

# NARÓD



# POLSKI

No. 6 - Vol. CXXV

June 1, 2011 - 1 czerwca 2011

## Polish Pontiff Becomes Blessed John Paul II

By Robert Strybel, Our Warsaw Correspondent

Warsaw - On Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast day that he himself had instituted, the late Pope John Paul II joined the ranks of the "Blesseds" who are one step away from Catholic sainthood. Millions of Poles watched live broadcasts of the beatification in their homes, and at least 100,000 traveled to Rome for the event. They were among some 1.5 million pilgrims from all over the world, who had converged on the Vatican to hear Pope Benedict XVI proclaim in Latin: "Through our Apostolic authority we give our assent for the Venerable Servant of God, John Paul II, Pope, to henceforth be called blessed and for his Feast Day to be observed on October 22nd of each year." That is the date of his 1978 papal inauguration.

On Saturday night, a "Santo Subito" banner was emblazoned on the side of the Circus Maximus field, where an all-night prayer vigil kicked off the beatification celebrations in earnest. The event featured testimony of the French nun whose inexplicable cure from Parkinson's disease was deemed miraculous by the Vatican, the miracle needed for John Paul to be beatified.

After the vigil officially ended, many pilgrims spent the night moving around the center visiting eight churches that stayed open all night, a "white night" of prayer in honor of the late pope. "He died a saint," Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, John Paul's longtime secretary, told the crowd.

The next morning, the huge crowd of worshippers, who were packed into St. Peter's Square, cheered, applauded and wept as a large portrait of the handsome, smiling Holy Father in the first years of his pontificate was unveiled seconds later. That moment was most deeply experienced by the late pope's compatriots, some of whom waved white and red flags and held up banners identifying individual Polish towns and parishes. "Gdansk Zaspas - Dziękujemy" (we thank you) read the banner from one of the Baltic port's neighborhoods. John Paul's beloved "górale" (Highlanders) were also out in force in their folk attire.

"By his witness of faith, love and apostolic courage, accompanied by great human charisma, this exemplary son of Poland helped believers throughout the world not to be afraid to be called Christian, to belong to the Church, to speak of the Gospel," Pope Benedict XVI said in his homily. "In a word: he helped us not to fear the truth, because truth is the guarantee of liberty. To put it even more succinctly: he gave us the strength to believe in Christ. (...) He restored to Christianity its true face as a religion of hope, of human fulfillment and the fulfillment of our yearning for justice and peace."

After the beatification ceremony had ended, thousands of faithful began lining up to file past the closed coffin of Blessed John Paul II at St. Peter's Basilica, to pay their respects.



PRCUA Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski and Irena Gavaghan at the site of the new crypt in which Blessed Pope John Paul II's remains were placed after his beatification

It was to remain there until all pilgrims wanting to pay tribute to the late pontiff had done so. The Poles among them had come by plane, train, bus or car, and some of the younger pilgrims had hitchhiked or come by bicycle. A few even came on foot. On the eve of the beatification, they could be seen camping on the streets in and around the Vatican.

It was scorching hot under sunny skies at the Vatican, where volunteers were on hand to pass out bottled water to pilgrims and offer first aid. The weather was quite different across Poland on that day, but the scattered showers, wind and unseasonably chilly temperatures failed to dampen the spirits of hundred of thousands of Poles who attended beatification Masses around the country. In many places, the live broadcast of the beatification could be seen in and around churches on large TV screens.

Major celebrations were held at Kraków's Divine Mercy Basilica, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa and at the late Pope's birthplace of Wadowice - all in southern Poland. After attending the beatification Mass, Prime Minister Donald Tusk toured the former Wojtyla home, which has been turned into a museum. Like many Poles, he credited the late Pontiff for the freedom Poland now enjoys. "If we compare Poland's situation, when Karol Wojtyla became pope, with the situation today, we can truly say that a miracle has occurred," he told journalists covering the event. A festive outdoor concert of Pope John Paul II's favorite hymns and folk songs rounded out the evening's celebrations in Wadowice.

In Warsaw, thousands gathered at Pilsudski Square to watch the televised proceedings and attend Holy Mass. It was there, in 1979, during Pope John Paul II's first pilgrimage to his native land, that he uttered his momentous words on the Feast of Pentecost: "May Your Spirit descend and change the face of the land...this land!" Many Poles regard those words as the spark of inspiration that helped (Continued on page 3)



Pope Benedict XVI in Rome

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



# Calendar of PRCUA Events

## JUNE

**4 STERLING HTS., MI - PJP II ANNUAL YOUTH BOWLING** for ages 3 to 16 on Sat., June 4, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 pm, Five Star Lanes, 16 Mile & Dequindre, Sterling Hts., MI. Cost: \$4 per PRCUA member regular bowler; \$5 per bumper bowler; \$6 per non-member regular bowler. Price includes games, shoe rental, pizza/beverage. Registration at 10:15 a.m. Contact: Dir. Chris Ozog 586-524-4907

**5 HICKORY HILLS, IL - MARIA KONOPNICKA PRCUA SOCIETY #1622 PICNIC** on Sun., June 5 at Noon, Buffalo Woods, 87th St. and Kean Ave., Platform #4. Come and join us for fun. Sports, kid's games, raffles and surprises. A lot of delicious food, beer and soda can be purchased. Proceeds will go towards Soc. #1622 scholarship fund. Contact: Ed Muszalski (708) 599-9246 or John Frankowicz (708) 598-5171

**6 PHILADELPHIA, PA - POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT AT THE BALLGAME** Join PRCUA District 3 on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. to be a part of POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT. It's the Phillies vs. LA Dodgers. From 6:15 there will be pre-game entertainment at Citizens Bank Park at the ballpark gates by the Polish American String Band. On the field at 6:35 the PKM Dancers and the Polish American String Band will entertain. Tickets are \$26. You may go to the following link and buy tickets directly from the Phillies. The promotional code is "PAN". <http://mlb.mlb.com/phi/ticketing/group/splash.jsp?loc=pan>  
For additional questions, call the PRCUA Philadelphia Office at 215-4235-3807

**9 LANSING, MI - WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 MEETING** on Thurs., June 9 at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Pot luck dinner at 6 pm; meeting follows at 7 pm. Contact: Tom Croff 517-627-0222

**12 ALLEN PARK, MI - FATHER AL'S SOCIETY #1493 MEETING** on June 12 at 2 pm. For more information you can email the society at [father\\_als\\_1493@yahoo.com](mailto:father_als_1493@yahoo.com) or join Al's Society #1493 on Facebook or contact 734-941-3466

**12 CHICAGO, IL - SACRED HEART MASS HOSTED BY DISTRICT #7** on June 12 at 10:00 am at St. Ferdinand Church, 5900 W. Barry Ave., Chicago. Lunch after Mass at Grota Banquets, 3112 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL. \$22 per person. Free parking 1/2 block north. For reservations and information contact: Dir. Bob Bugielski, 773-725-5655

**12 NILES, IL - POLONIA ENSEMBLE 25TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET & PROGRAM** on Sun., June 12 at 5 p.m. at House of the White Eagle, 6839 Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL. Open bar. Tickets are \$65 for adults (Open Bar) and \$18 for ages 16 yrs. and younger. Contact: Anna Krysinski 847-529-2555

**14 FLAG DAY - Fly your American flag proudly!**

**14 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., June 14 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: L. McClain, 306 Power St., Johnstown, PA 15906

**19 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY! Time to show some special love and appreciation!**

**19 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING** on Sun., June 19 at 1 pm. at PRCU #162 Hall, 1430 Oak Street, Wyandotte, MI. Dues: L. Alexander, 1059 Molno, Wyandotte, MI 48192

## JULY



**4 INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

**14 LANSING, MI - WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 MEETING** on Thurs., July 14 at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Pot luck dinner at 6 pm; meeting follows at 7 pm. Contact: Tom Croff 517-627-0222

**16 LA PORTE, IN - 59th ANNUAL PRCUA GOLF TOURNAMENT** on Sat., July 16 - Hosted by Sacred Heart Soc. #1031; R. Lambert, Chairperson. (See details below.)

**17 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING** on Sun., July 17 at 1 pm. at PRCU #162 Hall, 1430 Oak Street, Wyandotte, MI. Dues: L. Alexander, 1059 Molno, Wyandotte, MI 48192

**19 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., July 19 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: L. McClain, 306 Power St., Johnstown, PA 15906

**20 CHICAGO, IL - SOC. #475 MEETING** on Wed., July 20 at 7:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Contact: B. Jura 773-685-3134

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



## CALLING ALL GOLFERS TO THE 59TH ANNUAL PRCUA NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The PRCUA will hold its 59th National Golf Tournament at the Briar Leaf Golf Club in La Porte, Indiana, on Saturday, July 16, 2011. Sacred Heart Society #1031 is hosting this tournament; a shotgun start format is scheduled for 7:00 am and 1:00 pm.

The Best Western La Porte Hotel, 444 Pine Lake Avenue in La Porte, will be the headquarters for the tournament. Be sure to mention you are with the PRCUA National Golf Tournament group; the rate for rooms is \$75.00, plus tax. Make your reservations by calling 219-362-4585, or toll-free 1-800-780-7234. Cutoff date for reservations is June 15, 2011, so make them early!

An entry form can be downloaded from the PRCUA website [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) or by calling the Fraternal Department toll-free at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2601.

Rick and Lori Lambert, and their committee are excited to host this event. For those coming early, they have obtained a special rate at the golf course; rounds will be \$25.00 on Friday, July 15th. A hospitality room will be open on Friday evening in the hotel and the awards ceremony and dance will take place there Saturday evening.

Important Notice: The home office staff will schedule golfers according to the date the entries are received.

Executive Committee

PRCUA Res.  
V.P. Anna  
Sokolowski in  
Rome with  
Poland's  
President  
Bronislaw  
Komorowski  
and PRCUA  
member  
Irena  
Gavaghan



POLISH PONTIFF BECOMES BLESSED JOHN PAUL II

(Continued from page 1) them regain their freedom and independence.

In 1980, a year later, Polish workers launched a strike wave that led to the emergence of Solidarnosc, the first independent trade union in the Soviet bloc. The rest is history and includes the peaceful overthrow of communist rule across the continent, the dismantling of the iron curtain and the end of the cold war. Poles old enough to remember those events usually say they are thankful to have lived through the Polish pontificate.



Archbishop  
Szczepan  
Wesoly and  
PRCUA  
Res. V.P.  
Anna  
Sokolowski

It was not surprising that Poles were overwhelmingly enthusiastic about the beatification. According to a survey by CBOS, Poland's largest polling organization, 95 percent of those queried said it was an important event in their lives and 93 percent expressed the view that it would prove important for Poland.

\* \* \*

(Editor's Note: Below is an article written by PRCUA Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, who attended the beatification in person.)

Dear Readers,

Since the January 14th announcement by the Vatican that the Beatification of our beloved Pope John Paul II would take place on May 1, 2011, the Feast of Divine Mercy, my friend, Irena Gavaghan, and I wasted no time in making arrangements to travel to Rome and experience firsthand the beatification. Together with millions of faithful people we waited for this day.

After our arrival in Rome on April 29, we rushed to the Vatican for our short meeting with Cardinal Andrzej Maria Deskur, close friend of late John Paul II. After our visit and his blessing we were escorted to the crypt of John Paul II, beneath the altar of St. Peter's Basilica which had just been exhumed. We were allowed to go to the casket containing the remains of John Paul II, pray and kiss his coffin. Later the coffin was transferred to the foot of the main altar of St. Peter's Basilica, where pilgrims could pay homage to Blessed John Paul II after the beatification.

Rome was packed with the faithful from all over the world. Many streets in Rome were decorated with flags bearing the images of John Paul II and numerous streets near the Vatican were closed; the only way to get around was on foot.

On Sunday, May 1, the beatification ceremony took place under the hot sun at the Vatican. Over 1.5 million pilgrims, many from Poland, crammed St. Peter's Square and the surrounding area. The whole area was cordoned off. We had to be there very early in the morning and go through very elaborate security. At 10:00 a.m. the Beatification Mass began, concelebrated by Pope Benedict XVI, cardinals and bishops. Shortly after the start of the Mass, Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter's Square before pilgrims, caring and waiving national flags, banners and images of the late Pontiff, pronounced John Paul II "Blessed". Upon hearing those words, the crowd broke into tears, cheers, applause and chant of "Santo Subito" (sainthood now).

As our tears flowed, the giant banner bearing John Paul II's portrait was unveiled over the facade of St. Peter's Basilica. Personally, for me, it was a unique emotional moment that I never experienced in my life; it was a moment of great joy, pride and faith. It was the fact of accepting that this ceremony was an important step toward Blessed John Paul II's sainthood and official recognition by the church for his life-long work. It was also knowing that John Paul II was our guide in faith, truth and freedom as he radiated peace, unity and love of God for all people of every nationality throughout the world. He was our inspiration in the past, is in the present and hopefully will be in the future.

During the homily Pope Benedict XVI reflected upon his personal recollections of John Paul II as they worked together for almost 25 years. He mentioned the strong bond that Blessed John Paul II had with the Virgin Mary and how close the Virgin Mary was to his heart.

Resident V.P.  
Anna  
Sokolowski  
standing next to  
a poster  
of Pope  
John Paul II  
welcoming  
pilgrims to  
Rome  
for  
the  
beatification



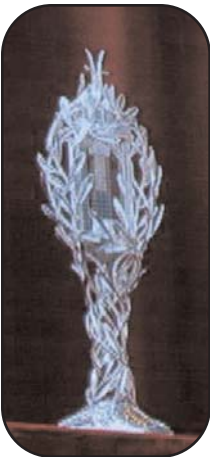
First Lady of  
Poland Anna  
Komorowska,  
Dr. Joanna  
Heyman  
Salvade  
(Professor of  
Cardiology)  
from Italy &  
Anna  
Sokolowski



Irena Gavaghan and Anna  
Sokolowski visiting with  
His Excellency Andrzej  
Maria Cardinal Deskur

(Photos from the  
collection of PRCUA  
Resident Vice President  
Anna Sokolowski)

Kissing the  
coffin of Pope  
John Paul II  
before it was  
taken to St.  
Peter's altar  
for the  
beatification  
ceremony and  
placed in its  
new location in  
St. Peter's  
after the  
ceremony



Holy relic: vial  
containing blood of  
Pope John Paul II

Pope Benedict XVI also said that Blessed John Paul II had "the strength of a Titan and gave millions of people 'the strength to believe which came to him from God.'"

During the Mass, Pope Benedict XVI received a silver reliquary (container for relics) holding a small vial of John Paul II's blood. This relic was presented by Sister Marie Simon Pierre, the French nun cured of Parkinson's Disease through her prayers to John Paul II, and Sister Tobiana, the Polish nun who cared for John Paul II throughout his Pontificate.

The televised ceremony was shown on huge TV screens that were set up around the Vatican, so that the million-plus faithful who were in the square and in the nearby streets leading to St. Peter's could witness the beautiful Mass and ceremony.

The ceremony was attended by many religious and political leaders and royalty representing many nations of the world. Among them was the President of the Republic of Poland, Bronislaw Komorowski with members of his cabinet and Poland's former Presidents Lech Walesa and Aleksander Kwasniewski.

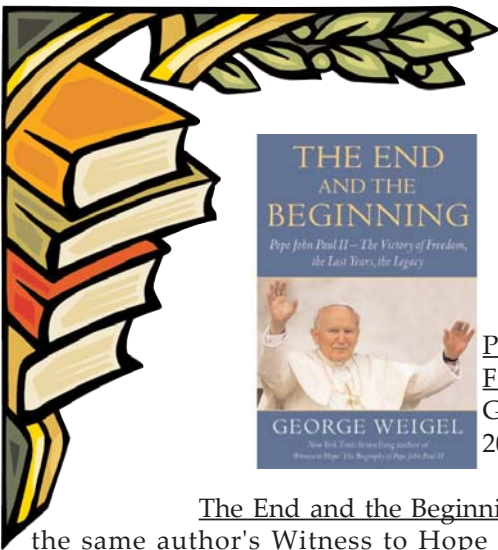
After the Mass, Pope Benedict XVI with cardinals, bishops and heads of state, followed by thousands of faithful, passed by the Blessed late Pope's coffin in St. Peter's Basilica and paid homage to him. The lines to the Basilica were miles long as every pilgrim wanted to pray and pay homage to our beloved pontiff on that Sunday and Monday. Later, the coffin was taken to its final resting place at the entrance of St. Peter's Basilica, near Michelangelo's Pieta at the chapel of St. Sebastian.

Dear Readers, let's pray and pay homage to our beloved Pope, now Blessed John Paul II; may his wisdom, humor, grace, forgiveness, hope, faith and his commitment to living according to Christian values be a guide in our lives. May his Beatification be just a small step in recognizing his global impact.

Resident V.P. Anna Sokolowski

Beatification Mass





# Book Review

The End and the Beginning:  
Pope John Paul II-The Victory of  
Freedom, the Last Years, the Legacy.  
George Weigel. Doubleday: New York,  
2010. 590 pp. \$32.50.

The End and the Beginning by George Weigel is the sequel to the same author's Witness to Hope - two volumes which comprise the definitive biography of Pope John Paul the Great, not just in English but in any language.

