Karolina Slomba, Sabina Slubowski, Joanna Staron, Wioletta Stasinski, Claudia Walkosz, Jessica Wenc, and Emily Wozny.

Another boutique that has participated in our fashion for over 20 years provided beautiful dresses for the following girls - Victoria Bielanski, Joanna Burdzy, Katarzyna Burdzy, Tanya Sacinski, AnnaMaria Williams, and Olivia Witek, to be escorted by our Prince Charming Arthur Rykala.

Not only were the girls dressed for an evening out, but the boys looked so handsome as they circled the dance floor with Cinderella Karolina Gal in her beautiful ball gown. She was presented a rose by each our boys wearing a new men's line from JW Menswear. The elegant dresses and suits had everyone thinking about their upcoming prom or their next family wedding.

The finale showcased all candidates, models and guest performers to the song *Each of us is a Flower*. All of us were able to think of their favorite flower, while hearing the many songs about flowers, while walking under the glorious flower archway created by Maggie Tylka Panozzo and her sister Theresa Tylka Handzel, or while looking at the beautiful flowers presented throughout the event from Mostly Flowers by Al Kopinski.

Mr. Muszalski as President of the Adult Culture group thanked everyone for making the evening a huge success. He appreciated all the hard work done by all committee members of the Adult Culture Group. Committee members included: Liz Dynowski, chairwoman; model coordinators: Danuta Stypula and Gabriela Zuk, program coordinators: Danuta Stypula, Gabriela Zuk, Natalie Skowyra, Elizabeth Cislo, Marzena Staron and Desiree Sacinski; decorations: Joanna Niedzielski, Nathalie Skowyra, Maggie Tylka Panozzo and Theresa Tylka Handzel; reservations: Walter and Liz Dynowski with Stanley Dron and Angie Muszalski; raffles: Mary Brzezniak, Magda Ciszewska, Diane Cortesi, John Frankowicz, Vickie Kroplewski, Krystyna Lech, Jola Stanek, Marzena Staron, Danuta Stypula and Gabriela Zuk; program book: Nathalie Skowyra and Desiree Sacinski, and Fashion Show choreographers: Liz Dynowski, Wesoly Lud choreographer Richard Jaminski and Polonaise choreographer Micheline Jaminski. This show would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of so many volunteers. Thank you for all your hard work. It is greatly appreciated and the Adult Culture Group is looking forward to many future Fashion Shows.

After the conclusion (Continued on pg. 15)



of “Flowers are Blooming,” there was more excitement as audience members won gala prizes and money raffles. Gala prizes were donated by many organizations, businesses, and PRCUA members. As in the past, the money raised in this fashion show will be given in scholarships to the candidates of the 49th Cinderella and Prince Charming Ball, which will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Belvedere Chateau. For more information regarding the Ball, please contact Mr. Edward Muszalski (708) 937-3812.

See more photos at the PRCUA website: [prcua.org](http://prcua.org).





## Higher Perspectives



By Rev. Canon  
Walter J. Ptak  
National Chaplain,  
PRCUA

## MARYJO, KRÓLOWO POLSKI

During these unusual days, it is hard to keep track of time, as every day appears to be the same. This pandemic seems like it will never end as it spreads havoc and death worldwide. Thanks be to God that we are now in the month of May, a month dedicated to Our Lady, which brings us renewed hope and a reminder that we are not in this struggle alone. It is also a month of devotions, outdoor processions, coronations of images of Our Lady and home altars to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a time for us to renew our devotion to Our Lady, who is with us always, especially in times of great need.

The month of May is full of special feast days of Our Lady, some of these are universal celebrations of Mary, like the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady on May 31st and some are celebrated only in certain countries where they have special significance, like the Feast of Mary, Queen of Poland on May 3rd.

For those of us of Polish descent, the Feast of Mary, Queen of Poland celebrated on May 3rd, has special significance. This is because Mary has always held a special place in the hearts of Polish Catholics from the beginning of the history of the country to the present day. This devotion to Mary was further solidified when the miraculous icon of Our Lady, now known as Our Lady of Częstochowa, arrived in the country in 1383. Mary has been invoked in times of peace and in times of war, in times of need and in thanksgiving for her intercessory prayers on our behalf. She has been prayed to and sung about throughout the history of Poland. Her name is on the lips of the young and old, the sinners and the saints, the sick and the healthy and the hope and refuge of those drawing their last breath. Mary has been the unifying force in the darkest days of Polish history, especially when Poland disappeared from the map of Europe for 123 years during the partitions of Poland.

This special feast day has a long history, dating back to 1656, when King John Casimir crowned Mary as Queen and Protector of Poland. A papal coronation of Mary under this title followed by Pope Clement XI in 1717. In 1923, Pope Pius XI firmly established this Feast Day of Mary, Queen of Poland to be celebrated on May 3rd, which coincides with Poland's Constitution Day of May 3rd, 1791.

As we celebrate the month of May as Mary's month, may we spend some time thinking about our devotion to and love for her, the Queen Mother of her Son, our King, Jesus Christ. Even though many of the usual celebrations of this month may be put on hold due to this pandemic, our love for her, as 'perfect disciple' can be deepened by spending time with Our Lady. I encourage you to pray the rosary, recite her Litany, wear her scapular, sing her praises in the many beautiful Polish hymns that are part and parcel of our Polish Catholic faith! All of these can be done at home, alone or with your family. Polish people know the 'domestic church' better than most, as our customs and devotions are rooted in the family. Her role in the history of salvation is to point us to her Son, Jesus Christ and she will never lead us astray! May we never tire of invoking her name for she is "our life, our sweetness and our hope!"

**Mary Queen and Protector of Poland, pray for us and especially those most affected by this pandemic!**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Saint Rocco is venerated in the Roman Catholic Church as the protector against the plague and all contagious diseases? St. Rocco was a nobleman who distributed all of his worldly goods to the poor, and traveled humbly throughout 14th century Italy as a pilgrim, devoting himself to victims of the plague, curing them with

prayer and the sign of the cross. During his travels, he too contracted the plague which was evident by an open sore on his leg. After many sufferings and much patience, St. Rocco was eventually cured.

For generations, Roman Catholics prayed to St. Rocco (pol. Św. Roch) for good health and protection against illness, and today in the dark light of Covid-19 we turn to him once again.

Let's pray together.



