

Welcome—New Members—Witamy

Caroleanne Danielczyk-Sanka, interested in surnames: BABUL, BOLZ, BONKOWSKI, BRUZUREWSKI, 14801 Athens Ave. BUKLAD, DANIELCZYK, DOBROWOLSKI, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 GOLEMBIESKI, GORYE, GOSZCZU(A)SKI(A), polishlady1940@aol.com JABLONOSKI(A), JANOWITZ, JASKO,

KAZINSKI(A), KLIMEK, KOKOSZLA, NAGOWSKICH, PARTYKA, PNIEWSKI, PRZYBYSZEWSKI, SIWINSKI, SOBECK, TYL, WALESKI(A), WOZNIAK, ZIELINSKI, ZYGMUNT

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Leonard & Mary Ann Bogan, interested in surnames: BOGAN, BOJANOWSKI, DINAK, JUCHNOWSKI, 6022 US Rte 42 S KUNDZALA, MARCINKO, MARKOWSKI, MINC, Ostrander, Ohio 43061 OBREMSKI, ZERKO
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Schedule of Speakers for Upcoming Meetings

September—**Robert Jerin** will address the group on the topic: *Searching for Your Ancestor at Ellis Island*.

October—**Justyna Farrell**, formerly of Poznan, Poland, and now working as an accountant in the Akron area, will address the group on the topic: *Comparing Christmas in Poland with Christmas in the USA*.

November—**Mitchell Bienia**, Owner of **Kniola Travel Agency**, will speak on the topic: *Polish Christmas Traditions*.

December—Election of Officers and Christmas Party.

What's Happening

Congratulations to Chet and Virginia Luty—

Long time members of our group, Chet and Virginia Luty, recently celebrated their “Golden Wedding Anniversary.” Our very best to them. May the Good Lord bless them with much good health and happiness in the years ahead. *Sto Lat!*

Strange how little we know about our fellow members. We see them at meetings and at our Christmas Party but somehow we still know very little about them. Chet is a member of *The Cleveland Society of Poles*, which is a group consisting mostly of businessmen and professional people dedicated to the advancement of Polonia and things Polish. And I recently learned that he was raised in the “*Jackowa*” neighborhood.

Virginia is past president of the *American Polish Women's Club*, a member of the *Grand Ladies of Pulaski*, an honoree at last years *Polonia Foundation of Ohio* banquet. She is the owner of the *Polish Peddler*, a business dedicated to selling Polish artifacts. Quite a couple, these two! We are honored to have them as members and once again, *Sto Lat!*

Polish Genealogical Seminar Coming to Cleveland—A Polish Genealogical Seminar is coming to Cleveland on Sunday, October 8, 2006. John Grabowski and Ceil Jensen will be the featured speakers. A reservation form is located on page 11 of this newsletter.

St. Stan's Alumni—

The second St. Stan's alumni event took place on Sunday, June 4th with about 150 former elementary and high school students attending a Mass and picnic sponsored by the Alumni Committee. A History Table featuring historic photographs and class pictures was available for their perusal and many found themselves in these photographs.

The first event was held in the grade school last January and drew close to 500.

Anyone who would like to be kept informed about upcoming alumni events should call the St. Stanislaus rectory at (216) 341-9091.

Rest In Peace—

Our sympathies go out to **Len Pryer** and his family on the loss of his brother, John T. Prybor, who passed away this past June. Also, the mother of Fr. Dyrz, Alice Dyrz, passed on to eternal rest this past July. Fr. Dyrz is currently the pastor of St. Barbara's in Cleveland, Ohio. Long time member, **Edmund A. Wientczak**, passed on this past August. Please say a prayer on their behalf. May they rest in peace.

Thank You to all donors—

A great big, "Thank you" to **Patricia Schmidt** who donated books and CDs to our expanding library. The CDs are a *CD-Rom Reference Library* from The Mormons' *Family History Source Guide*. This is quite an addition to our collection.

A great big, "Thank you" to **Kathryn Swintek** who donated a 100th anniversary history book of St. Casimir's Parish of Cleveland, Ohio. It was indeed needed since the one we had vanished somehow. Please folks, return the books after you are through using them. Some of them are hard to replace and let our other members enjoy them as much as you do.

And another great big "Thank You" to all our members who bring donuts, cakes and cookies to our meetings. This helps to make our "get togethers" a more pleasant and social event.

Polish American Night at Jacobs Field—

The Cleveland Society of Poles is promoting Polish American Night at Jacobs Field on Tuesday, August 29, 2006 when the Cleveland Indians play the Toronto Blue Jays. Ticket price is \$10.00 for bleacher seats which normally sell for much more. A parade around the field will begin at 6:00 P.M.. Participants in the parade must be at Gate A no later than 6:00 P.M. It is recommended that you wear something "red and white" to identify yourself. For additional information, please call *The Cleveland Society of Poles* at 216-556-0302.