Published in 1999, with the cooperation of Pope John Paul but with no editorial intervention by the Pontiff or by anyone in the Vatican, Witness to Hope instantly became an international best seller and was widely acclaimed as the most authoritative biography of John Paul available. With The Beginning and the End, Weigel completes the task of chronicling the life and papacy of Karol Wojtyla, which he began more than a decade ago.

The current volume is divided into three sections. The jacket of the book reports that *The Victory of Freedom*, the first section, "tells the dramatic story of the Pope's battle with communism in the light of recently disclosed and previously classified documents." It might more accurately have reported that this section tells the story of communism's battle to discredit and silence John Paul who, for his part, was simply defending the fundamental human rights to which all people are entitled. However it is described, this section breaks new ground in documenting the lengths to which the governments, intelligence services, and Soviet Block secret police went in their efforts to deter John Paul from insisting on those rights.

Weigel also provides new insights into the mind and strategy of John Paul as he pursued his goals of defending those rights. For the first time, many readers, especially younger readers, will appreciate the true significance of "the victory of freedom" which resulted in the defeat of European communism and the demise of the Soviet Empire - a turn of events literally unimaginable in 1978 when Karol Wojtyla was elected to the chair of St. Peter.

*The Last Years*, the second section of the book, covers the years in the life of John Paul from the publication of *Witness to Hope* to his death on April 2, 2005. One of the fascinating features of this section is how extraordinarily productive the final years of John Paul's papacy were. Despite debilitating health problems and the suggestion of some critics that he might no longer be able to carry on his office, John Paul's accomplishments during the period in question are amazing. Ignoring the daily duties of the papal office and focusing on some of the highlights, one cannot help but be impressed. From 1999 to 2005, John Paul made almost 20 foreign trips including visits to Egypt, the Holy Land, Greece, Syria, Malta, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Mexico, Poland, Spain, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovakia, Switzerland, and France. He hosted 2 International World Youth Days, 3 International Congresses, and 1 Synod of Bishops. He created 75 new cardinals, oversaw the revision of Canon Law, and beatified and canonized dozens of new blessed and saints including Padre Pio, Sister Faustina Kowalska, and Mother Teresa. He wrote his 14th encyclical and several apostolic letters and exhortations, and published 3 personal works: *Roman Triptych* (poems), *Rise, Let Us Be on Our Way* (memoir of his life as a bishop), and *Memory and Identity* (personal reflections on a range of topics, perhaps most importantly the topic of "evil").

The most moving aspects of this section, however, take us behind the public record. A few points stand out: John Paul's understanding of the value of suffering, his courage in the face of his own suffering, and his unwavering commitment to his office and to people. John Paul once wrote that suffering "seems to be particularly essential to the nature of man." Recognizing that "animals feel pain" but that "only men and women suffer" seemed, according to Weigel, to suggest to John Paul that suffering, in a paradoxical way, is a "signal of transcendence." In keeping with this notion, John Paul wrote that suffering is "one of those points in which man is in a certain sense 'destined' to go beyond himself." Even those who grieved at the Pope's frailty and pain, surely came to recognize in his personal witness "the power of redemptive suffering" and to see in him "an icon of Christ on the cross." Here, as always, John Paul governed by example. Weigel comments that John Paul's example reflected "the truth of Christ's admonition to Peter in the twenty-first chapter of John's Gospel, that he would be bound and taken where he did not want to go. Although the binding in this case was not a matter of chains and an inverted cross, but of a body that refused to obey the Pope's will, the witness was manifestly Petrine." As part of this observation, Weigel quotes the French journalist Andre Frossard who commented, "This is not a pope from Poland; this is a pope from Galilee."

In the face of great pain and suffering, John Paul, in a peaceful and even cheerful manner, lived out Christ's and the Church's teaching on the value of human life under all circumstances; and he did so while comforting others. During his final pilgrimage to Lourdes, as throughout his pontificate, he reached out in a special way to the sick and suffering; but this time he identified himself as "a sick man among the sick." Weigel reports a particularly moving attempt of the frail John Paul to comfort a fellow sufferer: ". . . Krzysztof Rybicki, a veteran Srodowisko member (the network of friends with whom John Paul was associated as a young priest in Krakow), was stricken with cancer. The Pope called him for a long conversation prior to major surgery on January 6, 2003; and when Rybicki had to return to the hospital in early March, John Paul called him on the dying man's cell phone: 'Krzysiu, do you remember how we used to sing carols together? We can sing together even now.' And they did." The remarkable legacy, which John Paul the Great left the world and the Church, would have been significantly diminished had he followed the advice of gainsayers and resigned his Apostolic office as his body failed.

In the third section of this extraordinary book, *The Legacy*, Weigel discusses the impact of John Paul's papacy on the Church. That legacy is so significant and Weigel's review so thorough that a lengthy summary is not possible here; but a few observations are in order. First, Weigel acknowledges that "the full measure of a pontificate and its achievements can only come with the passage of centuries"; but having said that, he makes it clear that there is little doubt that the pontificate of Pope John Paul II was, without a doubt, one of the "most consequential" in centuries, a conclusion that "not even his harshest critics can deny." Weigel then proceeds to examine the "unprecedented" record of Pope John Paul II (e.g., the canonization of 476 saints and the beatification of 1,314 Servants of God-more than all of his predecessors combined; the appointment of some 200 cardinals; the issuance of 14 encyclicals, 12 apostolic constitutions, and more than 40 apostolic letters; the theology of the body, etc.) and the flaws of his pontificate. The former Weigel addresses with keen insight; and the latter he analyzes with honesty, acknowledging legitimate shortcomings and refuting criticisms based on personal or political agendas. Finally, while conceding his judgments of John Paul's legacy must await the passage of centuries, Weigel makes clear what he sees as the undoubtable verdict:

. . . the universal outpouring of sympathy and gratitude at his death suggested that large parts of the world had already rendered a verdict: this was a great man and a great pope, whose greatness came from his ability to summon men and women to a nobler vision of their possibilities, under the grace of God. Years after his death, people around the world talked of having met him, having seen him, having been touched by him physically or spiritually. His place was secure in the hearts of perhaps billions of human beings; his memory would be cherished for generations.

The calls of "Santo Subito!" [A Saint Immediately!] and "Magnus!" [The Great!] shouted by millions in attendance at the funeral of John Paul and echoed in the hearts of "perhaps billions" more around the world certainly seem to confirm Weigel's conclusion.

Here, then, is an important book on a man who changed the course of history and whose impact - not only on the Catholic Church but also on the world at large - is undeniable. It should be noted that the book is exhaustively researched and that Weigel brings to his task "immense personal knowledge" and an exceptional sense of Church and world history. Although a scholarly book, The End and the Beginning is also well written, accessible to a popular audience, and marked by moments of powerful drama.

Two additional features make the book especially attractive for readers of *Narod Polski*. Not only is The End and the Beginning an exceptional biography; it provides valuable insights into Church teachings, recent Church history, and an opportunity to grow in the Faith. Beyond even that, the book necessarily provides sympathetic and rare glimpses of Polish history to millions of readers around the world. Two paragraphs early in the book which attempt to establish Karol Wojtyla as a "son of Poland" document the point:

By most historical accounts, Poland was something of a bit player on the 20th-century global stage: rarely a protagonist, often a victim, a country whose heroic virtues seemed to go hand-in-glove with a striking incapacity for governance and diplomacy. Yet, if we define the "20th century" not by chronology but by its central drama, the truth is that Poland played a pivotal role at several crucial moments between 1914 and 1991: those 70 years of Western civilizational crisis - that began when the guns of August launched World War I and ended when one of the effects of the Great War, the Soviet Union, disappeared.

By Lenin's own admission, the "Miracle on the Vistula" in 1920 - in which the Polish Forces of Marshal Jozef Pilsudski repulsed the Red Army cavalry and thrust Trotsky's forces back into Russia - was a "gigantic, unheard-of defeat" for communist world revolution. Nineteen years later, Poland was the first European state to offer armed resistance to Adolf Hitler, demonstrating the imperative of defending freedom against totalitarianism rather than attempting to appease its appetites. Fifty years after that, in 1989, Poland again asserted its right to freedom against seemingly insuperable odds, and became the fulcrum of a nonviolent revolution that swept European communism

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>SOC</u>	<u>ST</u>			
ANDERSON, HELEN	2003	PA	LUBERDA, ROSE	1004	IL
BABICZ, JOSEPHINE	540	NY	LUTHER, JOHN	1031	IN
BERNATH, ELEANORE	412	IL	MAKSAIL, TRICIA	1408	NY
BIDOL, WALTER	2320	WI	MALECKI, EDWARD	1000	IL
BIELLEN, ELEANOR	817	WI	MALISZEWSKI, ANNA	76	NJ
BOLKOSKY, EDWARD	479	PA	MALYSZEK, HELENA	843	MI
BORK, ERWIN	1368	MI	MARTIN, LUANNE	582	IL
BRZEZINSKI, CASIMIR	2100, 2220	OH	MARTIN, STELLA	2227	MI
BULKOWSKI, THEODORE	817	WI	MAYER, BERNICE	2227	MI
CACKOWSKI, WILMA	1000	IL	MORGALIS, ANN	181	NY
CHMIELESKI, HELEN	639	MA	NYKIEL, THOMAS	661	IL
CORBY, EARL	2308	WI	OSTRENGA, THEODORE	1004	IL
CZESAK, RAYMOND	795	IL	PANCZAKIEWICZ, ELIZABETH	540	NY
DUDA, PAUL	317	IL	PAWLAK, DOLORES	499	IN
DUNCAN, JANET	78	MI	PAZULSKI, THEODORE	2002	PA
ECKERT, HELEN	1111	MI	PERRY, KATHRYN	20	NJ
GEYER, BETTY	2319	PA	PIETRZAK, DAVID	2308	WI
GLOWACKI, BERNICE	413	IN	PLEWA, ANTHONY	2319	PA
GNOJEWSKI, RICHARD	1004	IL	PONIATOWSKI, JOSEPH	87	MI
GRENCEWICZ, BERNARD	2220	OH	ROSSANESE, JOSEPH	2005	NJ
GRENDYSA, HARRY	718	MI	RUTKOWSKI, JANE	242	NY
GUNIA, ANTHONY	408	IL	SAWICKI, PETER	840	NY
HAMBIDGE, DOROTHY	850	IN	SCHMIDT, ESTHER	354	IL
HUMLICK, CHARLOTTE	388	IL	SEWICK, EDWARD	261	MI
JANKOWSKI, STANLEY	2248	OH	SHISHILLA, STELLA	680	PA
KAMINSKI, IRENE	868	NY	SIOTKOWSKI, JOSEPHINE	2148	OH
KARPOWICZ, ROSE	2015	PA	SWIESZEK, JANE	1219	IL
KOPACZ, EDWARD	712	NY	SZCZUR, ANGELINE	531	PA
KUDLAM FLOYD	290	IL	TUREK, VINCENT	641	IL
KUREK, RUTH	880	IL	TYSZKA, WALTER	132	NY
KWIATKOWSKI, HELENA	479	PA	WASYLAK, LORRAINE	1004	IL
LADA, STELLA	2011	PA	WOZNIAK, STANLEY	463	CT
LEWANDOWSKI, JOSEPH	295	PA	WYZA, BARBARA	239	IL
LIZAK, HENRY	343	PA	ZALESKI, ROERT	509	IL
LORETA, GERTRUDE	2144	OH	ZALESKI, WALTER	977	OH
			ZIEMBA, HELEN	78	MI



*Message from  
Agnes Bastrzyk, Director  
Sales & Marketing Department*



Fr. Mikula lay in-state at St. Hedwig Church, where his Funeral Mass was held. This was followed with interment at St. Hedwig Cemetery. May he rest in eternal peace and may Fr. Mikula be blessed a hundredfold for all the good he did for others throughout his dedicated priesthood.

Naród  
Polski

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Fraternal  
Favorites

by PRCUA  
Members

Taffy Apple Dip Recipe

8 oz Cream Cheese                      8 oz Vanilla Yogurt  
½ cup of Brown Sugar                ½ tsp Vanilla

1 cup chopped unsalted peanuts

In bowl, mix all ingredients well and chill. Slice fresh apples,  
sprinkle lemon on them to keep them from turning brown and  
serve with dip.

Frozen Pickles

By Rita Zendian of Calumet City, IL

7 sm to med unpeeled pickles or cucumbers, thinly sliced  
1 c green peppers, chopped            1 c onions, chopped  
1 Tbsp. salt                                1 c vinegar  
2 c sugar                                  1 Tbsp. celery seed  
1/2 tsp. garlic powder

Mix first 4 ingredients with ice water. Cover for 1 day or  
overnight. Drain. Heat vinegar, sugar, celery seed to boiling.  
Add to pickle mixture. Store in refrigerator overnight. They  
are now ready to be eatern. You can freeze them or eat now.

Polish Pockets

By Aurelia Stadnick of Highland, IN

1 pkg kielbasa sausage, sliced        1/2 to 1 onion chopped  
1 green pepper, chopped                2 Tbsp. butter  
1 lg can sauerkraut                      1 c sour cream  
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard                    Pita bread

Saute sliced kielbasa in butter with onion and green peppers.  
Add drained sauerkraut and heat through. Then add sour  
cream and mustard and serve in pita pockets.

Corn Salad

By Aurelia Stadnik of Highland, IN

1 lg bell pepper                          2 cans shoepeg corn  
2 bunches green onions                3 ribs celery  
1 sm jar pimentos drained            1 tsp salt  
1 Tbsp sugar                              1 tsp mustard  
1 bottle Italisn salad dressing

Chop all veggies & pimento fine. Drain corn. Mix remaining  
ingredients except salad dressing. Stir in corn, add salad  
dressing, cover and refrigerate overnight. Stir well before  
serving.

PAPPAS WELCOMES POLISH  
POLITICAL FIGURE NITRAS



Cook Co. Treasurer Maria Pappas  
with Slawomir Witold Nitras

Cook County  
Treasurer Maria Pappas  
welcomed Slawomir Witold  
Nitras, Polish politician and  
political scientist, to her  
office. Nitras, who served  
in the Polish Parliament  
from 2005 to 2009, is a  
member of Civic Platform  
from Szczecin, a member of  
the European Parliament,  
has lectured at the  
University of Szczecin.  
Pappas and Nitras  
discussed governmental  
matters of both Cook  
County and Poland.

From the Office  
of the  
Secretary-  
Treasurer

James J. Robaczewski



We need the current address for the following members. If you  
know the address of anyone on this list, please send it to: James  
Robaczewski, Secretary-Treasurer, PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave.,  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101 or call (773) 782-2600 or 1-800-772-8632

SOC.	NAME	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS
33	Wolski, Thomas	400 N. McClurg-3312, Chicago, IL
66	Danowski, Anna	1015 Manor Dr, Wilmette, IL
87	Hodgin, Allyson	2533 N. Francisco Ave, Chicago, IL
162	Lankfer, Karen	440 Cambridge Dr, Middletown, OH
162	Drobek, Lori	1633 Emerson Circle, Rochester Hills, MI
224	Rusiewicz, Leonard	PO Box 124, Quakertown, PA
224	Risiewicz, Eleanor	18 Pine Strret, Natrona Heights, PA
224	Dworak, Walter	50 W. Crafton, Pittsburgh, PA
224	Napierski, Mary	10656 Salisbury Dr, Riverside, CA
224	Duster, Nicole	26 Dana Lane, Freeport, PA
227	August, Christopher	625 Maryland Ave, Dayton, OH
227	Plummer, Philip	2329 Upper Trent Way, Vandalia, OH
234	Zarozny, Mikolaj	7135 Osborne, Hammond, IN
234	Zarozny, Magdalena	7135 Osborne, Hammond, IN
234	Zarozny, Malgorzata	7135 Osborne, Hammond, IN
261	Mercer, Jennifer	PO Box 581, Lake, MI
308	Molek, Christine	3656 N. Bell, Chicago, IL
317	Wietrzykowski, Mary	2229 S. Grove Ave, Berwyn, IL
317	Marchwian, Paul	9940 W. 153th St Apt 2B, Orland Pk, IL
337	Smolinski, Michaeline	1550 Delaware St, Gary, IN
337	Tonner, Megan	1205 Greenwood St, Crown Point, IN
359	Moran, Aaron	6 Summit St, Adams, MA
385	Turkiewicz, Christel	7303 Reed College Pl, Portland, OR
413	Whittemore, Jacklyn	10747 Gleeever, Demotte, IN
471	Phebus, James	7339 W. Lee St, Niles, IL
475	Link, Miroslawa	1415 N. Park Dr, Mt Prospect, IL
475	Gall, Jeffrey	8411 W. Berwyn, Chicago, IL
642	Leibforth, James	PO Box 48891, Niles, IL
671	Praznowski, Dalma	2918 N. Kilpatrick, Chicago, IL
718	Gordon, Sheryl	11641 Stoneview Sq, Reston, VA
718	Kuznicki, Brenda	6661 Fern, Detroit, MI
718	Czarnecki, Daniel	6642 Ardsley Ct, Canton, MI
718	Koczara, Sheryl	11641 Stoneview Sq, Reston, VA
878	Niewinski, Jonathon	764 N. Howard Ave, Elmhurst, IL
880	Teper, Urszula	2522 S. Menard St, Chicago, IL
880	Winiecki, Katrina	6910 Soerra Dr, Darien, IL
893	Kielkucki, Michael	5934 Hillcrest, Mound, MN
896	Sand, Kathryn	18 Belgrade Ave, Pawtucket, RI
896	Sand, Christopher	18 Belgrade Ave, Pawtucket, RI

News from St. Casimir Society #237

St. Casimir Society #237 of Pittsburgh, PA held its election  
of officers on May 2, 2011. The new officers are:  
Joseph "Josh" Jarzynka - President; Joseph "Bob" Paieski -  
VP/Financial Secretary; Thomas Fowler - Secretary; Board  
Members: James "Bo" Berkey, Gary Knoftz, Ronald Weiss and  
Anthony "Rabbits" Tedesco.