### Prayer to Saint Rocco

*O Great St. Rocco, deliver us,  
we beseech thee,  
from the scourges of God;  
through thy Intercessory,  
preserve our bodies from contagious diseases,  
and our souls from the contagion of sin.  
Obtain for us salubrious air;  
but, above all, purity of heart.  
Assist us to make good use of health,  
to bear suffering with patience;  
and, after thy example,  
to live in the practice of penance and charity,  
that we may one day enjoy the happiness  
which thou has merited by thy virtues.*

*St. Rocco, pray for us (say three times)*

## DEARLY DEPARTED

### PRCUA BROTHERS AND SISTERS



Member	Society	State	Member	Society	State
Alma, Sister Mary	795	IL	Markowski, Kenneth	1423	WI
Brezinski, Harriet	36	NY	Martz, Elizabeth L.	227	OH
Brunozzi, Estelle	2220	NC	Michalski, Lucy	2148	OH
Callaghan, Louise	228	PA	Pachniak, Ervin	817	WI
Chojnowski, Glenn P.	162	MI	Pawlak, Jean	572	NJ
Conway, Linda M.	1253	WI	Pawlyshn, Genevieve	247	OH
Dolunt, William F.	718	MI	Pilarski, Leonard	237	PA
Dombrowski, Christine	211	NY	Pindzia, Ernest A.	718	MI
Feret, Donna M.	1000	IL	Piotrowski, Thomas	2152	OH
Florek, Theresa S.	1000	IL	Radon, Florence	308	AZ
Golab, Claudia	308	IL	Renta, Johnson Graham	527	MD
Grabowski, Theresa S.	1000	IL	Sawicz, Peter	385	NY
Grygo, Milton J.	517	NJ	Sitarski, Olga	540	IN
Grzesik, Jadwiga	1598	MA	Stach, Irene	1593	MI
Haislip, James	1552	MI	Stachnik, Julianna	750	NY
Jaroszewski, Elizabeth	2248	OH	Stanczak, Cecilia	154	MI
Jaskowski, Rita	162	MI	Suchan, Maria	1407	VA
Judson, Theresa P.	20	NJ	Tomkowiak, Edward	1416	IL
Kaminski, Shannon W.	29	PA	Trybus, Maria	2220	OH
Kawka, Jerome J.	300	IL	Verhaar, Genevieve	823	IL
Knopik, Andrew M.	1004	IL	Wachowiak, Gerald D.	1486	IL
Kolodziej, Anna C.	1133	PA	Walters, Virginia	111	NY
Kwiecien, Richard E.	1493	MI	Wegrzyn, Christina M.	359	CT
Latuszek, Veronica F.	878	IL	Yudiski, Janet	1000	PA
Linski, Anna	1380	NY	Zavala, Marcos	435	TX
Mandak, Laverne J.	224	PA			



# 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II

## 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE KATYŃ MASSACRE

The primary causes of the outbreak of World War II were the dissatisfaction rising in Germany after the Versailles Treaty, expansion of Nazi ideology in Germany, and the rise to power of Adolf Hitler and his German Nazi Party. In 1939, Hitler and Mussolini (Fascist Party leader in Italy) signed the pact forming the Axis alliance (on September 27, 1940 also signed by Japan.)

On March 12-13, 1938, the German Third Reich annexed Austria. On September 29, 1938, the Third Reich annexed the Sudetenland and then all of Czechoslovakia in 1939. English and French acquiescence and politics strengthened Hitler's pursuits of further expansion.

On August 23, 1939, Germany signed a secret agreement with Russia to divide Poland between them. On August 31, 1939, Adolf Hitler signed the order for an assault on Poland.

On September 1, without declaring war, German troops invaded Poland in the coordinated air-and-land attack all along Poland's border with Germany. German warships and U-boats attacked Polish naval forces in the Baltic Sea. German battleship *Schleswig-Holstein* opened fire on the Polish-controlled harbor of Danzig. Germans also began air raids on Warsaw and other Polish cities.

German aggression in Danzig met with resistance from the Polish personnel of the post office, who defended the building for 15 hours before surrendering.

The United Kingdom and France demanded that Germany withdraw from Poland by September 3rd. After the ultimatum was ignored, Britain and France declared war on the Third Reich (in August, Britain had signed a treaty with Poland, promising military support should it be attacked), but did little militarily to aid Poland.

On September 8, German forces reached the outskirts of Warsaw.

On September 17, Soviet forces invaded Poland from the east. The next day, Poland's government and military leaders fled the country and soon after began operating as the Polish Government-in-Exile.

On 28 September, the USSR and Nazi Germany partitioned and then dissolved the Polish state. The last battle of the September (the battle of Kock) campaign ended on October 6.

After the Soviet aggression on Poland, over 300,000 Polish citizens were taken captive in the Soviet Union. Tens of thousands of Polish military personnel and Polish intelligentsia, priests, landowners, and lawyers were interned in prison camps in Kozelsk, Ostashkov, Starobelsk and smaller camps and prisons in Byelorussia and Ukraine (some of the non-commissioned officers and civilians were sent to labor camps.)

On March 5, 1940, an order was signed to ex-

ecute 25,700 of the prisoners. During April and May of 1940, Polish prisoners were transported from the camps to three execution sites. Prisoners from Kozelsk were executed in the Katyń Forest (near Smoleńsk); prisoners from Starobelsk were killed in the internal NKVD prison of Kharkiv and the bodies were buried near the village of Piatykhatky; and prisoners from the Ostashkov camp were killed in the internal NKVD prison of Kalinin and buried in Mednoye.

From late 1939 to early 1941, Germany conquered or controlled much of continental Europe. Together with the Soviet Union, they annexed Finland, Romania and the Baltic states. Military operations and battles were fought on many fronts around the world: in North and East Africa, in the Balkans, the aerial Battle of Britain, and the Battle of the Atlantic.

On June 22, 1941, the Axis powers declared war on the Soviet Union, who then joined the Allies.

The U.S. declared war against Japan after Japan launched an attack on the U.S. base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941. On December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S.

On July 17, 1942, the Stalingrad (Soviet Union) offensive began. The battle ended on February 2, 1943 with a Soviet defense of the city. Since then, the Eastern Front began moving westward.

On May 12, 1943, Allied forces gained control of North Africa and on July 10, they gained control of the Mediterranean.

On April 19, 1943, the Warsaw ghetto uprising began after German troops and police entered the ghetto to deport its surviving inhabitants. The uprising was crushed by May 16, 1943. Surviving ghetto residents were deported to concentration camps or killed.

On October 6, Italy declared war on Germany.

From November 28 to December 1, 1943, the three Allied leaders, Joseph Stalin (Soviet Union), Franklin D. Roosevelt (United States) and Winston Churchill (United Kingdom) met at a conference in Teheran (Iran), and discussed the fate of Eastern Europe and Germany in the postwar period.

From January 17 to May 18, 1944, the Battle of Monte Cassino was fought in Italy. Polish troops contributed significantly to the victory of the Allied forces.

On June 6, 1944, the Allied forces attacked German forces on the coast of Normandy in northern France. The victory of the Allies is considered the turning point for World War II in Europe.

On August 1, 1944, the Warsaw Uprising organized by the Home Army (*Armia Krajowa* - AK, one of the best operating underground organizations in Europe) broke out and was fought for 63

days. It was the single largest military effort taken by any European resistance movement during the war. AK hoped to liberate Warsaw from German occupation, and to regain control of Warsaw before the Soviets could assume control. The Soviet army which was approaching the suburbs of Warsaw, halted combat operations, enabling the Germans to suppress the resistance. 85% of the city was deliberately destroyed by the German forces. 200,000 civilians were dead, 55,000 were sent to concentration camps, and approximately 700,000 expelled from the city. Several thousand soldiers were killed, wounded and imprisoned.