For Our Reading Members—

Not long ago, author James Conroyd Martin wrote *Push Not the River*, a novel which was based on an actual diary of a Polish countess who lived through the rise and fall of the Third of May Constitution years. The book proved to be such a success that the author has written a sequel to the novel entitled, *Against a Crimson Sky*. This book picks up the story in 1794 with the surviving characters and carries it forward twenty years into the fascinating Napoleonic period. This second book stands alone and may be read without having read the first novel. The book has garnered excellent reviews. Both books are available at: Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Legacy Village, 24519 Cedar Rd., Lyndhurst, Ohio.

Surfing the Internet—

From the *Bulletin* of the PGS of California, Vol.18 No. 2---April 2006

Subject: The Poznan Project Search Engine Finally Unveiled!!

Dear volunteers and friends of the Poznan Indexing Project: ---under the address: <http://monstera.man.poznan.pl/~bielecki/search.php> there is now a fully operational searchable database including all of the 33,000 entries which have been submitted by our volunteers.

Simple search (just try a name) and Extended Search options are available. Up to 30 results are produced for any form (they will appear below the form). First come exact results with the name (and other possible criteria) precisely matching your selections, then results with similarly sounding names are listed.

Please advertise the Project wherever you can, the more people learn about it, the sooner we'll have the Province covered. From: Lukasz Bielecki <bielecki@rose.man.poznan.pl> Give it a try!

Stories of the **Polish Diaspora 1939-1950** at: <<http://polishdiaspora.net>>. Tales of Poles during WW II.

History of St. Stanislaus Parish of Lorain, Ohio—Continued

We left off the history in our last newsletter with Father Raymond Trusczyński service which ended Nov. 21, 1973.

Father Frank Kucia—August 9, 1974---January 6, 1982

Father Kucia served the parish as an associate for a year and a half under Father Trusczyński. During Father Trusczyński's illness, he cared for the parish's spiritual and temporal needs. And, for nine months after Father Ray's death, he was the parish's administrator. One of Bishop James Hickey's first appointments was that of Father Kucia as pastor.

Father Kucia made various repairs and improvements to the parish plant. New lighting, wiring and carpeting were installed in the church; the parish grounds were landscaped; new lighting was installed in the cafeteria, and new doors were installed in the school building. A new altar, dedicated to the memory of Father Trusczyński, was also installed.

Because of declining enrollment and rising costs, the decision was made in March, 1981 to close the school at the end of the 1980-81 school year and the sisters left in August, 1981. The school closing polarized the parishioners. Because of reasons of health, Father Kucia announced his resignation at Thanksgiving time, 1981.

Father Michael Dyrz—January 6, 1982---present*

Father Dyrz reorganized the bingo games and the 50/50 raffle. A new organization, the Women's Guild, was organized out of the old Parent-Teacher Unit and Young Ladies Sodality.

An ambitious program of repair also was undertaken. Windows were bricked over in the school to conserve energy, roofs were repaired and replaced, and insulation and weather-stripping were installed.

In an effort to start a Parish Council, Finance and Liturgy Commissions were organized. A guitar Mass began during the summer of 1982. Lay Ministers of the Eucharist were introduced in fall, 1982.

The parish gym, which had been out of use for several years, was repaired and reopened both for rentals and for use by parishioners.

The spring of 1983 saw the start of a spiritual renewal program, "We Are The Church," in which about 30 men and women participated.

Additionally, a Jubilee Committee was organized to prepare for the Diamond Jubilee Year. The year of celebration began with a Mass on February 6, 1983, celebrated by Bishop of the Western Region James Griggin. Concelebrants included Father Dyrz as well as Father Kucia and Father Rygwalski. An open house in the school building followed the liturgy.

The committee's work continued throughout the year, leading to a Jubilee Mass celebrated by Bishop Anthony Pilla and a banquet on October 1, 1983. Father Richard Bober, a son of our parish, was the homilist.

*This history was published in 1983 and that is why Father Dyrz is still mentioned as the pastor. Since publication of this history, Father Dyrz has left St. Stan's of Lorain, Ohio and is currently the pastor of St. Barbara's in Cleveland, Ohio.

St. Stanislaus School **Building Strong Citizens**

Back in 1908, when St. Stanislaus parish was organized, there was, of course, no school for the children of parishioners to attend. The children either attended public school or no school at all, depending upon the needs of their families at home.

Despite this, Father Joseph Tomecki and those who succeeded him in the earliest days of the parish before the school opened, conducted catechism classes at Holy Trinity to prepare the children for Holy Communion. The courses were taught in Polish to satisfy the parishioners' needs.

By 1911, the Diocese of Cleveland granted the pastor permission to build a school/church, the same building which exists today on the parish grounds. Classes started in fall, 1911.

Father John Tokarz, the pastor at the time, hired a Mr. Kimbro to regularly conduct part-time classes.