PRCUA National Secretary/Treasurer James Robaczewski  
was present at the meeting, along with National Director of  
District #3 Ed Kaplaniak.

Submitted by Joe Paieski

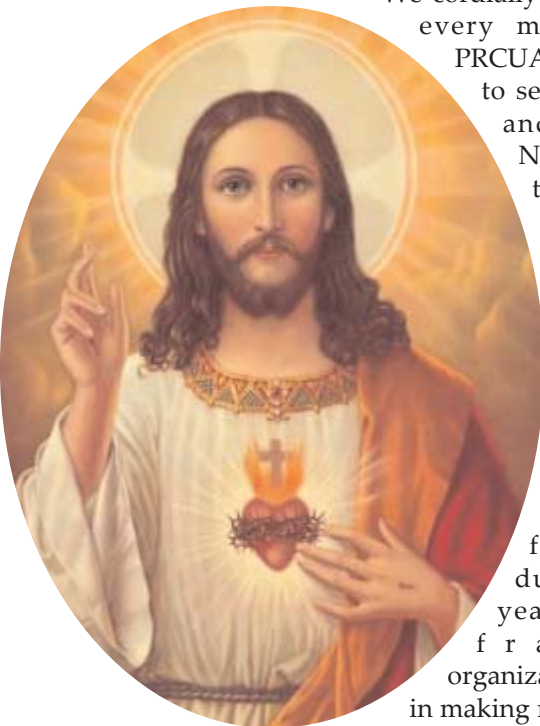
† Higher Perspectives †

Have a Heart

MAY is for MARY/ JUNE is for JESUS. We have just lived through May, which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We now begin the month of June, which is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

It was to the guidance and protection of the Sacred Heart of Jesus that our founders dedicated the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. It is our patron, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who has guided and protected the PRCUA throughout the 138 years of its existence.

Although, this year, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus falls not in June, but on July 1, the annual Sacred Heart Mass will be celebrated for all living and deceased PRCUA members on Sunday, June 12, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Ferdinand Church in Chicago, Illinois.



We cordially invite and urge every member of the PRCUA in Chicagoland to set aside this day and join the National Officers, the Chaplains, and the Board of Directors in paying tribute, honor and worship to the Sacred Heart of Jesus; in giving thanks for all the graces and favors received during all the years of our fraternal organization's existence; in making reparation for all of our past failures and shortcomings; and in asking and begging God's grace and protection for the years to come.

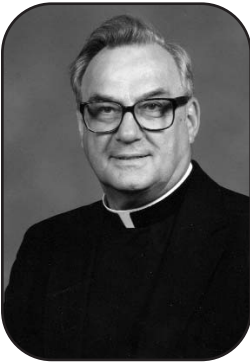
Jesus said to St. Mary Margaret Alacoque, "Behold the Heart that has so loved men, that it has spared itself nothing." Jesus Himself asked for the Feast of the Sacred Heart: "That is why I ask that the First Friday after the octave of Corpus Christi be dedicated as a special feast in honor of My Heart by communicating that day and making an act of reparation to atone for the insult which it has received."

We urge all our members to attend Mass, to receive the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion, and to make an hour of adoration and reparation in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament that day.

Mikolaj Kopernik, the renowned Polish churchman-astronomer, who merited the title of "Father of Modern Astronomy and of the Space Age," called the Sun "the soul, the light of the world, placed in the center of the universe, where it guides the stars encircling around it."

In the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we call the Heart of Christ, "the glowing furnace of charity, the king and center of all hearts. Christ is the Sun of Righteousness (Mal. 4/2), which has visited us from on high (Luke 1/78)/ He is the Light of the World (John 1/4). Those who follow Him walk not in darkness but shall have the light of life (John 8/12). He guides them and keeps them in His celestial orbit as their lives circle around Him.

The Sacred Heart for the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America! The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America for the Sacred Heart!



By Rev. Canon Anthony D. Iwuc of Providence, RI, PRCUA National Vice Chaplain

POLISH  
AMERICAN  
NIGHT - CHICAGO

WHITE SOX VS.  
DETROIT TIGERS

**Tuesday, July 26, 2011**  
7:10 p.m. U.S. Cellular Field  
Show your Polish Pride at U.S. Cellular Field. Back by popular demand is Polish-American Night at the ballpark. Enjoy Polish entertainment at the gates and then watch an exciting game of White Sox baseball!

Tickets can be purchased from: PRCUA 1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601; lower box seats - \$23.50 (Regularly \$47)

Order Deadline: July 11th

Melvin  
Wisniewski  
1934 - 2011



On Feb. 20, 2011, a lifelong resident of Rockford, IL passed away at his home, surrounded by his family:

Melvin "Ski" J. Wisniewski, 76. He was a member of PRCUA Society #1457. Born on Feb. 23, 1934, he was the son of John and Nellie (nee Chorzempa) Wisniewski, who were also longtime PRCUA members.

Melvin graduated from St. Thomas Catholic H.S. and honorably served in the US Air Force as a SSGT and crew chief in a Bomber Squadron. He served his country in Japan, England, Guam and Arizona, where he met the love of his life. On Oct. 13, 1956, he married Blanche Artiaga.

Mel was a dedicated fireman with the Rockford Fire Dept. for 33 years before retiring as a lieutenant. He led a full life. He was a dedicated, noble, hard working man, with a zest for life. love for his family and his Polish heritage. Mel belonged to St. Stanislaus Church. He is survived by his wife, Blanche; children Susan (John) Leombruni and David (Andrea) Wisniewski; granddaughter Eliana Wisniewski; and sister Joanne (Jack) Palmeri - all of Rockford.

A popular man, family and friends filled the funeral parlor to pay their final respect to Melvin Wisniewski. The Funeral Mass was held at St. Stanislaus Church with Rev. Zbigniew Zajchowski officiating. Interment in Calvary Cemetery. May he rest in eternal peace.

PRCUA JUNIOR BOWLING  
& GRANDPARENTS'  
ROLL-OFF

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

CHECK - IN TIME 9:30 a.m.

Countryside Bowl

6301 Joliet Rd., Countryside, Illinois

PRCUA members ages 4 to 15 years - NO CHARGE

Non-PRCUA Members ages 4 to 15 years - \$10.00

Grandparents and Adults - \$10.00

Includes shoe rental, snack and soft drink.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2011

Call: 773-782-2601

PLEASE NOTE - NO SUBSTITUTIONS AFTER JUNE 10TH - ONLY REGISTERED CHILDREN WILL BOWL

Save Cancelled Stamps for the Missions

Used postage stamps are worth money! Please save your cancelled postage stamps, trim them to 1/4 inch on all sides and send them to the Sisters to support Catholic missionaries:

FELICIAN SISTERS, VILLA MARIA CONVENT, 600 DOAT STREET, BUFFALO, NY 14211

\$\$ ATTENTION \$\$

PRCUA's Scholarship Grant Program offers financial aid to members who are college sophomores and up, including graduate and professional school.

The deadline is July 1, 2011.

For application and complete instructions go to:

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

click on **Member Benefits**. Don't delay!

School transcripts are needed and in some cases an essay is required.

**APPLY TODAY!**

PRCUA EDUCATION FUND, INC. DONATION

The PRCUA urges its members and friends to support our youth by donating to the PRCUA Education Fund, Inc. a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donors' names will be listed in Narod Polski unless you check the last box.

Donations amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

PRCUA Education Fund, Inc. and send to the address below. The Education Fund, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you do not want your donation publicized in Narod Polski.

Send to:

President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., PRCUA,

984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642-4101





# PHILADELPHIA NEWSY-NEWS



**THINKING OF YOU** - We're sending a bouquet of Get Well Wishes to JANE WALLACE of SOCIETY 2002. We hope it brightens your world a little to know that we're thinking of you and praying for a quick and complete recovery. JANE, we hope a cup of cheer will add sunshine to your day and remind you just how warmly you're thought of.

**IN SYMPATHY - SOCIETY 2005** mourns the loss of its member, JOSEPH ROSSANESE of Blackwood, New Jersey who passed away on April 10, 2011. He is survived by his dear wife, CAROLYN, daughter ROSE MARIE (Anthony) STARK and daughter ANN MARIE ROSSANESE, (Financial Secretary of Society 2005) all members of SOCIETY 2005. He is also survived by 2 grandchildren. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Holy Child Parish, St. Teresa's RC Church in Runnemede, NJ with interment at St. Joseph's Cemetery. At a time like this words are not adequate in consoling a family in grief. May the departed soul of JOSEPH ROSSANESE rest in Eternal Peace.

**CONDOLENCES - SOCIETY 2011** mourns the loss of its long time member, STELLA LADA who was called to her Eternal Rest on April 10, 2011. STELLA is survived by her sister, JOSEPHINE MAKOWSKI and her nephews LEON AND MICHAEL MACKIEWICZ, all members of SOCIETY 2011. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. John Cantius Church on April 14 with interment at Holy Redeemer Cemetery. In this time of sorrow, we extend our Sincere Sympathy to the remaining members of the LADA Family.

**HIGH SCHOOL CONGRATULATIONS** - Congratulations and Best Wishes to SOCIETY 2022's ALISSA VIDOVIK of Williamstown, New Jersey. ALISSA will graduate from Williamstown High School on Friday, June 17, 2011. Her Commencement Exercises will take place at the school in the George Ormsby Memorial Stadium at 6 PM. ALISSA is a member of the National Honor Society and the recipient of a Varsity letter in Soccer. In the fall, she plans to attend Alvernia University in Reading, PA where she will pursue a 5 year accelerated program to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science and a Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy. ALISSA was awarded a Veronica Founders Scholarship for academic achievement over the course of 5 academic years. The scholarship is named in honor of Mother Veronica Grzedowska, founder of the Bernadine Franciscan Sisters, the sponsors of Alvernia University. ALISSA has also been accepted for PACE admission which is a guaranteed advanced admission program to the Occupational Therapy (BS/MS) program at the Jefferson University School of Health Professionals for the academic year beginning September, 2013 provided all prerequisite courses are completed and the appropriate grade point average is maintained. She keeps busy by working part-time and is an avid sports enthusiast. She recently returned from a magical senior class trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL. She visited The Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, EPCOT, Animal Kingdom, Universal Studios and the Island of Adventure and experienced the excitement of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter. She returned home with memories to last a lifetime. A Graduation Party in her honor will be held on July 9th for family members and friends. ALISSA is a 3rd generation member and has been a member since she was born. She is the daughter of ELAINE/TABBIE (Ron), sister of KRISTEN and LAUREN and granddaughter of ELAINE MIKELIONIS, all members of SOCIETY 2022. Her uncle, aunts and many cousins are also members of SOCIETY 2022. ALISSA, dream a dream, make a wish and set a goal. Then step into the future with confidence and always be proud to be YOU.



Alyssa Vidovich  
Class of 2011



Baby Emily Elizabeth  
Wisniewski

**IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL** - Baby EMILY ELIZABETH WISNIEWSKI arrived to brighten the lives of SOCIETY 2022's SOPHIE and Bobby WISNIEWSKI on Easter Sunday at 9:24 AM at Holy Redeemer Hospital weighing 8 pounds and stretching 20 inches long. What a perfect Easter Bunny surprise. EMILY is the granddaughter of SOCIETY 2022's Financial Secretary, SOPHIE CLARK (Tim) and the new niece of ANTHONY (Stefanie) and TIMMY (Veronica), members of SOCIETY 2022 as well. Dear SOPHIE and Bobby, a baby is a gift from heaven and joy on earth. Here's to sweet dreams and precious moments to you and your new little angel. Joy, joy, SOCIETY 2022 will soon welcome its youngest member.

**A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR HELPS THE MEDICINE GO DOWN** - Feel better soon wishes are extended to SOCIETY 2022's KIM BURKHARDT who is recuperating after surgery. We hope it brightens your world to know that we're sending you our warmest get well wishes. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Kim is the wife of RON, the mommy of CECILIA, KATHRYN and EMILY and the daughter-in-law of RON and ELAINE BURKHARDT, all SOCIETY 2022 members.

**MAY YOU ALWAYS WALK IN SUNSHINE** - 2 hearts, 2 lives and 1 dream forever. The bride looked absolutely radiant as she walked down the aisle on the arm of her handsome Dad. On Saturday, May 7, 2011, LISA BONCZAK of Mt. Ephraim, NJ and William Coulter became Mr. and Mrs. during a Nuptial Mass at Emmaus Catholic Community at Sacred Heart Church. Lisa and Bill gave each other their hand in marriage and their hearts to keep forever. A reception followed at Marian House in Cherry Hill, NJ. Besides a most enjoyable dinner, the chocolate fountain and candy bar were certainly a big hit. Bridal party attendants were sister of the bride, CHRISTINA BONCZAK, the maid-of-honor; sister-in-law Judi Bonczak, bridesmaid, brother RICHARD BONCZAK, groomsmen and nephews ANTHONY and RICHARD III, Junior ushers who also served at Mass. Lisa, a member of SOCIETY 1000 is the daughter of RICH and AMELIA and the niece of STANLEY BONCZAK. The Bonczak's are all PRCUA members and represent four generations of members. Lisa teaches first grade in Gloucester Twp. at Union Valley Elementary School and Bill is a Customer Service Representative. The day after the wedding, the newlyweds visited Peddlers Village where they became engaged in September, 2009. Later in June the newlyweds will honeymoon in romantic St. Lucia. The new Mr. and Mrs. Coulter reside in Mt. Ephraim, NJ. To Lisa and Bill, may you find every happiness, experience every joy and cherish every precious memory a lifetime can hold. Here's wishing Mr. and Mrs. Coulter God's Blessings, love, laughter and a "happily ever after".



Newlyweds Lisa & Bill Coulter

**AND IT'S 1, 2, 3 STRIKES YOU'RE OUT AT THE OLD BALL GAME** - PRCUA members are anxiously looking forward to joining the Polish American Cultural Center in Philadelphia, PA at the Phillies Citizens Bank Park on Monday, June 6, 2011 at 7:05 PM to see the Phillies vs. LA Dodgers. It definitely will be a grand Polish American Night at the ball park. Go Phillies.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY** - It's the day to pay tribute to that wondrous person called "Father". The love and care of a father is as essential as sunlight in our lives. So from down deep in our hearts, from the City of Brotherly Love, we're sending tons of good wishes to all fathers, grandfathers, godfathers and those special men in our lives.

**IT'S JUNE** - time to pull back the curtains and open those windows, dust off the lawn furniture and roll out the barbecues. And at the same time since it's beautiful walking weather, we hope to see you knocking on the PRCUA Philadelphia Office door so that we can have the opportunity to explain to you our outstanding plans of Life Insurance including the new Family Plan. This is the time to make sure everyone in your family is adequately insured; don't wait until it's too late. From us to you. here's wishing you a great start for Monday, no obstacles for Tuesday, a stress free Wednesday, a lovely Thursday, smiles for Friday, a party for Saturday and a blessed and fun-filled Sunday. Enjoy the month of June.

Elaine, PRCUA Philadelphia Office

## PHILADELPHIA FRATERNALS JOIN HANDS

Again, PRCUA Members and friends are cordially invited to join the Philadelphia Fraternals and be part of the JOIN HANDS DAY.

Date: July 16, 2011  
Time: 8:00 AM  
Location: Philadelphia, PA

Your presence is important to us, can we count on you? Please call me at your earliest convenience at 215-425-3807. Hopefully you will be able to be a part of Join Hands Day on July 16th.

Sharon Quinn, Secretary-Treasurer Philadelphia Fraternals

## Administrative Changes at Orchard Lake Schools

On March 8, 2011, the Board of Regents announced that Father Timothy Whalen, Chancellor of Orchard Lake Schools (OLS) would leave his position in July and return for an assignment in the Pittsburgh Diocese. Monsignor Charles Kosanke would also leave his position, as Rector of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary and as the Treasurer at OLS, to return for assignment in the Detroit Archdiocese.

Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron appointed Auxiliary Bishop Francis Reiss to be the Interim Chancellor as of July 1, 2011 if the position has not been filled by then. Bishop Reiss was born in Hamtramck, MI and grew up in southwest Detroit. He speaks Polish and his parents immigrated to America from near Kraków, Poland. Both Fr. Whalen and Msgr. Kosanke have known Bishop Reiss for many years and have kept him fully informed on the Orchard Lake Schools.

The announcements led to speculation as to why these events were happening, since Fr. Whalen and Msgr. Kosanke are the two top administrators at OLS. The answer is: “Their respective dioceses, who lent each of them only for a “temporary assignment” to OLS, have needs of their important skills in diocesan positions.”