On January 25, 1945, the German army offensive in the Ardennes ended in defeat. It was the last significant offensive operation of the Third Reich during World War II.

From February 4 to 11, 1945, a conference was held in Yalta (Soviet Union). During the conference, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin discussed the shape of a post-war peace. Decisions concerning Poland included establishing the Polish Provisional Government and agreeing upon Poland's eastern border.

On April 16, 1945, Soviet troops supported by Polish troops began the Berlin operation - the offensive on the capital of the Third Reich.

On April 27, Benito Mussolini was captured in Italy and shot. On April 30, Adolf Hitler committed suicide in the bunker under his headquarters in Berlin.

The Battle of Berlin ended on May 2. On May 7, 1945, the act of unconditional surrender of the Third Reich was signed at General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims (France). The act was signed by General Walter Bedell Smith and General Ivan Susłoparow (on behalf of the Allies) and by General Alfred Jodl, General Wilhelm Oxenius and Admiral Hans-Georg von Friedeburg (on behalf of the Third Reich.) The act was to come into force on May 8 at 11:01 p.m. On May 8 at night (May 9 at around 4:16 p.m. Moscow time), the second act of surrender of the Third Reich was signed at General Zhukov's headquarters in Karlshorst in Berlin.

World War II was the biggest and deadliest international conflict in history. It involved more than 30 countries in every part of the globe and claimed the lives of 60 to 80 million people (estimated 50-55 million civilians and 21 to 25 million military). Six years of extensive military operations, horrific crimes against humanity and destruction of large amounts of physical capital, altered the political and economical systems in many countries, and the lives of their citizens. An estimated 15 to 20 million people died or were imprisoned in the concentration camps and ghettos where "undesirable" people were enslaved, starved, tortured and killed. Millions were injured, lost their homes and properties.

The war resulted in a complete reshuffling of borders and spheres of influence in Europe. The United States and the USSR divided the world into two opposing political blocks.



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## 2020 PRCUA NATIONAL SPORTS TOURNAMENTS

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA*Life*) is closely monitoring the current status of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Not knowing when the stay-at-home order will be lifted, the PRCUA has decided to postpone all PRCUA National Sports Tournaments for the remainder of this year; the PRCUA National Bowling Tournament and upcoming PRCUA National Golf, Softball, and Volleyball Tournaments are all rescheduled to 2021. The actual dates and details of these tournaments will be announced as soon as they're established.

The safety of all PRCUA members remains our top priority as one of the four principles (Fraternalism, Service, Benefits, and Protection) listed on the great PRCUA seal.

Check future issues of the *Naród Polski* for further information on the 2021 PRCUA National Sports Tournaments or visit the PRCUA website at [www.PRCUA.org](http://www.PRCUA.org). You can also follow us on social media platforms: Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, and YouTube.

## DURBIN, RISCH, MENENDEZ MARK 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE KATYŃ MASSACRE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL), Jim Risch (R-ID) (chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee), and Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) (ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee), today (April 13, 2020) announced a Senate Resolution commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Katyn Massacre. Eighty years after 22,000 Polish soldiers and civilians were executed by Soviet forces, the bipartisan resolution honors their lives and legacy, and recognizes those who fought to tell the truth of the Katyn Massacre despite a Soviet cover-up campaign. The resolution, which also condemns efforts by the present-day Russian government to spread disinformation about the history of World War II, will be formally introduced when the Senate reconvenes.

“Ten years ago, I was honored to lead a resolution that unanimously passed the Senate expressing sympathy to the people of Poland over the death of then President, Lech Kaczynski. President Kaczynski’s plane tragically crashed while traveling to Katyn, Russia, for a memorial service marking the massacre’s 70th anniversary,” Durbin said. “Today I am similarly honored to join with my colleagues, Senators Menendez and Risch, to express deepest sympathies and solidarity with the Polish people

and Polish American community, so many of whom call the Chicago area home, on this somber anniversary of those tragic events in Katyn.”

“On this solemn 80th anniversary of the Katyn Massacre, we honor the 22,000 Polish soldiers and civilians who were murdered by the Soviet Union after Poland was invaded first by Nazi Germany and then by the USSR,” Risch said. “The Russian Federation’s attempts to cover up the truth about this crime and spread disinformation about the massacre and the history of World War II are unacceptable, and I stand with the Polish people in encouraging continued education of the facts of this tragic event.”

“Today I join Polish-Americans in New Jersey and around the country in honoring the 22,000 Polish soldiers and civilians who were murdered by the Soviet Union during the Katyn Massacre,” Menendez said. “The world must remember the truth of this heinous crime to prevent history from repeating itself. The United States stood with the people of Poland in pushing back on Soviet lies about the Katyn Massacre decades ago, and with this effort today we once again stand with them against Vladimir Putin’s ongoing campaign to distort the history of World War II.”

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## KONKURS HISTORYCZNY *Patria Nostra*

Zapraszamy młodzież polską i polonijną do udziału w V edycji konkursu  
[www.konkurs-patrianostra.pl](http://www.konkurs-patrianostra.pl)

PATRONATY:



**POD PATRONATEM** Księdza Arcybiskupa Wojciecha Polaka, Prymasa Polski, Hierarchów Kościoła Katolickiego, Ministerstwa Edukacji Narodowej, Ministerstwa Spraw Zagranicznych, Ministerstwa Aktywów Państwowych, Instytutu Pamięci Narodowej, Marszałków i Senatorów oraz Instytucji Samorządowych już od pięciu lat organizowany jest filmowy Konkurs Historyczny Patria Nostra. Konkurs adresowany jest do młodzieży polskiej i polonijnej i ma na celu propagowanie wiedzy o historii Polski i jej dziedzictwa kulturowego, krzewienie patriotyzmu oraz budowanie poczucia wspólnoty wśród młodych Polaków.

**W DOTYCHCZASOWYCH** edycjach Konkursu wzięło udział blisko 2.700 uczniów i nauczycieli z Polski i całego świata, realizując ponad 700 filmów i animacji odwołujących się do dziejów naszej Ojczyzny. W aktualnej V edycji weźmie udział około 1.500 naszych młodych rodaków

z Polski i zagranicy.

**JESTEŚMY DUMNI** z tego, że wykonane przez młodzież prace mają bardzo wysoki poziom, zarówno merytoryczny jak i artystyczny, i mogą pełnić funkcje edukacyjne i popularyzujące historię Polski. Jednocześnie cieszy nas, że mogliśmy przekazać wszystkim uczestnikom konkursu atrakcyjne nagrody. Laureaci konkursów wzięli udział w wycieczkach do Brukseli. Nagrodą dla młodzieży polonijnej były kilku-dniowe wycieczki edukacyjne do Polski.