The class of 1981 marked the last to complete its elementary education in the school. Students graduating were: First row---Pamela Adams, Toni Zapata, Cheryl Johnson, Paula Denes, Richard Shagovac, Janet Robertson, Mary Dembek, Stacy Hogg, Lisa Moyel. Second row---Scott Gordon, Keith Reber, Daniel Vancs, Kevin Ciesla, Father Frank Kucia, James Smith, instructor, Edward Cantu, Robb Zakowski, John Gonos, Frank Polito.

The project was so favorably accepted that Father Tokarz immediately tried to locate nuns to teach in the school. In December, 1911, three Franciscan sisters from the Community of Our Lady of Perpetual Help arrived from St. Louis, Missouri, to conduct regular daily classes.

In addition to the prescribed secular subjects, such as mathematics, science and English, the nuns taught catechism, Bible history, Polish and Polish history---quite a load for the students in any era, today or the early 20th Century.

The Polish and religious classes grew popular among parents and, consequently, by 1915, more children were sent to our school. Additional nuns were assigned to the school, bringing the number of teaching nuns to five.

In 1916, Herman Popiel became the first student to receive a diploma. In 1917, five more students, including the first girl, graduated. By the time the school closed in 1981, 1,067 students completed all requirements for graduation.

During this time, the nuns lived in one of the school's rooms. But, as the school's enrollment slowly grew, they became cramped for space. Seeing this, Father Duda built a sisters' house with four bedrooms in 1922 on the site of the current convent.

Meanwhile, because immigrants from Europe and around the world continued to arrive in America, the Bishop of St. Louis recalled the five nuns in 1923, saying they were needed to teach youngsters there. Worst of all, the Bishop told Father Duda that the nuns would not be returning for classes in September.

That announcement forced Father Duda to begin talking with the Sister of St. Joseph, currently headquartered in Garfield Heights, to take charge of the school. The mother house agreed to send five teaching nuns in fall, 1923, to keep the school open.

Throughout the 1930s, despite the Great Depression, attendance grew to 247 students by 1934. On October 11, 1938, Father Leo Rygwalski started the school's first kindergarten class. Lay teachers were in charge of the 18 youngsters in that first class, which attended school for a half day each morning.

Another sister was assigned to the parish in time for classes in September, 1940, bringing to six the number of teaching nuns, even though enrollment had declined to 168 students. The new sister took over for

the lay kindergarten teachers and began conducting all day sessions.

The number of sisters remained at six until 1952, when all school enrollments and the demand for sisters began to increase because of the post-War II "baby boom." But vocations began to decline sharply during this period, forcing Father Leo to hire a lay teacher to take charge of the kindergarten, and bringing the school staff to seven.

In September, 1956, another lay teacher was hired, making the staff now six nuns and two lay teachers. By September, 1957, the school needed at least two more teachers, but Father Rygwalski was able to hire only one lay teacher. Even so, classes remained overcrowded, with one class having 68 students. In 1958, 484 students were enrolled, the highest ever, leading to the conversion of two basement rooms into classrooms. The staff then was increased to nine, including six nuns.

A sports program, including basketball and football teams in the Catholic Youth Organization league, started in 1940 with the conversion of the third floor of the school building into a gymnasium. Until the 1970s, St. Stanislaus fielded teams every year.

However, as the birth rate dropped in the 1960s and the parishioners moved to new neighborhoods on the west side and in South Lorain, school enrollment fell. The shortage of vocations also led to the hiring of more lay teachers. By the mid-1970s, enrollment fell well below 200 students and classes were consolidated with Holy Trinity.

In 1981 the Diocese of Cleveland decided to close the school because of its dwindling enrollment and the financial drain of the school on the parish. Today, the building is being spruced up with paint and is used for volleyball and basketball, and meetings by parishioners and the general public.

Father Leo—This is for you !



Father Leo Rygwalski. The very mention of the name will bring back all kinds of memories of this man who's been with us for 51 years.

To each of us, Father Leo means something different. From parish picnics to dances to baptisms to Sunday sermons to First Communion to comforting the lonely school kids, we've shared them all with him. And he's shared them all--and much more--with us.

Father Leo. The diocese sent him to St. Stanislaus from St. Mary Church in Orwell, Ohio in 1932, replacing the popular Father Francis Duda. He arrived at a time when our church community was just beginning to escape its financial difficulties that plagued us and almost closed the church three times in its early years. But, as the Great Depression passed, his leadership strengthened our community so much that our parish became one of the most active and respected in the city of Lorain as well as the Diocese of Cleveland.

He wasn't a tall, physical man, this Father Leo. But when he entered a room, everyone knew he was the man in charge. His aura

engulfed those around him. As stern and serious as he was one minute, he was friendly and loving the next. His moods changed to fit the circumstances.

Many of us remember, as first graders, receiving our first report card from Father Leo. He struck fear into our little hearts, especially as he intensely eyed us walking up the rows between the desks. And he never failed to encourage us to do better, even those with straight A's. He wanted us all to get straight A+'s.