The purpose of this article is why these changes have occurred and to look at the very significant contribution of these priests to OLS. In preparation for this article *Tygodnik Polski* had the opportunity to interview Fr. Whalen and Monsignor Kosanke.

Fr. Whalen has been at OLS for 10+ years and Msgr. Kosanke for 5+ years. These are unusually long and generous periods for the inter-diocesan loans of priests. That the inter-diocesan happened in the first place speaks to the importance of their work here at Orchard Lake and the importance of OLS as a Catholic educational institution.

Fr. Whalen and Msgr. Kosanke have strong administrative and problem solving skills that were honed at OLS. These skills are needed within today’s Church and their home diocese bishops have decided that they are needed in their home diocese.

**Goals Achieved** - The objectives/goals of these two priests have been achieved: 1) that OLS is first and foremost a successful Catholic educational institution and 2) OLS continues to be a place of importance where Polonia can continue to be celebrated and grow. Archbishop Vigneron most recently affirmed this position for the 125th anniversary in 2010 of the school’s founding.

In a broad sense their objectives/goals were concentrated in three areas: 1) stabilize the financial and organizational structure of OLS, 2) transform the schools and the seminary to deal with the needs and the reality of the 21st century, and 3) to preserve and grow, in a meaningful way, the history and the values of Polonia.

The Orchard Lake Schools are organized as a 501 C3 organization which means that the Church does not own the school or the lands. OLS is a separate legal organization from the Archdiocese. It is true that the Archdiocese indirectly participates in the running of the schools and it does provide important input on the Seminary. OLS does not, however, receive any funding from the Archdiocese.

Polonia does not own OLS, which exerts a strong influence in the preservation and growth of Polish culture. This influence in the future will owe much to gifts and donations that are directed toward foundations which support the Polish Mission.

OLS stands or falls on the basis of their ability to generate adequate cash flow consistent with their goals and business objectives as a Catholic educational institution. The bottom line is that there is no “free lunch.” No matter how noble their history and goals are , “if OLS can’t generate adequate cash flow, they will not survive”.

**Before Father Whalen’s Arrival** - OLS have always been a bastion of Polonia based upon the goals set forth by Father Dabrowski over 125 years ago. It has always been a very Catholic and Polish organization. For most of the priests and sisters, Polish was their first language and it was the day-to-day language at OLS. Many of them were born in Poland. The seminarians who came through SS Cyril and Methodius Seminary were generally sent to Polish-speaking parishes.

OLS existed in an environment where there were strong Polish language churches and parishioners sent their children to OLS. It had survived the Great Depression. Students for the schools and seminary, as well as cash flow, came from the many Polish speaking parishes. This was more than adequate to cover organizational needs.

In the second half of the 20th century, the student body was the first generation of Poles born in the USA. They were bi-lingual, fluent in Polish and English. The high school, the College and the Seminary were truly elite organizations.

With the beginning of WWII, OLS became an important bastion of anti-Nazism, anti-Communism and keeping the hope of a free and independent Poland alive. New émigré,s who could not return to Poland, filled the ranks of supporters of OLS. OLS was an intellectual and cultural center for Polonians in-exile. Through the Knights of Dabrowski, many children of refugees were educated completely free of charge at OLS.

With the election of Karol Wotyła as Pope John Paul II in 1978 and the emergence of Solidarity, the battle for ultimate victory over the Soviet Union with its God-less and anti-Polish structure was won. Many of the priests at the school knew Karol Wojtyła before he became pope, through their travels to Poland. The future Pope made two visits to Orchard Lake in 1969 and 1976. Some of these priests also travelled to Rome and conferred with then Pope John Paul II. This was the high water mark of OLS.

Unfortunately a new and very subtle reality began to creep in and continues even more strongly in the 21st Century. That is the gradual arrival of students who were less and less bi-lingual. They were primarily English-only speaking. Also second, third and fourth generation Polish Americans moved outside of Polish enclaves, to the suburbs. Increasingly, they were becoming Americans who happened to be of Polish descent. A significant generational transformation was occurring.

Polish-Americans were finally achieving the American dream and living the Polish experience through the exploits of Pope John Paul II and the Solidarity Movement. Anti-Polish attitudes were declining. For the most part all of this was accomplished without Polish Americans having to speak Polish and not having to visit Poland. At the same time, in the 1980s, there was also a new flux of Polish émigrés to America who breathed new life into OLS. The Polish language church Our Lady Czestochowa was started in Sterling Heights, MI.

Unfortunately, enrollment declined in the schools. and there was increasing dependence on laity for teaching. No longer were the teachers and professors just priests

with other functions being handled by the Felician sisters who lived on campus. Consequently, there was a period of reduced cash flow from outside sources, combined with increasing costs associated with teachers’ salaries. Change was necessary at OLS because of the increasingly difficult economic environment. This situation was not unique to OLS. Many educational institutions were in the same boat.

In order to resolve this situation, an arrangement was made with Tom Monaghan and Ave Maria University to take over the administrative function of Saint Mary’s College because of cash flow problems. In 2000, Saint Mary’s College was absorbed into Ave Maria University.

**Arrival of Father Timothy Whalen** - In 2000, Father Whalen arrived as the new Chancellor. He did not even speak Polish. He came from the diocese of Pittsburgh. Some Polonians were saying “with an Irish last name of Whalen how could he possibly be “Polish enough” to understand the situation at OLS?” Many elements of Polonia were hostile and fearful. Certainly it had to be difficult for him to lead in an environment where Polish was the primary language of some of his fellow priests.

Thankfully, there were people who understood the situation and were especially helpful: Msgr. Zdzislaw Peszkowski and Fr. Zbigniew Szarnecki, who was the president of the Polish Priest Association in Pittsburgh. This is an association that Fr. Whalen belonged to prior to coming to Orchard Lake. Also providing comfort for Fr. Whalen was his deep sense of devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Fr. Whalen understood and believed in the principals and values of Father Dabrowski. Those values were based upon the belief that OLS was a Catholic educational institution with a deep sense of respect for its Polish roots and Polonia. Where did Father Whalen get these values? He was a graduate of the OLS high school Saint Mary’s Preparatory. In fact, his upbringing was very Polish. His paternal grandmother was Polish and his paternal grandfather was raised by a Polish mother and Polish stepfather. His father attended the Polish school of Saint Adalbert’s in Pittsburgh. He was sent by the pastor of St. Adalbert to OLS for high school, where he was a classmate of Fr. Milewski.

Fr. Whalen’s greatest strength is that he is a visionary. He set a challenging goal for OLS and he had the will, fortitude, and determination to lead OLS to where it is today:

It is an institution that can look forward to the future with confidence. It is in the best financial situation it has experienced in many years. The Seminary is prospering, as it brings candidates for the priesthood from Poland to be placed in American parishes, some with a strong Polonian presence. It was also his vision to establish the Polish Mission.

This promising future for OLS did not come without challenges. In 2003, Tom Monaghan and Ave Maria University ceased its affiliation with OLS. Because of its attractive location, OLS was approached by different colleges, including the University of MI which wanted to create a satellite campus there.

Fr. Whalen and the Board of Regents selected Madonna College to affiliate with OLS. In addition to its educational excellence and strong financials, it was run by the Felicians. It was Father J. Dabrowski who brought the Felician sisters to the USA in the 19th century. This preserved the historical and cultural link with this Polish community of sisters who were so loved and respected by Father Dabrowski.

Fr. Whalen is also grateful to Bishop Reiss, Father Miroslaw Król, who was the Vice-Rector of the Seminary, and Msgr. Kosanke who has been the Rector of the Seminary for the past 5+ years. Fr. Whalen said, “I am very grateful that I consider as friends people who were uncertain of my goals and objectives and Polish background when I first came to OLS.”

Fr. Whalen will be returning to Pittsburgh in July. In the letter that Bishop David Zubik sent to him, the Bishop wrote: “your leadership skills will be a gift in a significant way as pastoral necessities have arisen. Your willingness to accept a future assignment based on those needs is a source of comfort to me.”

**Arrival of Monsignor Kosanke** - Msgr. Kosanke was another surprising arrival a little over 5years ago. Here was an American priest of Polish (Kashubian) descent who also spoke no Polish. His assignment as Rector for SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary was a shock and surprise by many Polonians.

Under his leadership, the Seminary has prospered with an increasing number of seminarians to meet the great demand for priests in America. Currently, there are 33 seminarians on Campus, and 7 waiting to come to the USA. Most seminarians have come here after completing one year at the Polish Seminary in Poland, run by the OLS Seminary, with the blessing of Cardinal Dziwisz and the Archdiocese of Kraków. The purpose of this seminary is to identify those men who would have the best opportunity of being a successful priest in the USA. Those who are accepted are sent to SS Cyril and Methodius Seminary for the remainder of their training.

Msgr. Kosanke said that these new Polish-born priests bring to their American parishes a deeper sense of Catholicism. For example, the greater frequency of the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Seminary recently received a 10-year accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS,) which represents over 200 Catholic and Protestant seminaries in North America. Previously the Seminary had a 5-year accreditation which meant that there were conditions that needed to be corrected. Msgr. Kosanke is now on the Board of the ATS.

Because of his financial background Msgr. Kosanke was asked to become more deeply involved in the finances of OLS. His contribution in this area was greatly complimented by Fr. Whalen.

Msgr. Kosanke made it very clear that it was Fr. Whalen and his vision that helped him to successfully change the Seminary to be consistent with the 21st century reality of not enough priests, that faces the Catholic Church. Msgr. Kosanke will be re-assigned to the Detroit Archdiocese. His new responsibilities have not been made announced.

Part 1 of this article closes with this summary of a comment Fr. Whalen made. It is his hope that “the next Chancellor, in addition to all the skills needed to take OLS forward, will also have a deep feeling and understanding for the Polish values and the educational philosophy that have so successfully shaped Orchard Lake Schools since its founding by Father Dabrowski over 125 years ago.”

By Alicja Karlic & Frank J. Dmuchowski  
[Excerpts from *The Polish Weekly*, March 16-23, 2011, Detroit, MI, continued next month.]

## Polish Constitution Day's 120th Parade in Chicago

It was 120 years ago - in 1891 - that the first Annual Polish Constitution Day Parade was held in Humboldt Park in Chicago, Illinois. Even then, Chicago was a bastion of Polish immigrants seeking a better life in the USA. Poles began to settle in Chicago around 1837. Since the early days of the USA, Polish people have contributed richly to our society. The many Polish Constitution Day parades that are held throughout the country help to make our Polish presence and our accomplishments known.

The Polish Constitution is noteworthy in that it was the first democratic constitution of any European country and the second one in the world, after the U.S. Constitution. This year marks the 220th anniversary of the signing of the Polish Constitution.

The 2011 parade - which was televised by ABC Channel 7 - was held on Saturday, May 7 on Columbus Drive in Grant Park. Its theme was: "John Paul II: A Saint for Our Times." Approximately 120 units participated in the parade and it's estimated that 250,000 people were in attendance.

With an estimated 1.1 million Polish Americans, Chicago has the largest Polish community outside of Warsaw, the largest city in Poland and its capital. Chicago has been a sister city of Warsaw for 51 years.

Prior to the parade, dignitaries participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the General Thaddeus Kosciuszko monument located near Solidarity Drive and Lake Shore Drive. Afterwards, a pre-parade breakfast was held at the Chicago Hilton and Towers.

Grand Marshall of this year's parade was Thaddeus Makarewicz, Chief Legal Counsel, Cook County Assessor's Office and an activist in Chicago's Polish American Community and Vice Marshall was Lucy Bucki. Marching at the head of the parade were U.S. Senator Mark Kirk and Mayor Richard M. Daley. This was the Mayor's last parade, as he concludes his official duties as Mayor of Chicago.

As someone who grew up in the Polish neighborhood of Bridgeport, Mayor Daley said his relationship with the community during his 22 years as mayor has "always been good."

"The city has been founded by immigrants and that's the strength of this great city," Daley said in paying tribute to the Polish immigrant community which first settled in Chicago.

Representing the PRCUA in the parade were the Executive Officers, John Paul II Polish Language School and Polanie Dance Group from Lemont, Southwest Center of Polish Dancing, Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, Polonia Song and Dance Ensemble, 2011 Cinderella Monica Marszalik, 2011 Prince Charming Robert Bukowski and the First Runner-Ups Dominique Tarka and Bart Tukendorf, Rafal Kalinowski Polish Language School, and Maria Konopnicka Polish Language School. The Polish Museum of America also participated.

The Alliance of Polish Clubs organized the parade under the leadership of organizer Hanna Kapica, who did a splendid job.

- Kathryn Rosypal, Exec. Editor

(Photos by Resident V.P. Anna Sokolowski & Mark Sokolowski)



Polonia Song & Dance Ensemble before parade (Photo: Agatha Panait)



Pres. Drobot, V.P. Sokolowski, Bogumila Kopec Tutak and 1st Lady Judy Drobot



(Above) 2011 Prince Charming & Cinderella; (Below) 2011 First Runner-Ups



V.P. Sokolowski & Pres. Drobot with SWCPD dancer, Aurora Marron, Cole Pearson, Kayla Leonhard



St. Rafal Kalinowski of Munster, IN



(Left) John Paul II Polish Lang. School of Lemont (Above) Polanie Dancers of Lemont

## PRCUA Mala Polska Dance Group Recital

On Saturday, April 16th, 2011 at 5:30pm, the Mala Polska Folk Ensemble held their 24th Annual Dance Recital at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Sterling Heights, Michigan. This PRCUA school is proud to have Tomasz Kielar as its choreographer and artistic director. He has been with Mala Polska since 2004. "Pan Tomek" as the dancers fondly call him, has a major in Polish Folk and National Dance from Poland, and danced with Lawosiacy prior to coming to the U.S.



*Mala Polska Group I - Back (l-r) Liam Longe, Amanda Beger, Jakub Wasniewski, Marianna Osentoski, Alexander Daniel;  
Front (l-r) Caitlin Tabin, Sophia Garnczarski, Clara Tabin*



*Mala Polska Group 2 - Back (l-r) Julia Lenart, Michelle Syty, Camille Kowalski, Amelia Daniel, Nicole Boszko;  
Front (l-r) Alexandra Beger, Adam Wasniewski*



*Back (l-r) Megan Ulicny, Kaitlyn Puwalowski, Megan Kozikowski, Patricia Kwiatkowski; Front (l-r) Troy Koyl, Emily Dzieciatko, Michal Mulik  
Not pictured: Martha Zawadzki*

During the course of the evening, twenty three enthusiastic young men and women from the ages of 4 through 18 impressed the audience with their energetic dance steps, singing, and Polish poetry recital. They performed suites from various folk regions of Poland including Slask, Kaszuby, Zywiec, Opoczno, Kurpie, Warmia and Mazury, and others. Each group was dressed in the traditional regional costumes for the suite they were performing.

The recital concluded with the entire ensemble dancing the Lasowiak, and then, together with the audience, singing "Dobranoc".

Mala Polska was also proud to present their three high school graduates, accompanied by their parents. This year's graduates are: Miss Emily Dzieciatko, Mr. Troy Koyl, and Mr. Michal Mulik. The graduates, along with their escorts, performed the graceful Vienna Waltz.

Also receiving recognition were 3 students who have danced for 5 years: Amelia Daniel, Marianna Osentoski, and Adam Wasniewski. They were each presented beautifully embroidered ribbons which were designed and handmade by Cynthia Kozikowski for each of them.

In addition, Alexandra Beger, Amanda Beger, Liam Longe, Kaitlyn Puwalowski, Caitlin Tabin, and Clara Tabin were introduced as the newest Mala Polska members performing in their first recital.

The parents of the students (and some of the students, too!) prepared many wonderful cakes, cookies, pastries, and even paczki for the event. These were sold during the intermission as a fundraiser for the group.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, and they were sad to see it end. Proud parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles presented their dancers with red and white carnation bouquets. There were promises from the graduates to stay in touch, talk of dancing at Polish Night at the Tiger's game, and being in the parade in Hamtramck on Labor Day. Most of all, there were assurances of seeing each other at dance next year.

Our parents's club, under the guidance of: Monica Osentoski (president), Jan Wasniewski (vice-president), Tom Osentoski (treasurer), and Agnieszka Daniel (secretary) worked extremely hard this year to once again make our recital successful. Special thanks to Jan

## Quigley, Kirk, Polish Ambassador Meet to Discuss U.S.-Polish Relations, Visa Waiver Program



*(L-r) Sen. Mark Kirk, Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki and Rep. Mike Quigley in Washington, D.C.*

Washington, DC - Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL) and Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) met on May 11 with Poland's Ambassador Robert Kupiecki to discuss the US-Poland partnership, including advancing legislation to include Poland in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP) prior to President Obama's inaugural visit to Poland on May 27-28.

On March 7, Senator Kirk and Congressman Quigley introduced the Secure Travel and Counterterrorism Partnership Act in the Senate and House (S.497/H.R.959), which aims to update and modernize VWP requirements, ultimately making Poland eligible to participate.

"I was very pleased to meet with Ambassador Kupiecki and Senator Kirk as we continue to work toward Poland's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program," said Rep. Quigley. "This has long been a priority for me, and I hope that we'll continue to have the President's strong support for this critical initiative. I would also encourage Polish-Americans across the country to urge their representatives to support this effort, so that we may broaden our coalition."