**ZAPRASZAMY** uczniów i nauczycieli do wzięcia udziału jednym z konkursów które są obecnie realizowane w ramach aktualnej V edycji:

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2. Konkurs Małopolski
3. Konkurs Wielkopolski
4. Konkurs Światowy

Są jeszcze wolne miejsca w każdym z czterech konkursów. Zaproszenie kierujemy do młodzieży w wieku 12-19 lat ze szkół podstawowych i średnich, a także parafii i organizacji polonijnych i społecznych z całego świata.

**TERMIN REJESTRACJI** uczestników upływa dnia 15 maja, zaś termin nadsyłania filmów i animacji 31 maja.

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**NAGRODY** w konkursach Patria Nostra otrzymują wszyscy uczestnicy. Dla zwycięzców przewidziane są wycieczki do Polski lub do Brukseli (oczywiście jeśli ich realizacja będzie możliwa). Dla pozostałych uczestników - atrakcyjne nagrody rzeczowe.

**REJESTRACJA** w konkursie, podobnie jak sam konkurs odbywa się w internecie. Aby przystąpić do konkursu niezbędny jest entuzjazm oraz wypełnienie formularza zgłoszeniowego, który dostępny jest na stronie internetowej:

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# 100. RÓCZNICA URODZIN KAROLA WOJTYŁY - PAPIEŻA JANA PAWŁA II WIELKIEGO

Karol Wojtyła - Święty Jan Paweł II zajmuje szczególne miejsce w historii Polski, Europy i Świata oraz w sercach Polaków na całym świecie. Jego pontyfikat miał wyjątkowy wpływ na politykę globalną i wiele wydarzeń historycznych.

Karol Józef Wojtyła urodził się 18 maja 1920 r. w Wadowicach. Był synem Karola, porucznika Wojska Polskiego i Emilii (z domu Kaczorowskiej). Wojtyłowie mieli jeszcze córkę Olę, która zmarła w dzieciństwie przed urodzeniem się Karola i syna Edmunda, który był o 13 lat starszy od Karola, został lekarzem i zmarł w 1932 r. na szkarlatynę. Matka Karola zmarła w 1929 roku, gdy Karol miał zaledwie 8 lat.

Wojtyłowie byli bardzo religijni. Karol został ochrzczony w Kościele Mariackim w Krakowie 20 czerwca 1920 r. Pierwszą komunię przyjął 25 maja 1929 r. i został bierzmowany przez arcybiskupa Adama Stefana Sapiehę 3 maja 1938 r.

W 1926 r. rozpoczął naukę w miejscowej szkole podstawowej w Wadowicach, a jesienią 1930 r. naukę w gimnazjum męskim w Liceum Ogólnokształcącym im. Marcina Wadowity. Przez cały okres nauki w szkole podstawowej i średniej Karol był wzorowym i utalentowanym uczniem i sportowcem, interesował się literaturą, teatrem i językami obcymi.

W 1938 r. Karol ukończył szkołę średnią, a latem tego roku przeniósł się wraz z ojcem do Krakowa, gdzie zapisał się na Uniwersytet Jagielloński i zamierzał studiować filologię i języki. Uniwersytet został zamknięty po wybuchu II wojny światowej w dniu 1 września 1939 r. Karol kontynuował naukę, podejmując studia na tajnych kompletach. Aby uniknąć deportacji do Niemiec, pracował również jako robotnik fizyczny w kamieniołomie wapienia.

W pierwszych latach wojny ukształtowało się jego życie duchowe i zaczęło się formować powołanie kapłańskie. Był w tym okresie również głęboko pochłonięty swoją drugą pasją - teatrem (również działającym w ukryciu) oraz napisał kilka sztuk dramatycznych.

18 lutego 1941 r. Karol Wojtyła

stracił ojca, który zmarł nagle na zawał serca.

W 1942 r. postanowił wstąpić do tajnego seminarium duchownego w Krakowie. 1 listopada 1946 r. kardynał Sapieha wyświęcił Wojtyłę na księdza. Po święceniach został wysłany na studia do Rzymu na Uniwersytecie Angelicum, które ukończył z wyróżnieniem. Do Polski wrócił w czerwcu 1948 r. i został skierowany do pracy w parafii we wsi Niegowić pod Krakowem, jako wikariusz i katecheta. W grudniu 1948 r. uzyskał stopień doktora teologii na Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim.

Wiosną 1949 r. K. Wojtyła został przeniesiony do parafii św. Floriana w Krakowie. Na początku lat 1950-tych wykładał etykę na Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim oraz uzyskał profesurę na Katolickim Uniwersytecie Lubelskim.

Podczas studiów i pierwszych lat kapłaństwa, Wojtyła publikował swoje wiersze, sztuki i artykuły na temat spraw Kościoła, wiary, religii w „Tygodniku Powszechnym”.

4 lipca 1958 r. Karol Wojtyła został mianowany przez papieża Piusa XII biskupem tytularnym Ombrii. Został konsekrowany 28 września 1958 r. w Katedrze Wawelskiej.

16 lipca 1959 r. został wybrany wikariuszem kapitulnym krakowskim.

Biskup Wojtyła był bardzo zaangażowany przy pracach Soboru Watykańskiego II (1962-1965). Jego liczne wystąpienia i sugestie znacząco przyczyniły się do opracowania Dignitatis humanae (Deklaracji o wolności religijnej) i Gaudium et spes (Konstytucja duszpasterska o Kościele we współczesnym świecie) i innych dokumentów.

13 stycznia 1964 r. papież Paweł VI mianował biskupa Wojtyłę arcybiskupem krakowskim, uroczystość instalacji odbyła się 8 marca 1964 r.

26 czerwca 1967 r. abp Wojtyła został podniesiony do rangi kardynała, jego kościołem tytularnym został kościół San Cesareo w Rzymie. Otrzymał biret kardynalski w czasie ceremonii w Kaplicy Sykstyńskiej w dniu 28 czerwca 1967 r.

Na początku lat 1970-tych Wojtyła przyczynił się do organizacji

synodu pasterskiego archidiecezji krakowskiej (1972-1979). Synod wydał wiele zaleceń, które zmieniły życie diecezji.

Po śmierci papieża Pawła VI w dniu 6 sierpnia 1978 r., kardynałowie Wyszyński i Wojtyła uczestniczyli w konklawe, otwartym 25 sierpnia, na którym wybrano papieża Jana Pawła I. Papiestwo Jana Pawła I trwało tylko miesiąc. Zmarł nagle na zawał serca 29 września 1978 r.

Dwaj polscy kardynałowie ponownie udali się do Watykanu, aby wybrać nowego papieża. Konklawe II rozpoczęło się 14 października. Przypuszczano, że następny papież może nie być Włochem. Kandydatura Wojtyły była już wysunięta na Konklawe I, ale choć kardynałowie uważali Wojtyłę za człowieka bardzo szanowanego i utalentowanego, obawiali się, że wybór papieża z kraju komunistycznego może doprowadzić do konfliktu z przywódcami Związku Radzieckiego. Z drugiej strony niektórzy z nich wierzyli, że wybór papieża pochodzącego z Polski może otworzyć drogę do współpracy między wschodem a zachodem.