In much the same way, he encouraged us on Sundays from the pulpit. He wanted us to strive for the cross. No matter how hard we tried, he urged us to do just a little better.

We are happy he's still with us today, celebrating what turns out to be his third jubilee in our community. He was here at 25 and 50 years, and now at 75 years. During that time, he's said about 14,500 Masses, given thousands of homilies, heard countless confessions and distributed perhaps a half million Communion. And, at 84, he's still counting; he's still serving Jesus Christ and sharing his retirement with us.

There aren't any priests like Father Leo any more. That's what makes him so special, so much worth remembering.

Father Leo, this book is dedicated to you.

Father Leo Rygwalski—A farmer at heart

If you take a drive in the summer down Sheffield Road not far from the Shoreway Shopping Center in Sheffield Lake and you hear the muffled sound of a small tractor over the dense trees and bushes, you'll know Father Leo Rygwalski isn't far away.

For when you peer behind those trees, you'll most likely see Father Leo manicuring his large vegetable and fruit gardens, which he has overseen almost since the day he arrived in Lorain County in 1932. The gardens are a carryover from his pastorate at St. Mary Church in Orwell, located in southern Ashtabula County.

Father Leo learned to farm in the 1920s so he could teach his parishioners about raising crops for food. "I went to the agricultural extension college," he recalls. "I learned about rotating crops and using fertilizers and taught the farmers after Mass on Sundays. When I got here I had all that knowledge and continued gardening."

Father Leo, who turned 84 last July 12, takes his gardening seriously. You name it, he plants it. He keeps extensive records on where he planted the sweet potatoes, beans, cucumbers, cauliflower, zucchini, and numerous other vegetables from year to year. And his schedule through 1988 is all set for planning.

Since retiring as pastor in 1972, Father Leo has had plenty of time for gardening. If gardening isn't enough, he's got a fairly well equipped workshop in his garage for doing small tasks around his house; in winter, he's got the snow to shovel, which he insists is his job; there's his dog, Scrumpy (the Fifth), to walk; and there's daily Mass to offer for the Catholics in his neighborhood.

Born to Lawrence J. and Barbara Rygwalski in the Immaculate Heart of Mary neighborhood around Lansing Avenue in Cleveland, Father Leo grew popular among the students at school. While in grade school, his pastor asked him if he wanted to be a priest. The question was just a formality, though. The matter was settled long before.

Mrs. Rygwalski, having lost five children as infants, offered her first healthy child to serve God. That child turned out to be a girl, Isabelle, and she is now a retired nun in Sylvania, Ohio, a suburb of Toledo.

"When I was born," Father Leo says, "my mother said, 'If it be the will of God, I dedicate him to be a priest.'" And so it was.

The young man graduated from high school at Orchard Lake, Mich. as an honor student. Perhaps that's why he was so tough on the students in our school. The young man then entered St. Bernard Seminary in Rochester, N.Y., studying philosophy. He later studied theology at the Cleveland Diocesan Seminary.

After ordination on March 28, 1925, his first assignment was to St. Stanislaus parish in Youngstown, followed by a stay at Sacred Heart of Jesus parish in Cleveland under our former pastor, Father John Mlotkowski. At both parishes his ambition led to his working at organizing church societies and sports teams for youngsters.

By 1929, Father Mlotkowski felt Father Leo was ready to be on his own and recommended to the bishop that he be given a pastorate. That's when he was sent to Orwell. Then, a short time later, word came from the diocese again. This time Father Leo was on his way to Lorain, where he was to spend more than 40 years as our pastor.

Father Leo's accomplishments both within the church and the city of Lorain are well documented. And, in his honor, a white birch tree has been planted by the Holy Name Society near the front of the church.

For all he's done and all that's on his mind with his gardens, he still keeps St. Stanislaus Church in the forefront of his mind. And, he had but one wish as we celebrate our jubilee: "You can keep on going for 1,000 years."

Just like our Polish homeland.

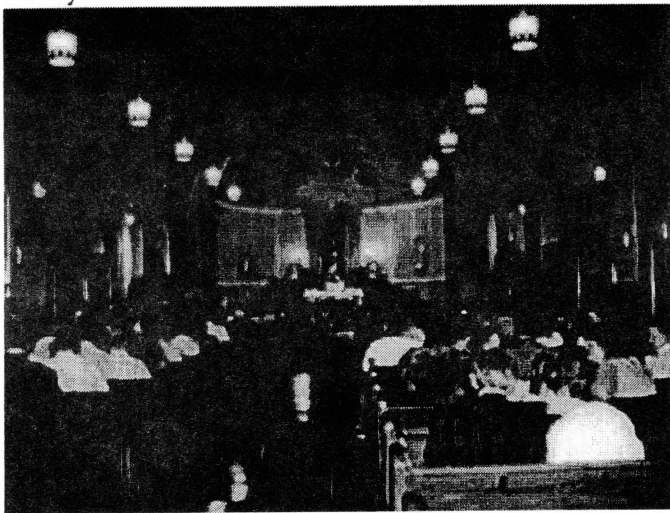
Editor Note: All of the articles about St. Stan's of Lorain, Ohio are from the parish's 75th anniversary history book which was published in 1983. The articles about Father Leo are especially fitting. What dedication the man showed! How much we all owe to priests like Father Leo who spent his entire life teaching the young Christian values. In two more years, 2008, St. Stan's of Lorain, Ohio will be celebrating their 100th anniversary jubilee year. It would be altogether fitting and proper that their history book be updated and published for posterity. Can we indeed hope that this will be the case?