"I appreciated President Obama's commitment to expand the VWP to include Poland, as he promised President Komorowski last December, and look forward to working with him to deliver on that promise," Senator Kirk said. "Poland is one of the few major democratic allies currently excluded from the program. That is no way to treat a friend, especially when over 2,500 Polish troops are fighting alongside our soldiers in Afghanistan."

"For Poland, partnership and ongoing dialogue with the US Administration as well as the U.S. Congress on matters of mutual interest including security, economy and democratization continues to be of strategic importance," Ambassador Kupiecki said. "Poland hopes that President Obama's visit later this month will move this partnership forward. Building on President Obama's declaration this past December regarding Poland's accession into the VWP, we applaud Senator Kirk as well as Senator Mikulski and Congressman Quigley for their steadfast leadership on this issue and remain confident that it will reach a positive resolution in the 112th Congress."

## Renee Ann Bober Receives M.A.



*Boyfriend Mark Kroplewski and graduate Renee Ann Bober*

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, Renee Ann Bober received her Master's Degree from the School of Social Work of Loyola University in Chicago. Renee is a Choreographer and Dance Instructor at the PRCUA Polanie Dancers of the John Paul II Polish School in Lemont since January of 2007.

PRCUA sponsored Renee at the four-year Choreographers' Course in Rzeszow, Poland, where she obtained her certification in 2009. She is an alumni of the PRCUA Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company having been a member for over 5 years.

Renee also taught at the Southwest Center of Polish Dancing of PRCUA. Congratulations, Renee, and best of luck in your future endeavors!

*Submitted by Misia Jaminski*

## 74th National Bowling Tournament



Honoree Celeste Grabowski, Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski and Tourney Director Patrick Kosowski

PRCUA District #7 hosted the 74th Annual PRCUA National Bowling Tournament held on the weekend of April 8 - 10, 2010, at Stardust Lanes in Addison, IL.

The opening ceremony was held on Saturday at 1 p.m. The Officers of the PRCUA were introduced: President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.; Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, Vice President Robert Bielenda and Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski.

Celeste Grabowski from Society #1593 was awarded the "Joe Osmanski Bowler of the Year" plaque and jacket. Congratulations, Celeste! A plaque of appreciation was also presented to outgoing Tournament Director, Ralph Stempinski. Ralph and his wife, Lillian - past National Director of District 7 - were on hand to accept the award. President Joseph Drobot, Jr. then rolled the ceremonial first ball to open the tournament.



Lillian Stempinski, A. Sokolowski, Ralph Stempinski and P. Kosowski

Congratulations to the Officers and members of District 7 for hosting this annual event. Festivities included a great hospitality room on Thursday and Friday evenings. Many members attended a Mass that was celebrated on Saturday at the hotel. On Saturday evening a banquet was also held at the host hotel. The banquet featured live music and those in attendance enjoyed dancing to the tunes and talking with old friends.



Congratulations to the winners of the PRCUA Handicap Tournament - Men's team: C.I.5 out of Canton, MI - Society #718 (Mark Nasiatka, Ron Bak, Mike Sopko, Mike Ehr and Jim Graham) and Women's team: MAIN'S SPORTING GOODS from East Chicago, IN - Society #413 (Sue Swentko, Stella Barrientes, Denise Buis, Suzanne Banaszak and Lynda Sanders). Check the PRCUA website [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) for the complete list of winners.

Congratulations also to Dennis Zakutny for bowling an 803 actual series in the Men's Singles Event (games of 257-267-279).

Awesome shooting Dennis!



Thanks go to this year's tournament chairperson Walter Szarowicz and his helpers from District 7 for treating us all to a fine tournament. Thanks also go to my wife, Jennifer, for assisting me in the many tasks involved in running this tournament. I would also like to extend a thank you to Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski and her executive secretary, Mary Jane Robles, for their amazing patience and guidance in working with me on this, my first bowling tournament as its Director.

Lastly, I would like to thank past Bowling Tournament Director Ralph Stempinski and his entire family for all of the work and passion that they have poured into this tournament over the years. I hope to uphold the integrity and "first-class" atmosphere that Ralph has created in this tournament.

I am looking forward to seeing everybody at the 75th PRCUA Bowling Tournament next year in Buffalo, NY on April 20-22. Past National Director of District #2 Bill Nowakowski and his committee are working hard to create a memorable and special experience for all at next year's tournament. See you there!

Patrick Kosowski, Bowling Tournament Director  
(Photos from Anna Sokolowski)



Tournament Chair District 7 President  
Walter Szarowicz & V.P. Stephen DeLonka

## PRCUA Society #2100 News - Cleveland, OH



(L-r) Board of Society 2100 Tadeusz Sladewski, Teresa Cyranek, Andrzej & Iwona Gutowski, First Lady of PRCUA Judy Drobot, PRCUA Pres. Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., Marcelina Sladewski, Ewa Trzeciak, Teresa Sladewski. Not pictured: Elzbieta Wolanin & Marian Cyranek

On Tuesday March 22, Society 2100, located in Cleveland, OH conducted its annual meeting and election of officers. Andrzej Gutowski was elected President, Teresa Cyranek - Vice-President, Ewa Trzeciak - Financial Secretary, Marcelina Sladewski - Recording Secretary, Elzbieta Wolanin - Treasurer, Iwona Gutowski - Sales Secretary/Trustee, Teresa Sladewski - Trustee, Marian Cyranek and Tadeusz Sladewski - Sergeants-at-Arms. Congratulations to all officers. After the meeting, we discussed the future of the our Society and the organization.

## College Scholarships and Grants for Members of St. Stan's Soc. #718, Detroit, MI

St Stan's Society #718 in Detroit, MI will award 2 scholarships of \$500 each this year to members in 2 categories; (a) Freshman and Sophomore, (b) Junior and Senior. Eligibility requirements:

The student must be a Society #718 member for at least 3 years; be a high school graduate entering an accredited community college, college or university or be attending a full time, 4-year accredited college, or university or community college with at least 12 credit hours per semester; maintain a GPA of 3.0 or equivalent and submit an essay. Deadline is July 15, 2011. For an application form and detailed instructions go to:

<http://society.prcua.org/718/scholarship.htm>

## St. Stan Soc. 718's Tuition Reimbursement Grants for Catholic Schools Grades 1-12

PRCUA St. Stan's Soc. #718 in Detroit, MI is offering Catholic school tuition reimbursement grants to members. Applicant must attend a private Catholic school in grades 1 through 12 for the upcoming school year; the child or their parent must have been a member of St. Stan's Soc. #718 for at least 1 year. Only one entry per family allowed for grades 1 -8 and one entry per family allowed for grades 9 -12. A random drawing will be held for all applicants at the Annual Society Picnic. The winners will be notified by phone.

Two Tuition Grants of \$500 each will be awarded to students drawn from the 1-8 category and two Tuition Grants of \$500 each will be awarded to entrants drawn from students in grades 9-12 for the upcoming school year.

Application deadline is July 15th. For more information, contact Tom & Janice Dudek at (734) 981-8119. For an application go to:

<http://society.prcua.org/718/tuitiongrant.htm>

## MIXED GOLF OUTING Brownstown, Michigan

On Saturday, September 17, at Sultana's Golf Course at 22201 Pennsylvania Rd. just east of Telegraph Rd. in Brownstown, MI, St. Stan's Society #718 is sponsoring their Annual Mixed Golf Outing.

They are limiting the number of golfers to the first 180. Start time is 9 a.m. Cost for golfers is \$35; \$25 for non-golfers - includes golf, lunch, dinner and refreshments.

Make your reservations early by contacting Dan Gdowski (734) 497-2681 or (734) 654-2734.

## Polish Constitution Day Celebration in Slavic Village, Cleveland, Ohio

On Friday, April 29, 2011, five Polish Language Schools opened the Constitution Day Weekend with a beautiful presentation by 100 children. Each school presented a short program about famous Poles. One of the schools presented a dance format with colorful costumes and traditional folk dress, bringing the crowd of attendance to their feet with a standing ovation. Polish schools coordinators were Marcelina Sladewski and Monika Sochecki with the technical support of Robert Hryniewicz.

Following the children's program, the first annual Children's Art Contest winners were announced. Winning first place in age category 3-5, Sebastian Szymczyk; age category 6-8, first place to Olivia J. Gutowski; age category 9-12 first place to Olivia Paganini; and architecture & events, first place to Ryan Gitifordz, age 5. All of the children's artwork was prominently exhibited and left up for the next two day Queen Ball festivities. Mrs. Grazyna Hryniewicz was the organizer of the Art Contest, assisted by Alice Klafczynski, art teacher, Kuba Wisniewski - interior designer and Artur Berg, artist.

On Sat., April 30, 2011, the Queen of the Parade Ball was held. It was a night everyone will remember. The P R C U A building was beautifully landscaped with spring flowers, donated by Tom

Chalasinski. Between 7-8 p.m., guests arrived, dressed in their finest formal wear. The tables were luxurious with white and red flowers and soothing music played as everyone socialized.



Dinner was served promptly at 8:45 p.m. with three courses. During dessert, the Queen's competition began with three lovely contestants competing: Klaudia Baran, Julia Niedzialek and Barbara Sychla. The judges had a hard decision to make: Anna Klik, Magdalena Stegawski, Eugene Trela, with the help from Wojtek Fleszar. Julia Niedzialek was selected as first runner up and Barbara Sychla was crowned as the Queen.

Chair of the Polish Constitution Day Observance Committee Warszawa District, Attorney Teddy Sliwinski, started the program.

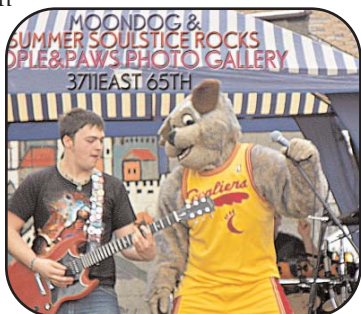
Then Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. President of the PRCUA and his lovely wife, Judy, were introduced and they welcomed the guests to a wonderful Ball Len Komoroski, President of Cleveland Cavaliers Quicken Loans Arena, was introduced as Grand Marshal of the 2011 Parade with his wife, Denise.

Next, special recognition was accorded by the Polish Constitution Day Committee to Joseph Lecznar, who at age 90 years old, has attended and participated in every planned meeting, provided valuable support and remains active in Polish organizations and veteran groups. Congratulations.

The Ball opened with the traditional "Polonaise." Everyone was invited to dance the night away, which they did. The floor was filled with swirling couples, laughter and gaiety. At 3:00 a.m., the guests went to attend the Beatification ceremony of John Paul II in Rome, Italy, shown on the big screen TV at the Shrine of St. Stanislaus Church.

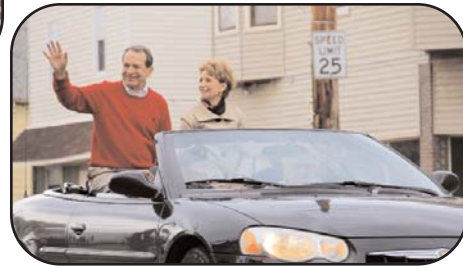
On Sunday, May 1, 10 a.m. Mass at the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus was celebrated by Father Placyd Kon, Parochial Vicar, with the big support of Fr. Michael Surufka, Pastor. The flowers were beautifully arranged by David Krakowski. After Mass, a luncheon was held at the Polish American Cultural Center. At 2 p.m., the parade started from Washington Park-Fleet Avenue, east on 65th Street and Forman Avenue to the P R C U A building on the

corner Forman Ave and Broadway Ave, across from Third Federal Savings and Loans Bank, a big supporter of the event. The reviewing stand was in front of the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus and Greg Balbier and Ewa Trzeciak were the announcers. Over



extended to the countless number of volunteers, schools, organizations, veterans, merchants and financial sponsors without whom the parade could never have come this far!

Polish Constitution Day Observance Committee Warszawa District



Pres & Mrs. Joseph A Drobot, Jr.

### Interview of Len Komoroski Grand Marshal, Slavic Village Parade

**Please give us some background on your Polish roots?**

My great grandfather Szczepan Komorowski came to the USA in the early 1900s with his wife and a number of their kids, including my grandfather Adam. They came through Ellis Island and located in the Lawrenceville section of Pittsburgh. My grandfather Adam dropped the "w" from Komorowski. I had the opportunity to meet President of Poland Bronislaw Komorowski during his trip to Cleveland and had my photo taken with him presenting him a Cleveland Cavaliers jersey with his name on it.

**Have you ever visited Poland?**

We have never been there but are planning a trip for the near future.

**Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in Pittsburgh with two sisters and a brother. We lived in a suburb north of the city known as Glenshaw. Pittsburgh is a great city with the strong Polish heritage.

**High School, college?**

I went to Pittsburgh North Catholic High School in Troy Hill section of Pittsburgh. Then I went on to Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

**How did you come to be involved with sports and the Cavaliers?**

One of the great benefits of Duquesne University is being located right in downtown Pittsburgh. It is also literally two blocks from the Civic Arena where the Pittsburgh Penguins used to play. During my senior year of college, still looking for that calling that would be my passion, I had heard of a new professional indoor soccer team that was going to play at the Civic Arena so I walked over and applied for an internship and started that day. I also applied at the same time for an internship with the Pittsburgh Pirates and got it. I loved every second of my experiences and knew I had found my passion. Since then I have worked also for the Penguins, startup of the Minnesota Timberwolves of the NBA, for the Philadelphia Eagles before becoming the President of the Cavaliers and Quicken Arena in 2003.

**Tell us about your family.**

I met my wife, Denise, through a mutual good friend at Duquesne. We have four great kids with our daughter Kristin, the oldest, is a freshman at Duquesne, daughters Kelly and Jamie are a freshman and sophomore in high school and son Zack is in 4th grade..

**Do you follow any of the Polish traditions with your family?**

Our following of Polish traditions is more through food in our family, with kielbasa, especially the type my father will get from the Polish butcher shops in Pittsburgh, homemade pierogi, especially the ones made by nuns at a local church.

**Tell us something about your position, what is that you do?**

I work for a very entrepreneurial owner in Dan Gilbert and oversee his sports and entertainment ventures. In addition to the business of the Cavaliers, we manage Quicken Arena and our 180+ events. We also own and operate an American Hockey League franchise, the Lake Erie Monsters, who are currently in the playoffs. I also work on others projects Dan is involved with in Cleveland, including new casinos, which are in the process of being developed.

**You are very involved in Cleveland; tell us about your activities.**

Cleveland is poised to take off as one of the great American cities. We have \$6 billion of development taking place. I am the incoming chair of *Positively Cleveland*, our convention and visitors bureau. There is no more exiting time to tell our story with a new casino and convention center on the way, not to mention our others great assets. We work to be a positive economic development engine. I am also on the boards of the Red Cross, United Way, City Year, the Cleveland International Fund which encourages investment in Cleveland and Global Cleveland to encourage immigration in Cleveland.

**What message would you like to send to American Polonia?**

We have a lot to be thankful for and proud of. I am excited to see Poland really grow, thrive and develop on the international stage. We look forward to living up to that promise here in America!

Teddy Sliwinski, Chairman

Laurie Williams, Corresponding Secretary

## POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY IN PARMA: A HUGE SUCCESS FOR OHIO PAC

The 63rd Annual Polish Constitution Day parade and events, sponsored by the Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress, met with great success this year. The Ohio Div.-PAC has been sponsoring a celebration in commemoration of the signing of the Polish Constitution of May 3rd, 1791 since the founding of the Ohio Division in 1949. The first parade was held in and around Rockefeller Park in the area of Cleveland known as University Circle. After many years, the parade was moved to downtown Cleveland, but eventually the number of onlookers waned. Recently the parade has been held in the Slavic Village area of Cleveland, but the crowd grew sparse over the years.

As the ethnic Polish population of greater Cleveland shifted, so did the parade. It followed the Polish people to their new centers of community life. And so, too, did the PAC celebration for Polish Constitution Day.

**PARADE SHIFTED TO SUBURBS** - For the second year, the PAC has held its Polish Constitution weekend festivities in Parma, a suburb of Cleveland, that now is home to many ethnic groups, not only to Poles. Parma had a great growth spurt following World War II, when returning servicemen found good jobs in the auto, steel and manufacturing industries. Poles bought good quality homes in Parma at reasonable prices. So the migration began in an upwardly mobile 2nd-generation of Poles. But, for many years, the Ohio PAC continued to hold its events in Slavic Village, where many of the Polish organizations were still located. As time passed, more and more Poles moved to the "burbs." And eventually, there were very few Poles living in Slavic Village. In fact, there are very few Polish businesses that remain in the old neighborhood.

**SUCCESSFUL MOVE** - Last year, it was decided that the time had come to move the parade, and a brilliant move it was. Polish Constitution Day activities were eagerly welcomed with open arms by the city officials of Parma. In fact, Parma city officials provided much support for the new venue. Police, fire and safety forces, auxiliary police, engineering, communications, public relations departments, from the mayor's office to traffic control - all pitched in to make the weekend events a huge success.