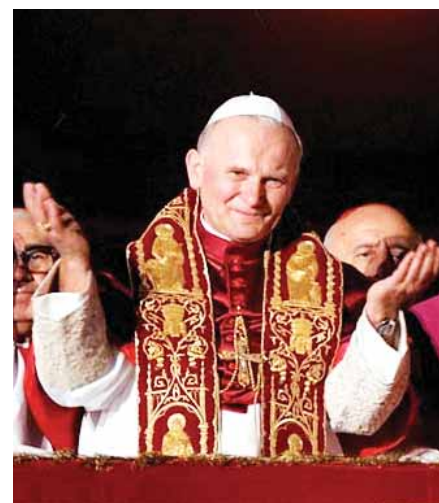
16 października 1978 r. Kolegium Kardynalskie wybrało Karola Wojtyłę na 264. biskupa Rzymu. Wojtyła przybrał imię Jana Pawła II - na cześć swoich trzech poprzedników.

Był pierwszym papieżem spoza Włoch od 455 lat i pierwszym papieżem pochodzącym z kraju słowiańskiego. Nieznany Włochom i większości świata, Jan Paweł II natychmiast zaczął zdobywać ich aprobatę i serca nieśmiałym, ale bezpośrednim sposobem bycia oraz przemawiając w wielu językach.

Uroczysta inauguracja pontyfikatu Jana Pawła II odbyła się na placu Św. Piotra 22 października 1978 r.

Jan Paweł II był 264. biskupem Rzymu, drugim najdłużej urzędującym papieżem (ponad 26 lat) od 1978 r. do śmierci w 2005 r.

Jan Paweł II poświęcił swoje życie służbie Kościołowi i ludzkości. Musiał poradzić sobie z takimi kwestiami, jak światowy pokój i dobrobyt ludzkości, wolność kultu religijnego;



wolność prasy, obrona godności ludzkiej i podstawowych praw człowieka. Wcielił się w rolę światowego nauczyciela wiary i przywódcy poprzez ludzkie podejście i bezpośredni kontakt ze zgromadzonymi - nauczając i podróżując po całym świecie. Jego podróże apostolskie w najbardziej bezpośredni sposób niosły jego przesłanie wiernym i ich przywódcom religijnym, politycznym i społecznym.

Podczas swojego pontyfikatu, papież Jan Paweł II odbył 104 podróże międzynarodowe, w czasie których odwiedził 130 krajów (niektóre z nich wielokrotnie) oraz 95 pielgrzymek we Włoszech. Jego pierwsza pielgrzymka do Polski w czerwcu 1979 r. była, zdaniem niektórych historyków, przełomem, który zapoczątkował upadek systemu komunistycznego.

Podczas swojego pontyfikatu ogłosił 482 świętych, więcej niż jego poprzednicy w ciągu pięciuset lat, beatyfikował 1338 osób i mianował 232 kardynałów. Napisał 14 encyklik, 14 adhortacji apostolskich, 12 konstytucji apostolskich, 42 listy apostolskie, sześć książek oraz utwory poetyckie.

Jan Paweł II twardo opowiadał się za dialogiem, był orędownikiem pokoju na świecie. Jako pierwszy papież przekroczył próg synagogi i meczetu, modlił się pod Ścianą Płaczu i ucałował Koran, zbudował harmonijne stosunki z wieloma narodami (m.in. Federacja Rosyjska i Organizacja Wyzwolenia Palestyny). Obecnie Watykan utrzymuje stosunki dyplomatyczne ze 174 krajami (85 na początku jego pontyfikatu). W 2000 r. Jan Paweł II przeprosił za wcześniejsze błędy Kościoła.

Był pierwszym papieżem, który m.in. odwiedził Biały Dom, przemówił na Zgromadzeniu (dok. na str. 21)



(dok. ze str. 20) Ogólnym ONZ w Nowym Jorku i odwiedził Kube.

Uczył świat miłości i przebaczenia. W 1983 r. Jan Paweł II odwiedził Mehmeta Ali Ağcę w więzieniu. Odbyli prywatną rozmowę, a papież wybaczył mu próbę zamachu 13 maja 1981 r. na Placu Świętego Piotra w Watykanie, w czasie której został kilkakrotnie postrzelony przez Ağcę.

Papież Jan Paweł II zmarł w Pałacu Apostolskim w sobotę, 2 kwietnia 2005 r. o godz. 21:37.

Jego pogrzeb odbył się 8 kwietnia 2005 r. na Placu Świętego Piotra. Po raz pierwszy świat tak licznie i tak wspólnie żegnał modlitwą jakiegokolwiek zmarłego. W uroczystości uczestniczyło 140 kardynałów,

10 przedstawicieli rodów królewskich, ponad 200 prezydentów i premierów, patriarchów z Kościołów wschodnich i protestanckich, duchowni żydowscy, islamscy i buddyjscy, liczni przedstawiciele z 18 organizacji międzynarodowych i 15 ruchów religijnych. Mszy świętej pogrzebowej przewodniczył Joseph kardynał Ratzinger, późniejszy papież Benedykt XVI. Szacuje się, że dwa miliony pielgrzymów (300 tys. na Placu Świętego Piotra) ze 112 krajów wypełniło plac i ulice przylegające do placu, aby osobiście uczestniczyć w uroczystościach pogrzebowych. Msza była pierwszą mszą pogrzebową dla papieża, która była transmitowana na żywo w tele-

wizji w większości krajów na świecie. Miliony wiernych zgromadzone w kościołach i przed telewizorami na placach i ulicach w Azji, Europie, Ameryce, Afryce i Australii złożyły hołd Janowi Pawłowi II, modląc się i oglądając transmisję z Watykanu.

Jan Paweł II został pochowany w krypcie pod Bazyliką Świętego Piotra.

Z chwilą odejścia Jana Pawła II, wierni na świecie zaczęli domagać się wyniesienia Ojca Świętego Jana Pawła II na ołtarze. W maju 2005 r. papież Benedykt XVI zrezygnował z okresu oczekiwania na rewizję beatyfikacyjną i kanonizacyjną Jana Pawła II (zwyczajowo musi minąć co najmniej pięć lat od śmierci).

1 maja 2011 r. Jan Paweł II został beatyfikowany przez papieża Benedykta XVI.

Papież Jan Paweł II został wyniesiony na ołtarze wraz z papieżem Janem XXIII podczas wspólnej ceremonii kanonizacyjnej w Watykanie w dniu 27 kwietnia 2014 r.

30 kwietnia 2014 r. trumna ze szczątkami Jana Pawła II została złożona w Kaplicy Świętego Sebastiana Bazyliki Świętego Piotra.