St. Hyacinth Celebrates a Century of Faith

St. Hyacinth Church, located at 6114 Francis Ave., celebrated its Jubilee Year Mass (1906-2006) with a special day of celebration on Sunday, June 25. The theme for this special year is, "A Century of Faith."

Main celebrant at the Mass was newly ordained Cleveland Bishop Richard Lennon, who was assisted by Fr. Richard Kielbasa who is a former parishioner of St. Hyacinth's; Rev. Mr. Kenneth Piechowski, also known as "Deacon Ken," who serves as St. Hyacinth's Parish Life Coordinator; Fr. Theodore Marszal, pastor of SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Garfield Heights, who is also St. Hyacinth's Presbyteral Moderator; Fr. Michael Surufka, O.F.M., pastor of the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus of Cleveland, Ohio; Fr. Anthony Zepp, who served at many churches in the Greater Cleveland area, and other pastors, priests and deacons from throughout the area.

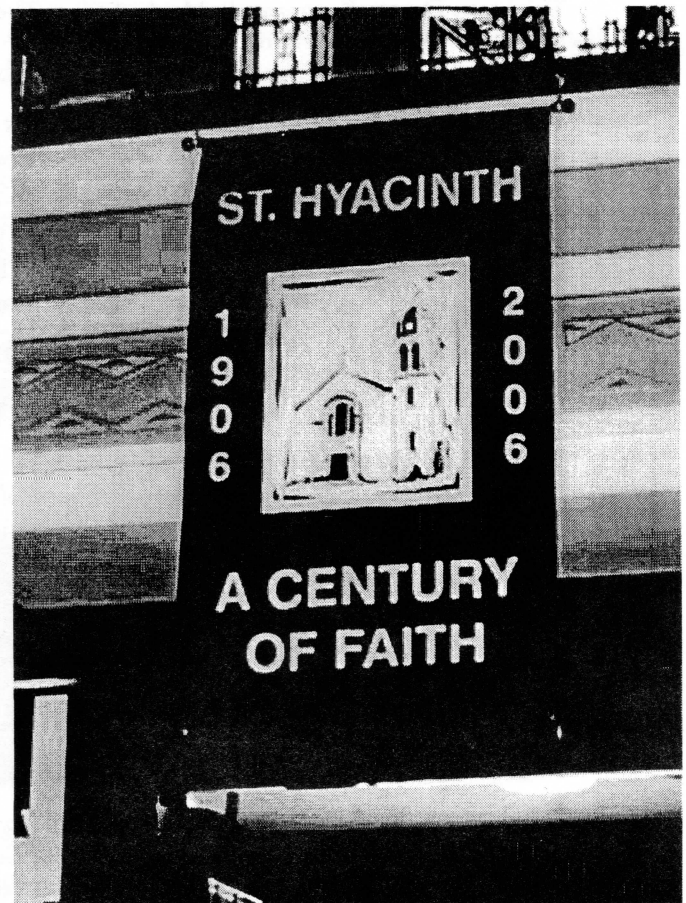
St. Hyacinth Church was filled to capacity as parishioners, former parishioners and friends of the parish attended the Jubilee Mass. Many organizations participated in the parade leading into the church, including the Knights of Columbus, Garfield Council, 4th Degree, who escorted Bishop Lennon to and from the church. After the Mass, the 100th anniversary Jubilee Banquet was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Garfield Heights, where close to 400 people attended. Everyone had a good time and talked about the "good old days" at St. Hyacinth.



Interior of St. Hyacinth's for Jubilee Mass.

