

God's Field

100th Anniversary



1923 - 2023

Official Publication of the Polish National Catholic Church

Volume 101

May 2023

Issue #5

The Day of Pentecost

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop

As a closing to the Easter season, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit. Following the ascension of our Lord, on Ascension Thursday, Jesus told the apostles to wait for the Holy Spirit. "While staying with them, [Jesus] ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This,' He said, 'is what you have heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'" (Acts 1:4-5)

In this time of waiting the Apostles were in prayer for nine days, when suddenly something quite astounding happened on the day of Pentecost. "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." (Acts 2:1-4)

As we contemplate the events of this day within Scripture, we must concern ourselves with how these events are lived out in the Church at the present moment. First and foremost, we must realize that "Pentecost" as a feast was already known to the ancient Jews. It was one of the three main pilgrimage feasts of the year and it occurred fifty days after

Passover. In part this explains why in the reading from the Book of Acts, there are so many individuals in Jerusalem.

The feast originally began as the first fruits offering of the wheat harvest, but later spiritual aspects were also added. Occurring as it does seven weeks after the Passover, this feast day is commemorated as the time in which the people of Israel, after leaving Egypt following the Passover, received the books of the law on Mount Sinai. It is this aspect that we must keep in mind as we reflect on the meaning of Pentecost for us today and also exactly what happened following the descent of the Spirit.

We read further in the Book of Acts, "Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'" (Acts 2:5-11)

(Continued on Page 3.)

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***God's Field — Rola Boża*
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In reflecting on this passage, we see that the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ, is meant for all people. Devout Jews from every nation are gathered to hear the preaching of the Apostles. And yet even more than that, there are visitors from Rome, there are others as well, Cretans and Arabs. So, the proclaimed message that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ died and was raised from the dead is not for the Jews alone, but is directed to all people. Secondly and a little less obviously from the reading, the message is to go forth in all directions of the world. If we look at a map with Jerusalem at the center, then the cities listed are those from every direction around Jerusalem. This shows us that the gospel of Jesus Christ is meant to be carried out from Jerusalem, that central site of the death and resurrection of Jesus, to the rest of the world in every direction.

A second point is that the apostles are to bring the message to every person in their own language. Although this occurred as a miracle on this first feast of Pentecost, this is something that we need to be a part of in different ways today. Our Constitution speaks to this in the Preamble. In speaking of a 'national Church' it states: "If our people have any mission in the solution of humanity's greatest problems, then they must also have a faith which will bear an imprint of their character, a national Church, as all creative nations had in the past and have today. Our Polish National Catholic Church in these self-determining endeavors is the first step in the life of our people and, God granting, in the life of all people in the future."

Another aspect that we must be concerned with is a slightly different interpretation of the word 'language.' As we seek to spread the Gospel and preach the message concerning "God's deeds of power," we must do so being sensitive to those to whom the message is directed. We must speak their language and continuously invite them in to partake of our fellowship. While we certainly set for all people a high moral standard in how we are to live as followers of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we must also preach the message that forgiveness is available for those who sincerely seek God and the doors of the Church are open to those who desire to know Christ in a better and closer way.

In this feast of Pentecost, we are also reminded that now, because the Holy Spirit has descended upon the

Church and upon each of us, we have a more immediate and closer relationship to Almighty God through the Spirit. And this realization is connected to the giving of the Law that is celebrated on Pentecost. The prophet Jeremiah speaks to this in his description of the new covenant. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (Jeremiah 31:31-33)

Now because of the descent of the Holy Spirit, God's law, God's way, lives within us. Certainly this does not happen only in one moment, but it is a growing in the presence and knowledge of God within us. It begins in our baptism; it is strengthened in the Sacrament of Confirmation; it is nourished each and every time we receive Holy Communion; it is expressed in the work that we do building up the kingdom of God. In all this we take up the work that was begun by the Apostles on that first Pentecost as we continue to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, the mighty deeds of God, to all around us.

My brothers and sisters, as we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, not only for one Sunday, but for many weeks to come, let us all live strongly in the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let us ask God the Father to continue to send the Holy Spirit and His seven gifts: Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Strength, Godliness and Fear of the Lord. And let us go forth into our lives and into our world using these gifts to announce to all people the saving message of Jesus Christ, continually seeking to build His kingdom here on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.