**POLISH VILLAGE** - With growth of the Polish Constitution Day observance in the City of Parma, Councilwoman Deborah Lime introduced a bill at Parma City Council to designate a stretch along Ridge Road as "Polish Village." A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in front of the reviewing stand, about midway along the parade route, to signify the opening of Polish Village. Parma Mayor Dean DePiero and Councilwoman Deborah Lime, accompanied PAC President John Borkowski and Parade Grand Marshal Halina Junak, led the ribbon-cutting event.

**PRCUA WELL REPRESENTED** - Of course, PRCUA was well represented at the Parma festivities. PRCUA Vice President Robert Bielenda and his wife, Eleanor, drove their car near the head of the parade. The local PRCUA unit was led by Dennis Yurosko's team, members of Society #2220, who carried the PRCUA banner. Following were members of the Henryk Sienkiewicz PRCUA Polish School and the Piast Folk Dancers. The Polish National Alliance participated, along with Union of Poles Division of the PNA. The Brooklyn Polish American Home also entered a unit in the parade.

### BEAUTIES, MARCHERS

**VETERANS, CHURCHES** - Not only did the Polish Legion of American Veterans march in the parade, but there were also units from the Polish Veterans Alliance, Ukrainian American Veterans, Korean War Veterans, Viet Nam Veterans and others.

There were beauties by the bevy, including Miss Polonia Ohio Diana Ostaszewski and Runner-up Bernadette Wielgus.

Marchers came from St. Mary Polish National Catholic Church, Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, and this time from the Ukrainian Church to support Polish Constitution Day.

In addition, there were entries from local businesses, clubs, organizations, social and civic agencies that were too numerous to mention.

Thanks to TV-3 weather forecaster, Bruce Kalinowski, who was the parade announcer, the weather cooperated during the parade, despite the impending forecast of severe thunderstorms. The parade marchers, and thousands of onlookers who lined the one-mile parade route, were grateful that the rain took a break in the early afternoon.



Ball, a large contingent from the PRCUA's Piast Folk Dance Ensemble and the Living Traditions Folk Ensemble performed to the delight of the crowd. Jimmy K with the Ethnic Jazz provided very spirited polkas for the large crowd, with a sizeable contingent from the United States Polka Association and from the Cleveland Polka Association, thanks to Helen Rae Budzilek and her team.

**POLISH HAPPY HOUR** - Not only was the parade a success, but also the entire slate of events for the weekend turned out to be very special. Friday evening there was Polish Happy Hour held at the Parma Café. A DJ provided lively polkas, while the Little Polish Diner and Krakow Deli provided Polish soul food.

**POLONIA BALL** - The attendance at the Polonia Ball, held on Saturday, filled Monaghan Hall of St. Charles Parish. During the



Eleanor Bielenda, Dir. Mitch Bienia, PRCUA V.P. Robert Bielenda, Dir. Johan Sylak, PRCUA First Lady Judy Drobot and President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.

**MISS POLONIA - OHIO** - The highlight of the Ball was the crowning of Miss Polonia - Ohio, Diana Ostaszewski. Runner-up was Bernadette Wielgus. Both girls are excellent students with the ability to speak spontaneously. They will represent Ohio Polonia with grace and charm. Congratulations to both girls!

**WREATH LAYING** - Activities on Sunday morning began bright and early, as veterans and PAC members, accompanied by PRCUA President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. and his wife, Judy, as well as V.P. Robert Bielenda and his wife, Eleanor, braved a torrent of rain and joined a car caravan to lay wreaths, first at the

Pulaski canon, recently moved to Willard Park in downtown Cleveland. Then the police-escorted caravan drove to Polish Cultural Garden in Cleveland's Rockefeller Park, where a wreath was placed before the monument to Madame Maria Skłodowska Curie. Next was a special Mass



celebrating the beatification of Pope John Paul II at St. John Cantius Church. Following the Mass, a delicious breakfast was held at Polish Veterans Post # 1, prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. What a delicious and welcomed breakfast it was!

**PARADE** - This year's parade changed direction and headed northward for about one mile from Ridgewood Circle on Ridge Road, to Snow Road. American and Polish flags decorated the street utility poles. This year, there was an additional focus: the beatification of Pope John Paul II. In both directions along Ridge Road, from St. Charles Church, the City of Parma hung banners with the image of the dearly beloved Pope.

**GRAND MARSHAL** - The Grand Marshal for the 2011 PAC parade was Mrs. Halina Junak, World War II survivor, and member of Poland's Home Army, called *Armia Krajowa* (AK). Mrs. Junak was selected to be Grand Marshal of the parade not only because of her bravery during the war, but also for her continued dedication to Polonia and related causes. It is a goal of Mrs. Junak to teach as many people as possible about the Warsaw Uprising, and especially the efforts of the Home Army in that battle for Warsaw.

**AFTER-PARTY** - This year's Parade After-Party was also a big success. A huge tent was erected in the parking lot of the Little Polish Diner and the Parma Café, which is directly across the street from the Krakow Deli. Jimmy K and the Ethnic Jazz Orchestra entertained the crowd with foot-stomping polkas, while John and Zofia from Little Polish Diner, and Eric and Beata from Krakow Deli, prepared and served delicious Polish food. Participants and observers of the parade gathered for fun, laughter and merriment under the tent, as well as inside the Parma Café.

Grand Chairman of the entire weekend of activities was Francis Rutkowski, Past PRCUA President. PAC - Ohio Division President is John Borkowski, and Mitchell Bienia was chair of the Polonia Ball Committee.

After three days of celebration, the event came to a close, with all volunteers and committee members extremely weary, but very satisfied for putting together such a successful weekend of events. A great "Thank You" is sent to all volunteers, who worked tirelessly to make this event a huge success.

By Mitchell Bienia, Director, PRCUA District # 5  
Photos by Henryk Kacki



## KALENDARZ na MAJ i CZERWIEC 2011

♦ 4 czerwca (sobota) - Turniej kręglarski im. Papieża Jana Pawła II, dla dzieci i młodzieży w wieku 3-16 lat, godz. 10:30-13:30, Five Star Lanes, 16 Mile i Dequindre, Sterling Hts., MI. Cena: \$4 - dla członków ZPRKA na normalnych liniach; \$5 - dla uczestników na liniach tzw. bumper bowler; \$6 - dla uczstników, którzy nie są członkami ZPRKA. W cenie: udział w turnieju, wypożyczenie obuwia, pizza i napoje chłodzące. Rejestracja - godz. 10:15. Dodatkowe informacje: dyr. Chris Ozog (586) 524-4907.

♦ 5 czerwca (niedziela) - Towarzystwo #1622 im. Marii Konopnickiej przy Zjednoczeniu Polskim Rzymsko Katolickim w Ameryce zaprasza wszystkich na doroczny PIKNIK, 5 czerwca 2011 r. Początek o 12 w południe, Buffalo Woods, 87th Steet i Kean Ave., Platforma #4. Zapraszamy wszystkich do wspólnej zabawy na świeżym powietrzu. Gry sportowe - Loterie - Gry dla dzieci oraz wiele innych niespodzianek!!! Kuchnia obficie zaopatrzona, napoje gazowane i piwo do nabycia. Cały dochód jest przeznaczony na fundusz stypendialny dla członków Towarzystwa #1622 ZPRKA. Dodatkowe informacje: Edward Muszalski (708) 599-9246 lub John Frankowicz (708) 598-5171

♦ 12 czerwca (niedziela) Doroczna Msza św. ku czci Boskiego Serca Jezusa, godz. 10 rano w kościele św. Ferdynanda przy 5900 W. Barry Ave., Chicago, IL 60634. Dystrykt #7 ZPRKA, który jest gospodarzem tegorocznej mszy, zaprasza bezpośrednio po mszy św. na lunch w Grota Banquets, 3112 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL. \$22 od osoby. Darmowy parking 1 blok od restauracji. Rezerwacje: Robert Bugielski (773) 725-5655.

♦ 12 czerwca (niedziela) - Bankiet okolicznościowy i uroczysty program z okazji obchodów 25-lecia istnienia Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca “Polonia”. Godz. 17, sale bankietowe “Białego Orła”, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL. Cena: dorośli - \$65 od osoby (otwarty bar), \$18 - dzieci i młodzież do lat 16. Informacje: Anna Krysiński (847) 529-2555.

♦ 18 czerwca (sobota) - Rozgrywki kręglarskie dla dzieci i młodzieży. Rejestracja - godz. 9:30 rano, początek rozgrywek - godz. 10 rano. Countryside Bowl, 6301 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL. Członkowie ZPRKA - w wieku od 4 do 15 lat - wstęp wolny; dzieci i młodzież nie należący do ZPRKA - \$10.00. Dziadkowie i dorośli - \$10.00. W cenie: wypożyczenie butów, przekąska i napoje chłodzące. Prosimy dokonywać rezerwacji do 10 czerwca 2011 r. pod numerem: (773) 782-2601. Tylko osoby zarejestrowane do 10 czerwca będą mogły wziąć udział w rozgrywkach.

♦ 16 lipca (sobota) - 59. doroczny turniej golfowy ZPRKA. Gospodarzem jest Tow. #1031. Briar Leaf Golf Club, La Porte, IN. Rozgrywki odbywać się będą w dwóch turach - o godz. 7:00 i o godz.13:00. Goście mogą zatrzymać się w Best Western La Porte Hotel, 44 Pine Lake Avenue w La Porte. Cena grupowa za pokój wynosi \$75.00 + podatek. Rezerwacji można dokonać dzwoniąc pod numer (219) 362-4585 lub 1-800-780-7234. Prosimy o zgłaszanie rezerwacji do 15 czerwca 2011 r.

♦ 26 lipca (wtorek) - Noc Polsko-Amerykańska na stadionie U.S. Cellular Field. Mecz rozegrają drużyny Chicago White Sox i Detroit Tigers. Godz. 19:10. Bilety można zakupić dzwoniąc do ZPRKA pod numer 1-800-772-8632, w. 2601. Miejsca tzw. LOWER BOX SEATS - \$23.50 (cena regularna \$47). Bilety należy zamówić do 11 czerwca 2011 r. Liczba miejsc ograniczona - bilety będą sprzedawane aż do wyczerpania.

♦ Prosimy członków Towarzystw ZPRKA o sprawdzenie kalendarza na str. 2 - w celu zapoznania się z terminarzem planowanych na luty i marzec zebrań Towarzystw.

## UPLÝWA TERMIN NADSYŁANIA PODAŃ NA GRANTY DLA STUDENTÓW ZPRKA

Studenci należący do ZPRKA mogą się ubiegać o pomoc finansową w postaci grantów. Granty przyznawane są co roku przez 3 lata - każdego roku studenci muszą składać nowe podania. Każdy student może składać jedno podanie rocznie. Pomoc finansowa przyznawana jest na kierunki i do szkół wymienionych w podaniu (aplikacji).

Rozpatrywane będą podania, które napłyną do ZPRKA z datą stempla pocztowego do **1 lipca 2011 r.** Nazwiska osób, które otrzymają stypendia ogłoszone będą do 15 sierpnia 2011 r. Wszystkie podania, które napłyną po wyznaczonej dacie nie będą rozpatrywane. Granty będą wypłacane bezpośrednio uczelniom, a nie studentom. ZPRKA nie bierze żadnej odpowiedzialności w wypadku zmniejszenia przez inne instytucje pomocy finansowej dla studenta, w wniku przyznania studentowi grantu przez ZPRKA. Studenci ubiegający się o pomoc finansową z ZPRKA, muszą być świadomi wszelkich konsekwencji.

Aby się kwalifikować do otrzymania grantu ZPRKA, student musi:

- być członkiem ZPRKA przez okres co najmniej 5 lat i posiadać stałe ubezpieczenie na życie w ZPRKA na sumę nie mniejszą niż \$5 000 i mieć opłacone wszystkie wymagane składki członkowskie. W celu sprawdzenia innych opcji ubezpieczeniowych, które umożliwią otrzymanie pomocy finansowej, prosimy zapoznać się z sekcją *Member Benefits* na stronie [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org);

- być studentem w pełnym wymiarze godzin w programie undergraduate (min. 12 godzin dla studentów studiów dziennych i 8 godz. dla studentów studiów wieczorowych), lub w pełnym lub niepełnym wymiarze godzin w programie magisterskim (graduate) albo studiów zawodowych (professional);

- mieć średnią ocen GPA przynajmniej 2.5 (w skali 4.0), lub przynajmniej 3.5 (w skali 5.0);

- utrzymać polisę ubezpieczeniową i opłacać wszystkie składki przez okres przynajmniej 5 lat od chwili uzyskania ostatniej pomocy finansowej;

- być obywatelem lub stałym rezydentem USA;

- napisać esej o długości do 500 słów na temat wyznaczony przez ZPRKA i przesłać go wraz z podaniem.

Podania będą rozpatrywane anonimowo - nadesłane podania i prace pisemne zostaną opatrzone numerami, komitet stypendialny otrzyma tylko te dokumenty, które nie będą zawierały danych osobistych i na tej podstawie będzie podejmowana decyzja; również odpis ocen studenta będzie opatrzony numerem i w takiej formie będzie rozpatrywany.

ZPRKA zastrzega sobie prawo do zmiany zasad i wymagań jak również do ewentualnego wycofania programu. Nie będzie to dotyczyć studentów, którym pomoc finansowa została już przyznana i zatwierdzona.

Ostateczny termin nadsyłania podań upływa **1 lipca 2011 r.** Podania należy przysyłać na adres:

President,  
PRCUA  
984 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

Informacje i formularze podań można znaleźć w sekcji *Member Benefits* na stronie [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org).

## ZMIANY OPROCENTOWANIA KONT ANNUITY

Z dniem 1 maja 2011 r. weszły w życie zmiany oprocentowania rocznego na nowe konta Annuity oferowane przez ZPRKA. Gwarantowane minimum oprocentowania na nowe konta wyniesie nie mniej niż 2% przez okres posiadania konta Annuity. Zmiany oprocentowania są zależne od fluktuacji rynku. Wysokość oprocentowania wyliczna jest na podstawie możliwości obniżenia kosztów ogólnych przy jednoczesnym silnym wykładniku wypłacalności. W celu uzyskania bieżących informacji o zmianach na kontach annuity, prosimy odwiedzać naszą stronę: [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) lub skontaktować się z jednym z biur ZPRKA.

## Salatki wiosenne

1 główka sałaty, 2 jajka ugotowane na twardo, 1/2 pęczka szczypiorku, 1/2 pęczka rzodkiewki, 2 ogórki, 2 nieduże pomidory. SOS: 2 łyżki majonezu, 2 łyżki śmietany lub jogurtu naturalnego, kilka gałązek koperku, sól, pieprz

Salatę "podrzyć" na drobne kawałki. Szczypiorek drobno pokroić. Ugotowane jajka pokroić w kostkę. Rzodkiewki pokroić w półplasterki. Ogórki pokroić w półplasterki. Pomidorki pokroić w ósemki. Wszystko składniki połączyć. W osobnym naczyniu przygotować sos: wymieszać śmietanę i majonez. Do tego dodać drobnutko posiekany koperek i doprawić solą i pieprzem. Sos wlać do sałatki, wymieszać i podawać. SMACZNEGO!

## Terminy nadsyłania artykułów do “Narodu Polskiego”

### Data publikacji

1 lipca  
1 sierpnia  
1 września  
1 października  
1 listopada

### Termin nadsyłania

14 czerwca  
19 lipca  
16 sierpnia  
20 września  
18 października

## SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY “RODZINA PLUS”

ZPRKA oferuje specjalny program ubezpieczeń na życie, tzw. SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY “RODZINA PLUS” (FAMILY PLUS LIFE INSURANCE SPECIAL). Wykupujący ustala definicję “rodziny”. I tak 2 (minimum) lub więcej osób, bez względu na pokrewieństwo stanowią rodzinę, np: rodzice i dzieci; samotny rodzic z dziećmi, dziadkowie z wnukami, itp. Przynajmniej jedna osoba musi być dorosła (powyżej 16 lat). W programie może brać udział nieokreślona liczba członków rodziny, pod warunkiem, że ich stan zdrowia jest na tyle dobry, że kwalifikują się do wykupienia ubezpieczenia. Koszt ubezpieczenia oparty jest na rocznych opłatach, jednak możemy zaaranżować opłaty miesięczne, kwartalne, lub półroczne

Program “Rodzina Plus” dotyczy następujących osób: podstawowego ubezpieczonego oraz innych osób ubezpieczonych. Osoby ubezpieczające się mogą zdecydować, jakie ubezpieczenie odpowiada najlepiej ich potrzebom i możliwościom finansowym. Osoba posiadająca podstawowe ubezpieczenie musi wykupić polisę opiewającą na \$50 tys. ubezpieczenia stałego lub ubezpieczenie mieszane: \$25 tys. ubezpieczenia stałego (Whole Life Insurance) i \$25. tys. ubezpieczenia terminowego (Term Life Insurance). Osoba posiadająca drugorzędne ubezpieczenie musi wykupić polisę o wartości minimum \$25 tys. ubezpieczenia stałego lub \$25 tys. ubezpieczenia 20-letniego terminowego (20 Year Level Term Life Insurance). Jeśli drugi ubezpieczony jest nieletni (poniżej 16 roku życia), wymagane jest wykupienie polisy o wartości minimum \$10 tys. ubezpieczenia stałego.

SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY “RODZINA PLUS” zostanie przygotowany indywidualnie dla każdej rodziny.

Wysokość składek wyliczona zostanie przy użyciu standartowych obliczeń oraz wieku i płci osób ubezpieczonych, wybranego planu, wysokości ubezpieczenia, itp. Każda rodzina wykupująca SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY “RODZINA PLUS”, otrzyma 10% zniżkę na roczną opłatę przy wykupie ubezpieczenia oraz przy następnej każdorazowej rocznej opłacie.

ABY SIĘ DOWIEDZIEĆ JAK SKORZYSTAĆ Z TEJ WSPANIAŁEJ OFERTY, prosimy skontaktować się z lokalnym agentem sprzedaży lub z jednym z biur ZPRKA: w Ohio - (800) 318-8234; w Pennsylvanii - (800) 558-8792; w biurze głównym w Chicago - (800) 772-8632 lub (773) 782-2600.

## IMPREZY POLONIJNE

Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce serdecznie zaprasza na doroczny 31 Bal Letni, który odbędzie się w piątek, 10 czerwca 2011 roku w Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, IL 60611. Obowiązuje strój wieczorowy. Koktajle 19:00 i kolacja 20:00. Do tańca grać będzie Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra. Nagrodę Ducha Polskości Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce otrzyma w tym roku pan Alex Strożyński, dziennikarz, laureat nagrody Pulitzera, pisarz, prezes Fundacji Kościuszkowskiej. Uroczyste wręczenie nagrody odbędzie się podczas Balu Letniego 2011. Cena biletów - \$175. Czeki należy wystawiać czekami na: Polish Museum of America. Rezerwacje: Alicia L. Dutka - 847-382-6339. Opłaty przyjmowane są do 2 czerwca 2011. Bilety będzie można odebrać przy wejściu. Hotelowy parking po obniżonej cenie

Biblioteka Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce zaprasza na wyprzedaż duplikatów książek, która odbędzie się w sobotę, 23 lipca (od 10 do 16) i niedzielę, 24 lipca 2011 roku (od 11 do 15) w sali jadalnej na parterze Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce (pod adresem 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL). W tym roku będą także sprzedawne pamiątki z Polski. Książki nie sprzedane podczas wyprzedaży zostaną przecenione i będą dostępne do 31 lipca w godzinach otwarcia biblioteki, czyli w poniedziałek, wtorek, piątek i sobotę: 10:00-16:00 oraz w środę: 13:00-19:00. Wyprzedaż jest corocznym przedsięwzięciem biblioteki Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce. Składa się na nią roczna praca bibliotekarzy i wolontariuszy. Dochód z wyprzedaży jest przeznaczony na rozwój placówki, która jest instytucją niedochodową. Biblioteka istnieje już 96 lat. W ciągu bieżącego roku biblioteka MPA będzie przechodziła zmianę oprogramowania. Książki wystawione na sprzedaż pochodzą z darów i przedstawiają ogromną różnorodność tematów. Dodatkowe informacje 1-773-384-3352 wew. 101. Darmowy parking przy budynku - prosimy używać wejścia od parkingu.

## WIADOMOŚCI Z POLSKI

Wniosek o emeryturę można składać przez Internet - ZUS wdraża elektroniczną platformę swoich usług, która umożliwi wystąpienie o świadczenia poprzez sieć. Powyższe usługi będą dostępne na początku 2012 roku. Obecnie przy składaniu wniosku o świadczenie emerytalno-rentowe obowiązuje forma papierowa. Ministerstwo Pracy i Polityki Społecznej wspólnie z ZUS opracowało projekt rozporządzenia w sprawie postępowania o świadczenia emerytalno-rentowe, zgodnie z którym wniosek o przyznanie renty lub emerytury będzie można złożyć przez Internet lub w formie papierowej. Papierowe dokumenty będą skanowane i po opatrzeniu poświadczeniem autentyczności zamieszczane w formacie PDF w systemie. Wnioskujący będzie mógł także przeglądać akta online. Klienci korzystający z platformy ZUS otrzymają indywidualny login i hasło, nie będzie od nich wymagane składanie podpisu elektronicznego. Do logowania posłuży podpis elektroniczny zakodowany w nowym dowodzie z czipem. Zgodnie z rozporządzeniem wniosek o ustalenie prawa do emerytury powinien zostać zgłoszony najwcześniej na 30 dni przed osiągnięciem wieku emerytalnego. Uregulowane zostanie także postępowanie w sprawach świadczeń przyznawanych w drodze wyjątku przez prezesa ZUS. O świadczenia takie mogą się ubiegać osoby, które wskutek szczególnych okoliczności nie spełniają warunków do uzyskania prawa do emerytury lub renty, a ze względu na stan zdrowia lub wiek nie mają środków utrzymania. Aby ZUS rozpatrzył ich wniosek, muszą zgromadzić dokumenty potwierdzające ich trudną sytuację rodzinną i majątkową. Na ich podstawie prezes ZUS wyda decyzję o okresie, na który przyznano świadczenie i o jego wysokości.

Zgodnie z projektem ustawy budżetowej waloryzacja rent i emerytur w marcu 2012 ma wynieść 4,2%. Osoby korzystające z powyższych świadczeń otrzymają średnio o ok. 60 zł miesięcznie więcej niż obecnie. Przyszłoroczna podwyżka będzie wyższa, rząd zakłada bowiem, że inflacja stanowiąca jeden z elementów obliczania wskaźnika waloryzacji w 2012 roku wyniesie aż 3,5%. Najniższe świadczenie zwiększy się o prawie 25 zł miesięcznie na rękę, średnie o ok. 60 zł, a osoby, które obecnie otrzymywały 2 tys. - otrzymają około 84 zł.

## JAN PAWEŁ II “SANTO SUBITO” *SIEDEM CUDÓW*

Gdy pierwszy raz na Watykanie  
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Anna Białek  
Chicago, maj 2011

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(dok. ze str. 20)  
i instytucji polonijnych, marszałka parady, którym w br. został wybrany Ted Makarewicz oraz królową parady i młodzież reprezentującą różne organizacje.

Na zakończenie oficjalnej części burmistrz Daley wręczył dyplomy uznania dla działaczy, którzy pomagali przy organizacji obchodów 3-majowych.

Wyróżnione zostały: siostra Marta Cichoń, przełożona klasztoru z parafii św. Jacka oraz Zdzisława Lipińska, Anna Ziółkowska-Sobór i Alina Szymczyk ze Związku Klubów Polskich.

W programie artystycznym wystąpił zespół “Wawel”, który przedstawił wiankę tańców. Przed uroczystością oraz po zakończeniu części oficjalnej, na pianinie grał utalentowany młody pianista Daniel Schafer.

Poczęstunek przygotowała restauracja “Czerwone Jabłuszko”.

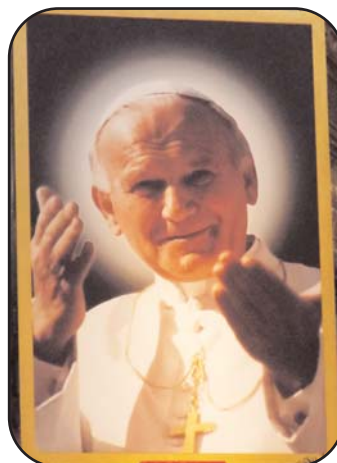
zdjęcia: Anna Sokołowski





Anna Sokółowska, wiceprezesa

## Patrząc przez okienko...



Portret  
błogosławionego Jana Pawła II.

Drodzy Czytelnicy,

"Szukałem Was, a Wy przyszliście do mnie i za to Wam dziękuję" - Jan Paweł II - takimi słowami witały pielgrzymów, moją koleżankę Irenę Gavaghan oraz mnie afisze na lotnisku w Rzymie, gdzie wylądowałyśmy 29 kwietnia oraz tych, którzy przybyli na uroczystości beatyfikacyjne Jana Pawła II.

Irena i ja zaplanowałyśmy tę podróż zaraz po usłyszeniu wiadomości 14 stycznia, że beatyfikacja Ojca św. Jana Pawła II - Syna Narodu Polskiego - odbędzie się 1 maja, połączona z obchodami ustanowionej przez Jana Pawła II Niedzieli Miłosierdzia Bożego. Na te słowa razem ze wszystkimi wiernymi na całym świecie czekaliśmy przez ostatnie 6 lat.

W tym artykule pragnę się podzielić z Wami moimi wrażeniami z pobytu w Rzymie.

Zaraz po wylądowaniu w Rzymie udałyśmy się na Watykan na spotkanie się z kardynałem Andrzejem Deskur. Po krótkiej rozmowie, modlitwie i błogosławieństwie, udałyśmy się do grot Watykanu, gdzie parę minut wcześniej odbyła się skromna ceremonia ekshumacji trumny ze szczątkami Jana Pawła II. Trumna pokryta złotem haftowaną szatą, została przeniesiona w grotach o kilka metrów i ustawiona w pobliżu grobu św. Piotra. Po modlitwie, razem z Ireną z modlitwą na ustach doszłyśmy do trumny, aby uklęknąć przed nią. Następnie jeden ze strażników stojący obok trumny, odkrył kawłek złotej szaty i jeszcze raz pozwolono nam dojść do trumny i ucałować trumnę ze szczątkami Jana Pawła II. Trumna pozostała w



Siostry zakonne czuwają przy wystawionej trumnie z ciałem Jana Pawła II.



Tłumy pielgrzymów na Placu św. Piotra, biorących udział w uroczystej mszy św. beatyfikacyjnej.



Powiewające biało-czerwone flagi.

wiadące do Watykanu. Uroczystościom przewodniczył Ojciec Św. Benedykt XVI, a msze św. z papieżem koncelebrowali kardynałowie oraz arcybiskup Mieczysław Mokrzycki ze Lwowa, uczyniono wyjątek dla byłego sekretarza Jana Pawła II. Po wstępnych modlitwach i przeczytaniu życiorysu Jana Pawła II, papież Benedykt XVI wygłosił po łacinie proklamację, że: "Czcigodny Sługa Boży Jan



Papież Benedykt XVI błogosławi pielgrzymów zgromadzonych na Placu św. Piotra.

grotach Bazyliki św. Piotra, aż do 1 maja, kiedy została przeniesiona do Bazyliki św. Piotra i ustawiona przy głównym ołtarzu. W noc z soboty 30 kwietnia na niedzielę w Rzymie nikt nie spał, Plac św. Piotra napelniał się pielgrzymami, odbyło się czuwanie modlitewne. Na terenie Watykanu kościoły były otwarte przez całą noc, można się było wypowiadać w wielu językach i uczestniczyć w adoracjach Najświętszego Sakramentu.

Uroczystości beatyfikacyjne rozpoczęły się 1 maja o godzinie 10:00 rano na Placu św. Piotra. Na ten dzień czekało setki milionów wiernych z całego świata. Toteż nic dziwnego, że od wczesnego rana tłumy wiernych (ok. 1.5 mln) zapępiały Plac św. Piotra oraz ulice

Paweł II, papież, od tej chwili nazywany będzie Błogosławionym, a jego święto obchodzone może być w miejscach i zgodnie z regułami ustalonymi przez prawo, 22 października każdego roku. W imię Ojca i Syna i Ducha Świętego". Po tym akcie proklamacji, na Placu św. Piotra został odsłonięty na fasadzie Bazyliki portret Jana Pawła II. Z tą chwilą zerwała się burza oklasków, wiwatów, ły same cisnęły się do oczu, wszyscy byliśmy głęboko pochyleni, gdyż uklęknąć nie było można z powodu tłumów. Wszędzie widać było transparenty i tysiące flag z każdego kontynentu, każdej narodowości, a najwięcej z Polski. Był to dla nas najbardziej poruszający i emocjonalny moment, trudno nawet wyrazić słowami to uczucie, czuliśmy tę wielką dumę i wielką łaskę, że nasz



W uroczystości udział wzięły siostry z różnych zgromadzeń zakonnych.



Księża roznoszą Komunię św. w czasie mszy.

Następnie Ojciec Św. kontynuował mszę św., podczas której wygłosił homilię. W homilii papież Benedykt XVI, uczcił pamięć o Janie Pawle II i jego przywiązaniu do Maryi. Wspominał o jego osobistej współpracy przez prawie 25 lat z Janem Pawłem II. Dodał w jęz. polskim, że Jan Paweł II był "znakomitym synem narodu polskiego, który pomógł chrześcijanom na całym świecie. Pomógł nam nie lękać się, gdyż prawda jest gwarancją wolności". Wspominał też o Jego herbie papieskim i o znaczeniu napisu "TOTUS TUUS". Homilię zakończył słowami "Błogosławiony jesteś Janie Pawle II, bo uwierzyłeś i dziś Cię prosimy - Ojciec Święty pobłogosław nas. Amen. W uroczystościach beatyfikacyjnych uczestniczyło wiele osobistości, a wśród nich prezydent RP - Bronisław Komorowski oraz byli



J.E. kardynał Stanisław Dziwisz przemówił w czasie Mszy św. Dziękczynnej.

prezydenci RP: Lech Wałęsa i Aleksander Kwaśniewski. Na zakończenie beatyfikacyjnej Mszy św. Ojciec Święty udzielił nam wszystkim apostolskiego błogosławieństwa.

Po zakończeniu mszy św. beatyfikacyjnej, papież wraz z kardynałami i biskupami wszedł do Bazyliki, aby oddać hołd Janowi Pawłowi II - nowemu błogosławionemu.

Następnie do papieskiej trumny podchodzili członkowie oficjalnych delegacji państw i organizacji, którzy przybyli na tę uroczystość. Pod Bazyliką ustawiały się kolejki pielgrzymów, którzy także mogli oddać swój hołd błogosławionemu Janowi Pawłowi II.

Po uroczystościach beatyfikacyjnych, prezydent RP Bronisław Komorowski wraz z kardynałem Stanisławem Dziwiszem wydali specjalny obiad w restauracji w pobliżu Placu św. Piotra. Wśród zaproszonych był prymas Polski abp. Józef Kowalczyk, kardynałowie i biskupi, b. prezydenci RP - Lech Wałęsa i Aleksander Kwaśniewski, b. premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki, marszałkowie Sejmu i Senatu, korpus dyplomatyczny, osoby reprezentujące Państwo Polskie, Polonię. Mieliśmy sposobność zapoznać wiele interesujących osób z Polski i reprezentatów Polonii z całego świata. Na tym obiedzie nie było oficjalnych wystąpień, czuliśmy się



Prezydent RP Bronisław Komorowski w czasie spotkania w ambasadzie RP w Rzymie.



Na spotkaniu obecny był także abp. Szczepan Wesoly.

był skąd jesteśmy i rozmawiał o tym, co się stało parę godzin wcześniej. Wszyscy dziękowaliśmy Panu Bogu za tę beatyfikację.

2 maja na Placu św. Piotra odbyła się specjalna msza św. - Msza Dziękczynna za beatyfikację Jana Pawła II. Znowu obecne były tłumy wiernych, mimo tego udało się nam dotrzeć w bardzo dobre miejsce, gdzie miałyśmy ołtarz przed sobą. Watykański sekretarz stanu kard. Tarciso Bertone przewodniczył tej mszy św. z udziałem kardynałów i biskupów z całego świata,



L-p: Irena Gavaghan, abp. Józef Kowalczyk, Anna Sokółowska.



**Nieoczekiwane spotkanie z Janem Jaworskim (z prawej), prezesem Tow. #800 ZPRKA oraz towarzyszącą mu grupą księży.**

kompleksów i bez lęków, być odważnym i konsekwentnym. Podkreślił, że Jan Paweł II był obrońcą godności, wzmocnił więzi ekumeniczne i międzyreligijne. To Jan Paweł II odnalazł drogę do owocnego dialogu z nowymi pokoleniami, a przede wszystkim z młodzieżą.

Na tej mszy św. był obecny również prezydent RP - Bronisław Komorowski z przedstawicielami polskich władz.

W godzinach popołudniowych w Ambasadzie RP w Rzymie odbyło się spotkanie prezydenta Komorowskiego z liderami świata Polonii, z okazji beatyfikacji Jana Pawła II. Także obecni byli - Prymas Polski - abp. Józef Kowalczyk, wieloletni duszpasterz Polonii - apb. Szczepan Wesoly, delegat Episkopatu Duszpasterstwa Emigracji - bp. Wojciech Polak, bp. polowy Wojska Polskiego Jozef Guzdek, abp. ze Lwowa Mieczysław Mokrzycki, prezes Wspólnoty Polskiej Longin Komołowski, wicemarszałek Senatu Grażyna Anna Sztark. Prezydent RP serdecznie wszystkich powitał, w swoim wystąpieniu powiedział, że Jan Paweł II służąc Kościołowi i światu, nigdy nie zapomniał o tym co wiąże się z ziemią ojczystą i w jakiejś mierze jest patronem wszystkich Polaków rozsiansych po świecie. Podczas spotkania z okazji Dnia Polonii i Polaków oraz Dnia Flagi Polskiej, prezydent Komorowski odznaczył zasłużonych działaczy polonijnych, a przedstawicielom polonijnym wręczył polskie flagi życząc "Dumy z białoczerwonej flagi, która



**Uroczysty koncert "Missa Magna Beatificationis".**

dotychczas dodatkowo rozświetliła wspaniałą uroczystość beatyfikacji naszego Wielkiego Rodaka". Na tym spotkaniu wręczyłam prez. Komorowskiemu historię naszej organizacji, za którą serdecznie dziękował i prosił, aby gorąco pozdrowić członków ZPRKA.