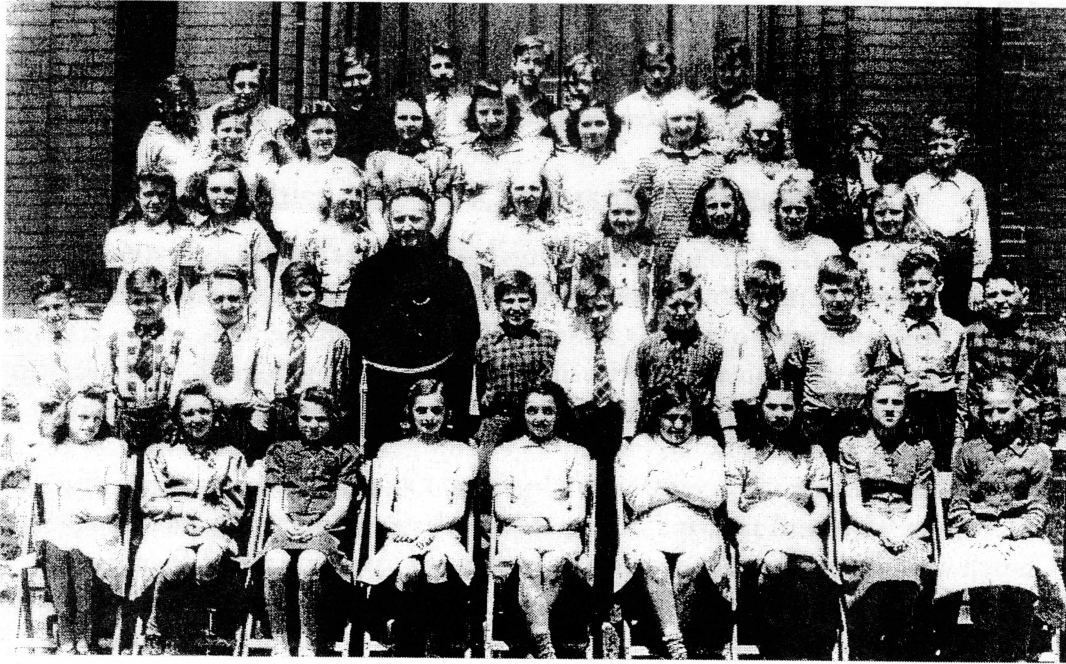


Bishop Lennon with escort, entering the church.



Theme Banner of St. Hyacinth's for 2006.

FROM LEN PRYER'S ALBUM: ST. STANISLAUS CONFIRMATION CLASS—1942—SIXTH GRADE



From the bottom, row one: Laura Halinska, Elaine Rell, Theresa Bartoszewski, Helen Sitarz, Alice Pianowski, Lucille Stupecki, Veronica Goliszewski, Jean Rogalski, Laura Czerwinski
 Second row: Ray Niedzalek, Edward Sowerowski, Norman Manuszak, Alfred Ciuchinski, Fr. Marcin___, Sylvester Marshal, Dan Pierog, Vincent Malinowski Henry Grendzinski, Arthur Lechner, Ray Bakula, Zigmunt Jarosz
 Third row: Eleanor Kaczmarczyk, Martha Szeliga, Theresa Witkowski, Lucille Kin, Bernadette Stynek (?), Regina Wisniewski, Harriet Mikolajczyk

From Len Pryer's Album: St. Stanislaus Class of 1944-Sister Turibia's Class



First row from the bottom: Dorothy Leszczynski, Betty Nowogrocki, Bernice Raczynski, Betty Dubaniewicz, Fr. Ted Woloszyk, Annie Wesolowski, Gerry Choromanski, Camille Wawrzyniak, Mary___
 Second row: Frank Czepczynski, Helen Wierzbicki, Irene Sidwa, Dolores Balcerzak, Patricia Olecki, Ruth Karczewski, Sylvia Zbikowski, John Fletcher, Ralph Chmielewski
 Third row: Dolores Kosel, Rita Woltman, Sophie Olszko, Therese Wierszylo, Bernice Wierszylo, Rosemary Malicki, Caroline___, Caroline___

From a article entitled:

Their Paths Are Peace—The Story of Cleveland's Cultural Gardens*

by

Clara Lederer

Polish Cultural Garden

The Polish Cultural Garden, completed in 1935 and dedicated in 1934, is located on the Upper Boulevard at St. Clair Avenue. A hexagonal sunken court encircled by granite walls, the Polish Garden contains colorful flower-beds, privet and evergreen, and many shrubs and trees imported from Poland, including a tree from Chopin's Polish estate. Graceful walks lead to the upper level, and a handsome stairway at the back of the Polish Garden leads to the lower level of the garden chain. An octagonal fountain is the central feature.

The site of the Polish Garden was dedicated on October 28, 1934, with the setting out of an elm tree from Poland. County Judge Frank A. Piekarski of Pittsburgh was principal speaker. "Long before America was discovered," he said in part, "Poland had universities and was leading in world education. Long before England's Magna Charta was forced on the king, Poland had freedom of religion and freedom of speech. The purpose of this garden is better to acquaint not only the American people, but others, with the quality of Polish culture."