P.N.C.C. Future Direction May 2023

Support for the Youth of the Church

Introduction

As we continue with our reflections for the Future Direction Program of the Polish National Catholic Church, this month we reflect on the presentation of the National United Youth Association delegate to the entire XXVI General Synod. As the youngest delegate at the Synod, Jorge Hernandez Arjona inspired all the delegates with his passion and vision for the great things that can be accomplished by and for the youth of the Church. The Synod delegates included the youth within the Synodal Resolution, to encourage and remind the delegates and the entire Church of the important role of the youth within the Church at every moment.

Scripture

1 Timothy 4:10-13 - "For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, Who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhorting, to teaching."

Reflection

In recent years, when we gather together for Holy Synod, we hear a report from the National United Youth Association, usually by its president. At the XXVI General Synod in October of 2022, President Jorge Hernandez Arjona, from St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Denver, CO gave a rousing and challenging presentation to all of the Synod delegates. The final resolution of the Synod described this speech as "impassioned and enthusiastic," and it certainly was so.

The Synod Resolution, as a response to this presentation, states that we, as the Synod delegates and more largely as the entire Polish National Catholic Church, will "pledge our support to National United Youth endeavors, and are zealously committed to work for the growth or establishment of youth groups within our parishes, and for increased attendance at the biennial National Youth Convocation."

To this end the Synod body also took the concrete step to form a National Youth Commission, as a special Commission within the Church, which will serve at least until the next Synod. It is my hope that we can make this a Constitutional Commission which will allow it to be a standing Commission of the Church, active each and every year. This Commission is not made up of young members of the Church, but rather of adults who will help and facilitate events and activities for the youth of the Church. It will also help to facilitate and encourage participation in the national and diocesan youth events.

This work is vital to the Church for several reasons. First, the youth of the Church suffered greatly during the recent time of pandemic. Many became disconnected from the Church, especially as the youth programs were halted. A second reason is connected to the quote from the First Letter to Timothy above. The youth of the Church are often ones that have a great passion and enthusiasm for the ways of the Church and the things of Christ. In the Letter, St. Paul calls the young Timothy to be an example in both speech and action. If we desire our youth to continue in this way, we must then step up and be examples ourselves.

What is needed by the youth of our Church, and possibly it may be needed by us all, is a good example, support and encouragement. The Church has many programs for the youth: Diocesan Youth Retreats, Acolyte Retreats, the National YMS of R Kurs Encampment and the biennial Youth Convo. Along with these there are also countless ways that the youth can get involved within their own parishes and communities, if only we give a bit of direction, help and encouragement. If I must give away a little secret as well, if anyone attends these events, they too, along with the youth, will be spiritually uplifted and they will also be given a great example of passion and desire to serve the Lord and His holy Church.

Action Item

As we reflect on the role of the youth within our Holy Church, each parish should find ways to be in support of the youth programs of the entire Church and each Diocese. Plans must be made to get the young members of the Parish to these events and funds must be set aside to help them fully participate in these programs. Along

(Continued on bottom of Page 5.)

Seminarian Sean Dodd Receives Tonsure & Minor Orders at St. Stanislaus Cathedral Scranton, PA

On Saturday, April 15, Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop, P.N.C.C., conferred the first minor orders to Seminarian Sean Dodd during Mass at St. Stanislaus Cathedral in Scranton, PA. Assisting during the Mass were Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid, Vice Rector Savonarola Theological Seminary, and Rev. Jim Konicki, an instructor at Savonarola Theological Seminary.

The first minor orders on the road to priesthood are: Porter - to care for God's Church, to open the physical and spiritual doors to the church and to encourage people to come to church; Reader - to read the lessons and immerse one's self in the daily readings of the Church; Blesser - to bring the blessings of God to the people; Acolyte - to serve wine and water, light candles in the church, and to bring the light of Christ to others and carry this light in everything one does, to be the light of Christ.

Cleric Sean Dodd begins his journey on the road to priesthood. The cutting of his hair, or Tonsure, is just the beginning of many years of devotion to his ministry. He will now be a catalyst for others' faith and is tasked with encouraging faith in others.



Susan Dodd, Cleric Sean Dodd, Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid, Rev. Jim Konicki

(P.N.C.C. Future Direction May 2023 - Continued from Page 4.)

with this work, the young members of each parish should be encouraged to fully participate in every action of the parish: seek their input of the annual parish meeting, encourage them to communicate their needs to the Parish Committee and the entire Parish. As a concrete measure each parish of the Church, no matter how small should have a youth group which allows the youth to fully participate in the life of the Church.