Sejm Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej ustalił rok 2020 jako Rok Świętego Jana Pawła II. 18 maja 2020 bieżącego roku cały świat będzie upamiętniał setne urodziny naszego polskiego Świętego, który jest patronem w tych trudnych czasach.

## 75-LECIE ZAKOŃCZENIA II WOJNY ŚWIATOWEJ I 80-LECIA ZBRODNI KATYŃSKIEJ

Głównymi przyczynami wybuchu II wojny światowej były m.in.: narastające w Niemczech niezadowolenie z postanowień traktatu wersalskiego, ekspansja ideologii nazistowskiej oraz wzrost władzy Adolfa Hitlera i partii nazistowskiej w Niemczech. W 1939 r. Hitler i Mussolini (lider partii faszystowskiej we Włoszech) podpisali pakt, tworząc „państwa Osi” (27 września 1940 r. dołączyła do nich Japonia). W 1939 r. III Rzesza zajęła Austrię i Kraj Sudecki (region Czechosłowacji) a w 1939 r., całą Czechosłowację. 23 sierpnia 1939 r. III Rzesza podpisała z ZSRR pakt zakładający podział Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej.

1 września, bez wypowiedzenia wojny, wojska niemieckie zaatakowały Polskę w skoordynowanym ataku powietrzno-lądowym, a niemieckie okręty zaatakowały polskie siły morskie na Morzu Bałtyckim. Wczesnym rankiem, niemiecki pancernik Schleswig-Holstein otworzył ogień do kontrolowanego przez Polskę portu w Gdańsku. Niemcy rozpoczęli naloty na Warszawę i inne polskie miasta. Atak na Gdańsk spotkał się z oporem polskiego personelu poczty, który skapitułował po 15-godzinnej obronie.

Wielka Brytania i Francja zażądały wycofania się Niemiec z Polski do 3 września. Po zignorowaniu ultimatum przez Niemców, Wielka Brytania i Francja wypowiedziały wojnę III Rzeszy, ale niewiele zrobiły militarnie, aby pomóc Polsce. 8 września siły niemieckie dotarły na przedmieścia Warszawy.

17 września Związek Radziecki zaatakował Polskę od wschodu. Następnego dnia polski rząd i przywódcy wojskowi opuścili kraj, a wkrótce potem zaczął działać Rząd Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej na uchodźstwie. III Rzesza i ZSRR rozpoczęły okupację Polski i likwidację polskiej państwowości. Ostatnia bitwa kampanii wrześniowej (pod

Kockiem) zakończyła się 6 października.

Po agresji ZSRR na Polskę na terenie Związku Radzieckiego zostało uwięzionych ponad 300 000 Polaków. Dziesiątki tysięcy oficerów Wojska Polskiego i polskiej inteligencji internowano w obozach w Kozielsku, Ostaszkowie, Starobielsku i mniejszych obozach i więzieniach (niektórzy podoficerowie i cywile zostali wysłani do obozów pracy). 5 marca 1940 r. podpisano rozkaz egzekucji 25 700 więźniów. W kwietniu i maju więźniów wywieziono do miejsc egzekucji. Więźniów z Kozielska rozstrzelano w Puszczy Katyńskiej (pod Smoleńskiem). Więźniów ze Starobielska zamordowano w więzieniu NKWD w Charkowie, ich ciała pochowano w grobach zbiorowych w pobliżu wsi Piatykhatty, a więźniów z Ostaszkowa w więzieniu w Kalininie i pochowano w Miednoje.

Od końca 1939 r. do początku 1941 r. Niemcy podbili znaczną część Europy. Operacje wojskowe i bitwy toczyły się na wielu frontach na całym świecie: m.in. wojna na Bałkanach, powietrzna bitwa o Anglię i bitwa o Atlantyk.

22 czerwca 1941 r. państwa Osi wypowiedziały wojnę Związkowi Radzieckiemu, co spowodowało, że ZSRR dołączył do Aliantów.

USA wypowiedziały wojnę Japonii po ataku japońskim na bazę amerykańską Pearl Harbor na Hawajach w dniu 7 grudnia 1941 r. 11 grudnia Niemcy i Włochy wypowiedziały wojnę USA.

17 lipca 1942 r. rozpoczęła się ofensywa Stalina. Bitwa zakończyła się 2 lutego 1943 r. sowiecką obroną miasta. Od tego czasu front wschodni zaczął przesunąć się na zachód.

19 kwietnia 1943 r., po tym jak wojska niemieckie i policja wkroczyły do getta warszawskiego w celu deportacji ocalałych mieszkańców, wybuchło w getcie powstanie. Powstanie zostało stłumione 16 maja 1943 r. Mieszkańcy getta, którzy

przeżyli, zostali deportowani do obozów koncentracyjnych lub zabici.

W dniach 28 listopada -1 grudnia 1943 r. Józef Stalin (ZSRR), Franklin D. Roosevelt (USA) i Winston Churchill (Wielka Brytania) spotkali się w Teheranie (Iran) gdzie podjęli decyzję o losie Europy Wschodniej i Niemiec w okresie powojennym.

Od 17 stycznia do 18 maja 1944 r. we Włoszech toczyła się bitwa o Monte Cassino. Polscy żołnierze znacząco przyczynili się do zwycięstwa aliantów.

6 czerwca 1944 r. alianci odnieśli zwycięstwo w Normandii, które jest uważane za punkt zwrotny II wojny światowej w Europie.

1 sierpnia 1944 r. wybuchło powstanie warszawskie zorganizowane przez Armię Krajową - AK, jedną z najlepiej działających podziemnych organizacji w Europie, zakończone upadkiem po 63 dniach. AK miała nadzieję wyzwolić Warszawę spod okupacji niemieckiej i odzyskać kontrolę nad Warszawą, zanim kontrolę przejmą Sowietci. Armia radziecka, która zbliżała się do Warszawy, wstrzymała działania bojowe, umożliwiając Niemcom stłumienie oporu. 85% miasta zostało celowo zniszczone przez siły niemieckie. 200 tys. cywilów zginęło, 55 tys. wysłano do obozów koncentracyjnych, a około 700 000 wydalono z miasta. Kilka tysięcy powstańców zostało zabitych, rannych i uwięzionych.

25 stycznia 1945 r. zakończyła się porażką Niemców ofensywa III Rzeszy w Ardenach - była to ostatnia znacząca operacja ofensywna III Rzeszy podczas II wojny światowej.

W dniach 4-11 lutego 1945 r. odbyła się w Jaltie konferencja, podczas której prezydent USA Franklin D. Roosevelt, premier Wielkiej Brytanii Winston Churchill i premier Związku Radzieckiego Joseph Stalin dyskutowali m.in. o warunkach pokojowych w powojennej Europie, ustanowieniu polskiego rządu tymczasowego i uzgodnieniu wschodniej granicy Polski.