Park Director August J. Kurdziel extended the greetings of the city administration, and paid tribute to the genius of Chopin, later to be honored in this garden, as "thoroughly Polish and yet international, and thus for Polish art a perfect ambassador to the rest of the world." Music was by the Harmonia Chopin Singing Society and the Ohio Circle of Polish Singers. Other speakers were Charles J. Wolfram, at that time president of the Cultural Garden Federation, Dr. I. M. Jarzynski, former president of the League of Polish Organizations, and Mrs. Mary Mondzelewski, chairman of the League's garden committee. Councilman E. P. Lewandowski was master of ceremonies.

Five busts of immortal Poles, mounted upon marble pedestals, are placed in the outer circle of the garden. A bronze bust of Ignace Jan Paderewski (1860-1941), world renowned pianist, patriot, statesman, and former Premier of Poland, occupies a place of honor. The bust was donated on 1947 by the Polish Army Veterans Association, Post No. 6. It was cast and sculptured by Amos Mazzolini, Antioch College professor.

A bust of Frederic Chopin (1810-1849), Polish composer and pianist of world renown, the centennial of whose death was recently commemorated throughout the world, was modeled by Charles Dienes, Cleveland artist, and was the gift in 1947 of the Harmonia Chopin Singing Society.

The Paderewski and Chopin busts were jointly dedicated on June 22, 1947. The program was sponsored by the Polish Army Veterans Association, Post No. 6, and the Harmonia Chopin Singing Society. Biographies of Paderewski and Chopin were given by Francis X. Swietlik of Chicago, chairman of the Polish Relief Committee of the United States and dean of Marquette University Law School. The busts were accepted by Mayor Thomas A. Burke and Charles J. Wolfram. Mayor Burke hailed the world greatness of the two Polish artists. Felix Matia, chairman of the Board of Elections, also spoke. Z. P. Zakrzewski, commander of the Polish Army Veterans Association, opened the program. Stanley Olszyn, head of the singing society, presided. The two busts were unveiled by the little Misses Joan Kupniewski and Barbara Zakrzewski, aged seven and nine respectively.

The bronze bust of Maria Sklodowski Curie (1867-1934), the world's outstanding woman scientist, pioneer in research with radioactive substances, co-discoverer of radium and polonium, and Nobel Prize winner in physics in 1903 and chemistry in 1911—was donated in 1949 by the American Polish Woman's Club. The Curie bust is the work of Frank L. Jirouch, and was dedicated on June 5, 1949. Mayor Thomas A. Burke, in accepting it for the city, cited Cleveland as an example to the world that various racial groups can live in peace and friendship. Mrs. Leo Orlikowski gave the address of welcome. Mrs. Thomas Curlanis sang the Star Spangled Banner. The bust was unveiled by Mrs. Felicia Kwiatkowski, chairman of the Curie fund. Mrs. Marie Rosinski made the formal speech of presentation. Dr. Chester R. Lulenski, reviewed Madame Curie's life, and paid tribute to her as a good mother as well as a great scientist.

Also honored here is Henryk Sienkiewicz (1846-1916), Nobel Prize winner for literature in 1905, dramatist

* Published by The Cleveland Cultural Garden Federation, 1954

and author of worldwide reputation, writer of numerous historical novels, including *Quo Vadis*, *The Knights of the Cross*, and *The Trilogy*. The bronze bust of Sienkiewicz was given in 1947 by the Polish National Alliance, and was unveiled on July 3, 1949. Dr. Arthur Coleman, president of Alliance College, Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania, principal speaker at the dedication ceremony, emphasized Sienkiewicz's world message of the triumph of Christianity over paganism, as vividly pictured in his novel, *Quo Vadis*. Governor Frank J. Lausche also paid tribute to Sienkiewicz's wisdom in pointing out a path for the world to follow, and Mayor Thomas A. Burke, in accepting the bust for the city, expressed deep gratitude for the great contributions of the Polish people to America. The bust was unveiled by P. Kozlowski of Chicago, vice-president of the Polish National Alliance.

In 1952 the bust of the noted Polish poetess, Maria Konopnicka, was unveiled and dedicated. This was the gift of the Polish Ladies Educational Circle.

On September 13, 1953, a solid bronze fountain with allegorical figures representing music, literature, science, and astronomy, an ornamental upper border of jumping fish, and small carved turtles at the base, the work of Sculptor Amos Mazzolini, was dedicated as a tribute to Polish arts in the flower-bordered rotunda of the Polish Garden, by a colorful procession of donors, members of St. Casimir's Parish, and boy and girl scouts, dancers, choral groups, and bands. After the flag-raising by the color guard, the singing of the National Anthem by all present, address of welcome and presentation by Mrs. Marie Rosinski and Mrs. Victoria Tomkalski, and Mr. Z. P. Zakrzewski, program chairman and president of the Alliance of Poles of America, Monsignor A. A. Radecki, pastor of St. Casimir's, invoked a blessing and thanked God for the beauty of the garden. The fountain was unveiled by Mary Ann Galowitz and Andrea Radzysinski, girls from Circuit No. 89 of the Polish National Alliance. Leo Weidenthal, president of the Cultural Garden League, then accepted the fountain as a valued addition to the Cultural Gardens, which he described as the future heart of the City of Cleveland. Greetings of Mayor Thomas A. Burke were extended by Chief City Prosecutor Bernard J. Conway. Folk dances entitled *Flirtation* and *Carousel* were then presented by a large group of girls from Circuit No. 89 of the Polish National Alliance, accompanied by Robert Supinski, accordion player. Polish songs, *This Is My Country*, and *Spring*, were sung by the combined male and ladies' *Moniuszko* choruses. Common Pleas Judge Felix T. Matia delivered the principal address, in which he thanked the donors of the Polish Garden for the spirit which makes our country greater. A letter of congratulation was read by Mrs. Victoria Tomkalski from Governor Frank J. Lausche. Mrs. Tomkalski also delivered the closing address.