We also encourage every member of the Church to keep the youth within their daily prayers by praying this prayer from the PNCC Prayer Book. "Loving and kind Father, because You created us in Your image and likeness and determined that one generation should follow another in order to continue life, keep in Your tender and steadfast care the youth of the Church. May they come to know and understand that true happiness can be attained when they live in harmony with Your teaching. May they, like our Lord and Savior in His youth, grow in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

We continue to implement the five themes the Synod determined for our Future Direction Committee:

- Growth and Membership
- Increase Spirituality
- Lifelong Learning
- Sacred Vocations
- Community Involvement and Presence

Supreme Council Meeting

Manchester, NH

The Supreme Council of the Polish National Catholic Church held its annual meeting at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Manchester, NH on April 25 - 26, 2023.



First Row: Rt. Rev. Bernard Nowicki, Rt. Rev. John Mack, Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Rt. Rev. Paul Sobiechowski, Rt. Rev. Jerry Rafalko, Ms. Joan Scheuneman; **Second Row:** Rev. Dr. Scott Lill, Very Rev. Robert Nemkovich, Ms. Kathryn Nemkovich, Mr. Ron DeLuca, Mr. John Andrzejewski, Mr. Martin Wachna, Ms. Diane Cheek, Ms. Cathy Bilinski, Ms. Laurel Curylo; **Third Row:** Mr. Raymond Pieczarka, Mr. Paul Gorgol, Very Rev. Gregory Mludzik, Mr. Bruce Kaniewski, Very Rev. Charles Zawistowski, Mr. Michael Mietlicki, Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak



† śp. Bishop Wiktor Wysoczanski



Bishop Wiktor Wysoczański, the Prime Bishop of the Polish-Catholic Church, a professor of Old Catholic theology, former rector of the Christian Theological Academy, and participant in ecumenical dialogues with the Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches, passed away on April 27, 2023 at the age of 84.

Bishop Wiktor Wysoczański was born in 1939 in Wysocko Wyżne (now Ukraine). He studied Old Catholic theology at the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw (ChAT) and law at the universities in Toruń and Warsaw. He was ordained a priest in 1963. In 1975, he was appointed bishop, and eight years later he was consecrated as a bishop. In 1995, the General Synod of the Polish-Catholic Church elected him as its leader. He held this position until his death.

Bishop Wysoczański was also a professor of Old Catholic theology. He worked at the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw from 1967. In 1982, he defended his doctorate in historical theology. In 1985, he obtained his habilitation degree, and in 2003, he was awarded the title of professor of theological sciences. Until his death, he was the head of the Old Catholic Theology Section at ChAT, as well as the head of two departments – Old Catholic Dogmatic and Moral Theology and Confessional and Canonical Law. From 1990 to 1996 and from 2002 to 2008, he was also the rector of the academy.

From 1973 to 1987, he participated in the work of the Mixed Orthodox-Old Catholic Commission. He co-chaired the Working Group for Ecumenical Dialogue between the Polish-Catholic Church and the Roman Catholic Church in Poland. He was also a member of the Commission for Dialogue of the Polish Bishops' Conference and the Polish Ecumenical Council. As the head of the Polish-Catholic Church, he sat on the Presidium of the Council by virtue of his position. From 2011 to 2016, he was its vice-president.

Eternal rest grant unto him, o Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.





Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary

May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Marian devotions honor our Mother, and the Mother of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Pray this Litany at home during this month.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
 Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.
 God, the Father of heaven, Have mercy on us.
 God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mercy on us.
 God the Holy Spirit, Have mercy on us.
 Holy Trinity, one God. Have mercy on us.
 Holy Mary, pray for us
 Holy Mother of God, pray for us
 Holy Virgin of virgins, pray for us
 Mother of Christ, pray for us
 Mother of divine grace, pray for us
 Mother most pure, pray for us
 Mother most chaste, pray for us
 Mother inviolate, pray for us
 Mother undefiled, pray for us
 Mother most amiable, pray for us
 Mother most admirable, pray for us
 Mother of our Creator, pray for us
 Mother of our Savior, pray for us
 Mother of good counsel, pray for us
 Virgin most prudent, pray for us
 Virgin most venerable, pray for us
 Virgin most renowned, pray for us
 Virgin most powerful, pray for us
 Virgin most merciful, pray for us
 Virgin most faithful, pray for us
 Mirror of justice, pray for us
 Seat of wisdom, pray for us
 Cause of our joy, pray for us
 Spiritual vessel, pray for us
 Vessel of honor, pray for us
 Singular vessel of devotion, pray for us
 Mystical rose, pray for us
 Tower of David, pray for us
 Tower of ivory, pray for us
 House of gold, pray for us
 Ark of the covenant, pray for us
 Gate of heaven, pray for us
 Morning star, pray for us