16 kwietnia 1945 r. wojska radzieckie wspierane przez wojska polskie, rozpoczęły ofensywę Berlina. (dok. na str. 22)



# UBEZPIECZENIA BEZ TAJEMNIC

**Robert Sobczak**  
*Specjalista ds. ubezpieczeń*

Każdego dnia blisko 12 tysięcy osób zbliża się do wieku, w którym przysługuje im Medicare. Badania rynku pokazują, że aż 67% seniorów chciałoby lepiej zrozumieć zasady jego działania. W dzisiejszym artykule poruszę 6 kluczowych kwestii, o których powinna wiedzieć każda osoba wchodząca lub będąca na Medicare.

## 1. MEDICARE SKŁADA SIĘ Z RÓŻNYCH CZĘŚCI

Jednym z mylących aspektów Medicare jest fakt, że składa się on z kilku odrębnych części. Każda z nich wiąże się z różnymi zasadami i kosztami. W wielkim skrócie:

- Część A - obejmuje wizyty w szpitalu i wykwalifikowaną opiekę pielęgniarską;
- Część B - obejmuje opiekę zapobiegawczą, wizyty lekarskie i diagnostykę;
- Część D - jest planem zniżkowym na leki na receptę.

Istnieje również coś takiego jak część C, zwana inaczej Medicare Advantage.

## 2. MEDICARE NIE JEST DARMOWE

Wiele osób uważa, że posiadanie Medicare nic nie kosztuje. Niestety nie jest to prawda. Chociaż część A jest bezpłatna dla przeważającej większości zarejestrowanych. Części B i D, a także niektóre plany związane z częścią C zazwyczaj pobierają składki.

## 3. MEDICARE NIE OBEJMUJE WSZYSTKIEGO

O ile niektóre plany typu Medicare Advantage mogą pokryć koszty części usług dentystycznych, związanych z badaniem lub leczeniem wzroku oraz słuchu, o tyle oryginalny Medicare oferuje bardzo ograniczony zakres pokrycia kosztów w powyższych kategoriach. Na przykład opłata

za usługę dentystyczną jest generalnie dokonywana tylko wtedy, gdy wiąże się one z innym leczonym schorzeniem pokrywanych przez Medicare lub jeśli przed operacją objętą ubezpieczeniem konieczne jest badanie stomatologiczne. I chociaż oryginalny Medicare zapłaci za badanie i leczenie niektórych chorób oczu, takich jak jaskra, nie pokryje on kosztów badań wzroku ani okularów na receptę.

Ponadto Medicare nie zapłaci za opiekę długoterminową, taką jak pomoc domowa, domy spokojnej starości lub domy opieki, jeśli opieka ta ma charakter opiekuńczy - co oznacza konieczność codziennego życia, w przeciwieństwie do zaspokojenia czysto medycznej potrzeby.

## 4. UBEZPIECZENIE DODATKOWE JEST CZĘSTO KONIECZNOŚCIĄ

Jeśli zarejestrujesz się na oryginalne Medicare, przygotuj dodatkowy budżet na koszty związane z pokryciem Medigap lub uzupełnieniami do Medicare. Pamiętaj, że suplementy do oryginalnego Medicare nie zapłacą za usługi niezatwierdzone przez Medicare. Mogą za to pokryć koszty wydatków, takich jak deductible, co-pays, coinsurance w usługach objętych przez część A i B Medicare.

## 5. MASZ WYBÓR

W ramach Medicare masz możliwość wyboru planu części D, który najlepiej odpowiada Twoim potrzebom. Jeśli natomiast zdecydujesz się na część C, czyli Medicare Advantage, możesz porównać opcje planów tak, aby zobaczyć, który z nich jest najbardziej odpowiada w Twojej indywidualnej sytuacji.

Co więcej, nie wybierasz planu do końca życia. Jeśli nie jesteś zadowolony ze swojego ubezpieczenia, możesz zmienić plan co najmniej raz do roku, podczas corocznego, otwartego okresu zapisowego na Medicare, który trwa od 15 października, do 7 grudnia każdego roku.

## 6. NIE JESTEŚ SAM

Nie musisz sam dobierać planu do swoich pot-

rzeb. Na rynku są agenci specjalizujący się w pomocy osobom takim jak Ty. Jak wybrać dobrego agenta spośród wielu na rynku? Przede wszystkim agent musi znać się na rzeczy, mieć licencje ubezpieczeniową, egzamin AHIP i najlepiej by specjalizował się w planach do Medicare. Ogromnym atutem będzie fakt posiadania kontraktów z wieloma firmami ubezpieczeniowymi oferującymi podobne produkty do Medicare. Oznacza to nic innego niż to, że będzie on przeszkolony, i PRZEEGZAMINOWANY z produktów jakie oferuje rynek. Zasada jest prosta: im więcej dużych firm rozpoznawalnych na rynku w portfolio Twojego agenta, tym większy obiektywizm. Musi on posiadać również zdolność tłumaczenia planów w sposób dla Ciebie zrozumiały.

Na marginesie chciałbym tylko dodać, że żaden szanujący się agent nie będzie pobierał dodatkowych opłat za swoje usługi. Tę sprawę podkreślam w każdym wywiadzie, artykule prasowym jak również w mediach społecznościowych.

## 7. NAUCZ SIĘ MEDICARE

Koszty związane z Medicare będą musiały zostać uwzględnione w Twoim budżecie emerytalnym, więc opłaca się o nich wiedzieć na długo przed opuszczeniem na stałe miejsca pracy i przejściem na emeryturę. W ten sposób będziesz lepiej przygotowany do oceny Twoich oszczędności i dokonywania wyborów finansowych, które nie pozostawiają Cię bez środków pieniężnych w latach późniejszych.

Pamiętaj, że opieka zdrowotna jest jednym z największych wydatków, z jakimi borykają się seniorzy, a dobre zrozumienie Medicare pomoże Ci uniknąć podstawowych błędów.

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## 75-LECIE ZAKOŃCZENIA II WOJNY ŚWIATOWEJ *(dok. ze str. 21)*

27 kwietnia Benito Mussolini został schwytany we Włoszech i zastrzelony. 30 kwietnia Adolf Hitler popełnił samobójstwo w bunkrze pod swoją kwaterą główną w Berlinie. Bitwa o Berlin zakończyła się 2 maja.

7 maja 1945 r. podpisano w Reims (Francja) bezwarunkowego poddania się III Rzeszy. Akt podpisali generał Walter Bedell Smith i generał Ivan Susloparow (w imieniu aliantów) oraz generał Alfred Jodl, generał Wilhelm Oxenius

i admirał Hans-Georg von Friedeburg (w imieniu III Rzeszy). Akt miał wejść w życie 8 maja o 23:01. 8 maja wieczorem (9 maja czasu moskiewskiego) w kwaterze głównej generała Żukowa w Berlinie podpisano drugi akt kapitulacji III Rzeszy.