The Polish Garden represents the efforts of the Polish-American groups organized in 1928. The Broadway-Southeast group consists of Judge Joseph F. Sawicki (also vice-president of the Cultural Gardens Federation), Mrs. Walter Modzelewski, Mrs. Felicia Kwiatkowski, Zygmunt Dybowski, Mrs. John Chojnacki, Mrs. Leo Orlikowski, E. P. Lewandowski, and Mrs. Joseph F. Sawicki.

Eastside group, organized by the community located between Superior and St. Clair Avenues, west of Ansel Road, is composed of the Right Reverend Monsignor A. A. Radecki, Judge Felix T. Matia, Z. P. Zakrzewski, Mrs. Marie Rosinski, Mrs. John S. Skowronski, Mrs. John Karpinsky, and Mrs. M. Zabkowski. Required funds were raised by appeals at group meetings, card parties and the generous contributions of organizations and individuals, including penny donations of children from Catholic Polish Schools.

For centuries, Poland was the buffer state that protected the culture, the religion and the very existence of many peoples of Europe against Asiatic aggression. Her kings, statesman and educators played an important part in the cultural and political life of Europe.

The first Polish settlers came to this country in 1608 with Captain Smith and became members of the Virginia Company. There are now in this country about seven million Polish descendants.

Cleveland has about 150,000 residents of Polish ancestry. Some have resided here since about 1840. Dr. Mary E. Zakrzewski, of Cleveland, was the first woman physician admitted to the practice of medicine in America.

The Polonaise Arts Club of Cleveland, has established a scholarship at the Cleveland Institute of Art, open to the most deserving student, regardless of color, religion or racial origin. Richard Anuszkiewicz, Polonaise Arts Club member, was recently awarded the Pulitzer Prize in painting. There are twenty-five artists of Polish descent

who participate yearly in the May show at the Museum of Art and in the Polonaise Club annual exhibitions.

Judge Joseph F. Sawicki, in an address on the Polish Garden in November 1953, said: "The Cleveland Cultural Gardens, together with the Polish Garden are symbolic of the hope, that the day may dawn when jealousy, suspicion, hatred, and strife may forever cease and be supplanted by universal peace and friendship among all the peoples of the world. They are the expression of the hope, that the culture of nations may never be ruthlessly destroyed, but instead, reverently preserved as a sacred heritage for all posterity."

THE GENEALOGICAL COMMITTEE
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WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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POLISH GENEALOGY SEMINAR

Featuring

John Grabowski and Ceil Jensen

Polish Immigration to America and Northeastern Ohio

John Grabowski, PhD; Director of Research, The Western Reserve Historical Society; and Krieger-Mueller Associate Professor of Applied History, Case Western Reserve University, will present a historical overview of the immigration of Poles to America, with a focus on why and how they settled in Cleveland. He will also discuss the special resources for Polish genealogical research that are available at the Western Reserve Historical Society Library.

Researching Polish Roots with Home Sources and in Poland

Ceil Jensen, CG, a national genealogical lecturer, will discuss researching your Polish roots using home sources and records available in the United States. She also will relate her experiences in researching her own family history and suggest how to prepare for and undertake a research trip to Poland and surrounding regions.

Sunday, October 8, 2006

Registration: noon – Seminar: 12:30 – 4 p.m.

Western Reserve Historical Society

10825 East Blvd., Cleveland OH 44106

On-site parking: \$5.00

For more information contact, Wally Huskonen (440) 526-1238,
or Registrar, Nancy Leinweber (440) 205-1942

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Complete and mail your registration form! Space is limited!

**Please make check payable to WRHS Genealogical Committee and mail to:
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OF GREATER CLEVELAND



Everyone who is interested in Genealogy, and more specifically Polish Genealogy, is welcome to join our group. We meet the first Tuesday of the month from September thru June at St. Mary's PNC Church; 5375 Broadview Rd. (corner of Broadview & Wexford); Parma, Ohio. Parking is available in the parish lot, the entrance of which is on Marietta Ave. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM and usually end at 9:30-10:00 PM.

Membership dues are \$20.00 a year.

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