Po poczęstunku, specjalnymi autobusami udaliśmy się do Bazyliki im. Ignacego Loyoli na wielki koncert "Missa Magna Beatificationis", a po polsku "Wielka Msza Beatyfikacyjna" autorstwa jednego z najwybitniejszych kompozytorów współczesnej muzyki filmowej, Michała Lorenca. Koncert prowadzili - aktorka Małgorzata Kożuchowska oraz dziennikarz i producent filmowy Michał Jedynek. Na koncert przybyli: kard. Stanisław Dziwisz, apb. Mieczysław Mokrzycki, apb. Szczepan Wesoly, bp. Wojciech Polak, wielu biskupów i pracowników Kurii Rzymskiej, przedstawiciele korpusu dyplomatycznego z ambasadorem RP przy Stolicy Apostolskiej - Hanną Suchocką, wicemarszałek Senatu Grażyna A. Sztark, reprezentacje organizacji polonijnych z całego świata oraz wielu zaproszonych gości z Polski i ze świata. Tuż przed koncertem wystąpił kard. Dziwisz i powiedział, że osobiście podziękował papieżowi Benedyktowi XVI za wspaniałą homilię beatyfikacyjną. Prymas Polski abp. Józef Kowalczyk wspominał, że Ojciec Św. Jan Paweł II nigdy nie zapomniał o spotkaniach z Polakami i że każdą rozmowę z nimi nie zaczynał od słowa "emigracja" lecz od słowa "ojczyzna".

W koncercie wystąpiło 150 najlepszych polskich muzyków oraz dwóch solistów - jeden z Kamerunu, a drugi z Iranu. Także wystąpiły chóry z Polski. Całością dyrygował Tadeusz Karolak. Koncert był wspaniały, zawierał pieśni i hymny. Między innymi usłyszeliśmy "Ave Maria", po łacinie i w języku endo oraz "Bogurodzicę" - te dwie pieśni otrzymały nie tylko oklaski ale również owacje na stojąco. W wielu częściach koncertu słyszeliśmy muzykę etniczną z różnych stron świata. Koncert parę razy był przerywany owacjami, a na zakończenie publiczność na stojąco przez wiele minut biła brawa.

3 maja w rzymskiej Bazylice Santa Maria Maggiore (Bazylice Matki Bożej Większej) odbyła się uroczysta msza św. z udziałem kard. Stanisława Dziwisza oraz Episkopatu Polski. Podczas mszy dziękczynnej za beatyfikację, homilię wygłosił Prymas Polski abp. Józef Kowalczyk. W swojej homilii prymas podkreślił, że błogosławiony Jan Paweł II jest wielkim darem dla Polski, dla świata i dla Kościoła. Jego śmierć pomogła nam lepiej jego odkryć i zrozumieć, a jego nauczanie na zawsze pozostanie nam aktualne. I nie przestanie być dla nas wyzwaniem.

między innymi kard. Stanisława Dziwisza. Na ołtarzu znajdowały się relikwie bł. Jana Pawła II, a na froncie Bazyliki wisiał jego portret. Na Placu św. Piotra falowały flagi i transparenty, głównie z Polski.

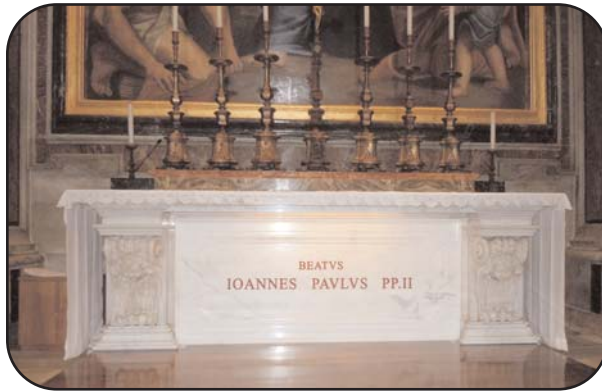
Słowo wstępne w jęz. włoskim i polskim wygłosił b. sekretarz Jana Pawła II, kar. Stanisław Dziwisz. W czasie homilii, którą wygłosił sekretarz stanu kard. Tarciso Bertone, podziękował Bogu za to, że dał nam Pasterza takiego jak Jan Paweł II. Pasterza, który uczył nas jak przeżywać wiarę i bronić chrześcijańskich wartości, życia bez

W środę, 4 maja odbyła się śródowa Audycja Generalna, w której także uczestniczyliśmy. Podczas tej audycji papież Benedykt XVI wyraził pragnienie, by przykład bł. Jana Pawła II był dla Polaków zachętą do zawierzenia Matce Boskiej. Zwracając się w j. polskim do wszystkich Polaków z Polski i ze świata, wszystkich serdecznie pozdrowił i podziękował pielgrzymom, którzy przybyli na beatyfikację jego umiłowanego poprzednika na Stolicy Piotrowej, bł. Jana Pawła II.

W czwartek, 5 maja



**Pierwsza msza św. w j. polskim, odprawiona w Bazylice św. Piotra w kaplicy św. Sebastiana.**



**Nowy grobowiec, w którym złożone zostało ciało bł. Jana Pawła II.**

odprawił kard. Kazimierz Nycz z uczestnictwem ponad 50 kapłanów polskich. Po mszy św. tysiące pielgrzymów przeszło obok nowego grobu Jana Pawła II, każdy starał się przykleknąć, aby oddać hołd papieskim relikwiom.

Drodzy Czytelnicy w skrócie opisałam o moim pobycie w Rzymie i w Watykanie i w jakich uroczystościach uczestniczyłam i podzieliłam się z Wami naszymi przeżyciami. Mój pobyt na uroczystościach beatyfikacyjnych Jana Pawła II był po prostu niesamowity. Wiem, że napewno każdy przeżył to w sposób szczególny. Trudno nieraz wyrazić słowami to uczucie i wzruszenie, bo tak jak moje spotkanie z papieżem Janem Pawłem II w październiku 2004 r. było inne, tak każdy z nas ma własne przeżycia. Był to dla mnie czas skupienia, czas modlitwy, a zarazem czas wielkiej dumy i radości. Byłam świadkiem tej wielkiej uroczystości beatyfikacyjnej, mogłam razem z tłumami w tej duchowej atmosferze uczestniczyć we mszy św., mogłam oddać hołd bł. Janowi Pawłowi II. Był to bardzo szczególny dzień w moim życiu, który nie da się porównać z innym wydarzeniem i który zapamiętam na zawsze.

Pragnę zakończyć słowami "Błogosławiony Janie Pawle II - módl się za nami".

GRATULACJE

W imieniu naszej organizacji ZPRKA oraz swoim, pragniemy złożyć najserdeczniejsze gratulacje wszystkim maturzystom i uczniom, którzy ukończyli szkoły. Gratulujemy i życzymy dalszych sukcesów - zdania egzaminów, dostania się na studia, czy też znalezienia wymarzonej pracy. Niech w waszej pamięci pozostaną wspomnienia z lat szkolnych. Specjalne podziękowania dla wszystkich nauczycieli za ich pracę, a rodzicom za opiekę nad dziećmi. Wszystkim życzymy słonecznych wakacji.

PODZIĘKOWANIE

Serdecznie dziękujemy p. Krysi Lech, dyrektorze Południowego-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców, która przechodzi na "emeryturę", za jej sumienną i pełną zaangażowania pracę jako dyrektor PZCPT. Dziękujemy za jej wkład w rozwój zespołu, za zaangażowanie w pracę z różnymi grupami wiekowymi młodego polonijnego pokolenia. Dziękujemy i składamy najserdeczniejsze życzenia. Życzymy Pani Krysi miłego i zasłużonego odpoczynku po ciężkiej i długoletniej pracy.

Od września dyrektorką Południowo-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców będzie Ania Kraszevska, absolwentka ZPiT "Wesoły Lud" oraz ceniona instruktorka tańca przez wiele lat w PZCPT. Pani Ani Kraszewskiej życzymy, aby nowa praca układała się jak najlepiej i żeby praca z dziećmi przyniosła jej dużo satysfakcji i radości. Życzymy w nowej roli powodzenia!

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Osobiste podziękowania dla Ireny Gavaghan, która była ze mną w Rzymie - dziękuję za jej cierpliwość, przyjaźń, za zniesienie mojego chrapania, za ciągnięcie mnie do różnych zakamarków "Aniu to MUSISZ zobaczyć i zrobić zdjęcie" (dodam, że obie zrobiłyśmy ok. 2000 zdjęć!). Dziękuję "Wspólnocie Polskiej" za zaproszenie na Światowe Spotkanie Poloni w Rzymie 2011. Dziękuję pp. Ani i Romanowi Fleszar za ich gościnność w ich domu, za udostępnienie nam pokoju w czasie naszego pobytu, za zawiezenie nas na wszystkie uroczystości, za smaczne posiłki i gorące co rano cappuccino! Dziękuję za ich znajomości na Watykanie, to dzięki im udało się nam dostać na uroczystości związane z beatyfikacją. Specjalne i serdeczne podziękowania dla siostry Bronisławy, Sercanki, która opiekuje się kard. Deskur. Jej dziękuję za modlitwę, umożliwienie dostania się na Watykan, za jej opiekę i czuwanie nad nami, dziękuję za gościnność i poczęstunek. Podziękowania kieruję do pp. Jana i Haliny Jedynek oraz ich uroczych synów Michała i Karola, dziękujemy za gościnność, smaczny obiad. Karolowi dziękujemy, że mógł poświęcić nam dużo czasu na pokazanie Rzymu z każdej strony. Także Michałowi i Karolowi dziękujemy za pokazanie nam różnych zakamarków w Watykanie. Wszystkim dziękuję z całego serca i serdeczne Bóg zapłać.

## Parada z okazji 220. rocznicy Dnia Konstytucji 3 Maja

Chicago, IL - W tym roku przypadała 220. rocznica Konstytucji 3 Maja - drugiej konstytucji w świecie - po amerykańskiej, a pierwszej w Europie.

W sobotę, 7 maja odbyła się w Chicago doroczna parada z okazji obchodów Dnia Konstytucji 3 Maja.

Parada przemaszerowała ulicami w śródmieściu Chicago. Jak co roku udział w paradzie wzięli przedstawiciele



Trybuna honorowa: w środku burmistrz Chicago Richard M. Daley i biskup Archidiecezji Springfield Tomasz Paprocki.



Na czele parady podążali przedstawiciele instytucji miejskich, powiatowych i stanowych oraz organizacji polonijnych i goście z Polski.



Z lewej: przedstawiciele zarządu, pracownicy i członkowie ZPRKA.  
Z prawej: "Kopciuszek i Księżę" czyli Monica Marszałik i Robert Bukowski.

Z ramienia ZPRKA w paradzie udział wzięli członkowie zarządu i dyrekcji oraz pracownicy Zjednoczenia, a także członkowie oraz należące do ZPRKA szkoły tańca i języka polskiego.

instytucji stanowych, powiatowych i miejskich organizacje i stowarzyszenia polonijne, szkoły, szkoły tańca i języka polskiego, parafie, przedstawiciele instytucji biznesowych, placówek medycznych, itp.

Paradzie towarzyszyły kolorowe stroje ludowe oraz powiewające wszędzie białe-czerwone flagi.

## Przyjęcie zorganizowane przez burmistrza Chicago

Chicago, IL - We wtorek, 26 kwietnia 2011 r. burmistrz Chicago Richard M. Daley, po raz ostatni zorganizował obchody Dnia Konstytucji 3 Maja. Po 22 latach burmistrz Daley przeszedł na emeryturę, uroczystość, która odbyła się w Chicago Cultural Center, była więc dla niego także okazją do pożegnania się z przedstawicielami chicagowskiej Polonii.

Przed rozpoczęciem części oficjalnej goście mieli czas na przekąskę oraz spotkanie towarzyskie.

Program zagała i gości powitała p/o komisarza Departamentu Imprez Kulturalnych i Wydarzeń Specjalnych, Katherine La Mantia.

Mistrzynią Ceremonii była Patricia Jackowiak (Chief Administrative Law Judge Department of Administrative Hearings), która wymieniła zaproszone na uroczystość osobistości, dziękując wszystkim za przybycie.

Hymny narodowe odśpiewała Barbara Wilczek, której akompaniowała Julia Adamczyk.

Z krótkimi przemówieniami wystąpili: konsul generalny RP w Chicago Zygmunt Matynia, burmistrz Richard M. Daley oraz prezes Związku Klubów Polskich w Ameryce



Przy mikrofonie burmistrz Chicago Richard M. Daley w otoczeniu przedstawicieli organizacji polonijnych.

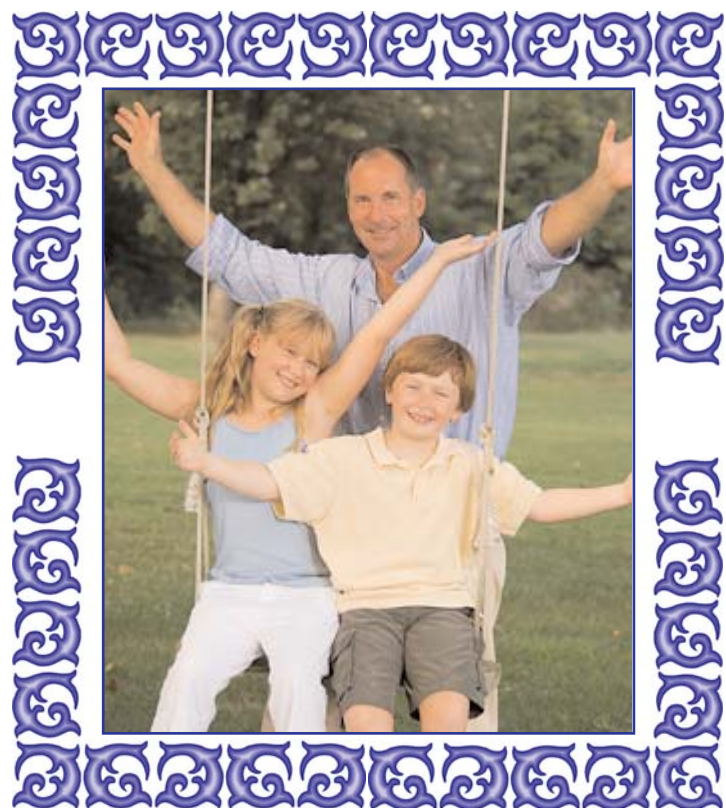
Tadeusz Czajkowski.

Konsul Matynia podkreślił, że nasi przodkowie podjęli działania, aby pomóc ojczyźnie i że na taką pomoc, nigdy nie jest za późno. Pomimo chaosu panującego w Polsce pod koniec XVIII wieku, Polacy wierzyli w wolność i w to, że uchwalając konstytucję, są w stanie osiągnąć niezależność państwową, a wprowadzone reformy zapewnią rozwój gospodarczy i polityczny państwa. Dzisiaj Polska jest wolnym krajem, który należy do NATO i Unii Europejskiej. Konsul Matynia podziękował burmistrzowi Daley za wieloletnie wsparcie, którego w czasie swojej kadencji udzielał Polsce, Polakom i Polonii amerykańskiej. Jako wyraz wdzięczności, konsul wręczył burmistrzowi pamiątkową monetę wybitą 3 lata temu, upamiętniającą pierwszych polskich osadników w Ameryce.

Prosząc do mikrofonu burmistrza Daley'go, Patricia Jackowiak podkreśliła, iż był on burmistrzem 3 największego miasta w Stanach Zjednoczonych oraz iż zawsze wspierał on społeczność polską mieszkającą w "Wietrznym Mieście".

Burmistrz Daley podziękował Polonii za wszelkie wsparcie i wkład w życie miasta Chicago. Podkreślił, że pracując na stanowisku burmistrza służył mieszkańcom Chicago, z których duża część jest pochodzenia polskiego. Dodał, że do rozwoju i wysokiego poziomu życia Chicago przyczynili się imigranci, którzy byli kluczem do sukcesu tego miasta. To właśnie imigranci budowali szkoły i fabryki, a swoim potomkom przekazywali najlepsze przykłady moralne i rodzinne. Dodał również, że ze względu na ilość imigrantów, którzy osiedlili się w Chicago oraz położenia miasta, stało się ono miastem globalnym. Na zakończenie podziękował społeczności polonijnej oraz Polakom za wieloletnią współpracę oraz odczytał doroczną proklamację z okazji dnia obchodów Święta Konstytucji 3 Maja w Chicago.

Prezes Związku Klubów Polskich w Ameryce Thaddeus Czajkowski podziękował burmistrzowi oraz pracownikom jego biura, za wieloletnią współpracę i przychylne nastawienie do społeczności polonijnej w Chicago. Przedstawił obecnych na uroczystości przedstawicieli organizacji (dok. na str. 16)



*Wszystkim Ojcom  
życzymy z okazji  
DNIA OJCA*

*Błogosławieństwa Bożego,  
szczęścia rodzinnego  
oraz powodzenia we wszystkich  
podjęwanych przedsięwzięciach.*