II wojna światowa była największym i najbardziej śmiertelnym konfliktem międzynarodowym w historii ludzkości. Obejmała ponad 30 krajów na całym świecie i pochłonęła od 60 do 80 milionów ludzi (szacunkowo 50-55 milionów cywilów i 21 do 25 milionów wojskowych). Sześć lat szeroko zakrojonych operacji wojskowych, przerażających zbrodni przeciwko ludzkości,

zniszczenia dużych ilości kapitału fizycznego, zmieniło systemy polityczne i gospodarcze w wielu krajach oraz życie ich obywateli. Szacuje się, że od 15 do 20 milionów ludzi zmarło lub było więzionych w obozach koncentracyjnych i gettach, w których „niepożądani” ludzie byli więzieni, głodzeni, torturowani i zabijani. Miliony ludzi zostały ranne, straciły domy i majątek. Wojna doprowadziła do całkowitego przetasowania granic i stref wpływów w Europie. Stany Zjednoczone i ZSRR podzieliły świat na dwa przeciwstawne bloki polityczne.



# „NAMALUJMY CHOPINA” Z PRCUA - PO RAZ PIERWSZY W MUZEUM POLSKIM W AMERYCE!

**Elżbieta Sawczuk**

**Zdjęcia: Patrycja Stępnia, inicjatorka „Namalujmy Chopina”**

Niektórzy z nich po raz pierwszy w życiu byli w muzeum, część po raz pierwszy w życiu słyszała muzykę Chopina, próbując pędzlem na płótnie oddać swoje emocje, namalować co im w duszy gra. Mowa o blisko 60-ciu uczestnikach muzyczno - malarskiego happeningu „Painting Chopin”, który odbył się w lutym w Muzeum Polskim w Ameryce. Głównym organizatorem wydarzenia, koncertu mającego być inspiracją dla młodych artystów malujących była Pracownia Plastyczna „Patricia Art Studio”.

Pomysł na akcję „Namalujmy Chopina” powstał wiele lat temu – wspomina Patrycja Stępnia twórca projektu. „Przy okazji pierwszego festiwalu „Chopin In the City” zaproponowałam współpracę Grażynie Auguścik i omówiliśmy wtedy plan działania. I tak oto przy drugiej edycji, w programie festiwalu pojawiło się wydarzenie „Namalujmy Chopina. Jest to koncert inspirowany muzyką i sztukami audiowizualnymi, podczas którego dzieci przenoszą na płótno swoje inspiracje za pomocą farb”.

„Namalujmy Chopina” to część cieszącego się coraz większym uznaniem i zainteresowaniem chicagowskiego festiwalu „Chopin In the City”, którego celem jest propagowanie muzyki Chopina

i ukazywanie jej w różnych odsłonach.

„Malujemy Chopina” w Chicago, tańczymy Chopina w Chicago, gramy Chopina w różnych stylach muzycznych. I oto właśnie chodzi, by Chopin rozbrzmiewał i by kojarzył się zdecydowanie z polską kulturą i muzyką, bo on urodził się w Polsce. Był pół Francuzem, pół Polakiem, ale wiadomo, że jego muzyka jest polska i trzeba ją zwłaszcza młodemu pokoleniu zaprezentować w najbardziej przystępnej formie jak to tylko możliwe” – mówi Grażyna Auguścik, wokalistka jazzowa, założycielka „Sounds and Notes Foundation”, organizatorka festiwalu „Chopin In the City”.

Podczas warsztatów „Painting Chopin” odbyła się też amerykańska premiera dwujęzycznej książki napisanej i zilustrowanej przez Annę Mycek-Wodecki pt: „Outsider” czyli „Odmieniec”, o życiu i twórczości Fryderyka Chopina. Książki z przesłaniem do najmłodszych, ale i starszych odbiorców, by zawsze pielegnować swoją pasję.

„To jest taki Chopin w pigułce – tłumaczy autorka książki. Jest w niej jego krótka biografia, a cała osnowa tej książki polega na tym, by pokazać jak wielkim geniuszem był Chopin. Wszyscy mówią o nim geniusz, ale nikt się nie zastanawia nad tym, że człowiek ten zmarł w wieku 39 lat,

a to co zostawił po sobie, co zrobił przez ten krótki czas jest ponadludzkie. Geniusz to za małe słowo by opisać kogoś z tak nadprzyrodzoną siłą twórczą. Drugą bardzo ważną misją jaka mi przyświecała, było przekazanie przesłania, by dzieci uwierzyły w siebie. By nie dały sobie wmówić, że malują bohomyzy czy nie potrafią tańczyć. Jeżeli w duszy dziecku gra, że musi rysować, musi tańczyć, musi śpiewać to trzeba mu na to pozwolić” - przekonuje Anna Mycek-Wodecki, autorka i ilustratorka książki „Odmieniec”.

„Namalujmy Chopina” to bardzo ciekawy pomysł na spędzenie wolnego czasu dla najmłodszych. Jednak w założeniu organizatorów było również wzbudzenie w rodzicach poczucia misji - konieczności prezentowania dzieciom sztuki. Sztuk wizualnych, muzyki czy teatru, pięknego polskiego dziedzictwa, wspaniałych artystów czy choćby Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce, w którym dzięki zaproszeniu PRCUA happening się odbywał. Było to dla uczestników bardzo ciekawe doświadczenie bez względu na ich wiek. Najmłodszy mieli też okazję spotkać artystów, którzy zajmują się sztuką na codzień i przez całe życie. Mogli przekonać się, że sztuka może być alternatywą dla gier w telefonie komórkowym czy komputerze i, że w życiu ważna jest pasja. Pasja, która czasem może przerodzić się w zawód, jak w przypadku Grażyny Auguścik czy autorki książki o Chopinie Anny Mycek-Wodecki.

Oprawę muzyczną happeningu „Namalujmy Chopina” przygotowali uczniowie Akademii Paderewski Symphony Orchestra. W trakcie kon-



Chopinowskie inspiracje

certu wystąpił też Kamil Urbański.

Impreza odbyła się dzięki patronatowi Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce, a uczestniczący w niej rodzice mieli okazję zapoznać się z ofertą PRCUA.

Było dla nas wielką radością gościć w progach PRCUA i Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce wspaniałych, młodych artystów, którzy wzięli udział w happeningu muzyczno-malarskim „Painting Chopin” 2020! Dziękujemy organizatorom: „Fundacji Sounds and Notes”, pani Grażynie Auguścik, Patricia Art Studio i Patricji Stępnia za zaproszenie do projektu, Akademii PaSO za oprawę muzyczną i pani Annie Mycek-Wodecki za zapoznanie nas z niezwykłą książką „Outsider” czyli „Odmieniec”. To było fantastyczne przedpołudnie pełne inspiracji i niezapomnianych wrażeń. Do zobaczenia za rok!



Elżbieta Sawczuk - dyrektor marketingu PRCUA, Grażyna Auguścik - organizatorka „Chopin In the City” oraz Patrycja Stępnia - inicjatorka „Namalujmy Chopina”



Sala główna Muzeum pełna uczestników



Anna Mycek-Wodecki - autorka książki „Odmieniec”



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