Health of the sick, pray for us
 Refuge of sinners, pray for us
 Comforter of the afflicted, pray for us
 Help of Christians, pray for us
 Queen of angels, pray for us
 Queen of patriarchs, pray for us
 Queen of prophets, pray for us
 Queen of apostles, pray for us
 Queen of martyrs, pray for us
 Queen of confessors, pray for us
 Queen of virgins, pray for us
 Queen of all saints, pray for us
 Queen conceived without sin, pray for us
 Queen of our nation, pray for us
 Queen of peace, pray for us
 Lamb of God, You take away sins of the world;
 Spare us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world;
 Graciously hear us, O Lord.
 Lamb of God, Your take away the sins of the world;
 Have mercy on us.
 Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.
 Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Grant, we beg you, O Lord God, that we your servants may enjoy lasting health of mind and body, and by the glorious intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, be delivered from present sorrow and enter into the joy of eternal happiness. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but, in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

Hail Mary

In the name
of the Father, of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

Hail Mary,
full of Grace!

The Lord
is with Thee

Blessed art Thou
amongst women

and blessed is the fruit
of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary,
Mother of God

pray for us,
sinners, now

and at the hour
of our death

Amen.

Honor Your Father



We pray for all fathers, both lay and clergy, past and present, to express our gratitude, remembrance and love for all they have done for our families and for our Church.

For continued support of our Clergy Pension Fund and to acknowledge ALL FATHERS, we will publish in the June issue of God's Field — Rola Boza your name and the name of the father you wish to acknowledge or remember.

For each acknowledgement or remembrance, we are requesting a minimum donation of \$25.00, payable to the Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C.

We feel that this will have a two-fold affect, by acknowledging or remembering OUR FATHERS, LAY OR CLERGY, for all they have done for us and also to bolster our Clergy Pension Fund in order to show our continued support for our Clergy/our Church Fathers who make so many sacrifices each day in service to our Church.

All donations received go toward the Clergy Pension Fund of the Polish National Catholic Church.

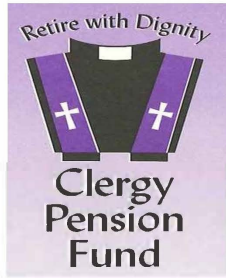
Please complete the form on the opposite page and submit it prior to June 1, 2023, along with your minimum donation of \$25.00 per name, to the

Clergy Pension Fund
1006 Pittston Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505

Please make checks payable to the "Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C."

Thank you for your support.

P.N.C.C. Clergy Pension Fund Committee



Honor Your Father on Father's Day

(Limit of one name per minimum \$25.00 donation)

I wish to remember/honor (please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

I wish to remember/honor (please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

I wish to remember/honor (please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

I wish to remember/honor (please circle) my Pastor, Father, Grandfather, or Other

Remembered by: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____

Please make checks payable to the "Clergy Pension Fund P.N.C.C." and submit the completed form with your minimum donation of \$25 per name, to the

Clergy Pension Fund Committee
1006 Pittston Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505
570-346-9131

National Youth Commission (NYC) of the P.N.C.C.

The National Youth Commission is the newest commission of the Polish National Catholic Church, formed at the October 2022 Synod. Members of the commission include adults and clergy from across the P.N.C.C. as well as the Bishops of the Church, Diocesan Youth Chaplains, and the National United Youth Association Chaplain and President. The mission statement of the newly formed commission is as follows:

The PNCC National Youth Commission exists to ensure and support youth-based events and programs across our Church. We will continue to guide and encourage our youth to be involved in the Church and to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Since its formation, the NYC has presented two events for the youth of our Church and their friends and families. In December 2022, *Make Room in Your Heart...* an Advent Youth reflection was held via Zoom, and in February 2023, a Youth Community Get-Together was presented on Zoom using Icebreakers and fun Q&A activities to help the youth meet others from across their Church. Another youth-based event is scheduled for June 22, 2023, at 7pm ET. More information about the event and how to join will be shared out over the next few weeks.

In addition to these events, the National Youth Commission promotes and encourages the youth of the P.N.C.C. to attend upcoming activities happening this Summer: The Eastern Diocesan Altar Server Retreat; Kurs hosted by the United Y.M.S. of R.; the Western Diocese Youth Retreat and the Eastern Diocese Youth Retreat.

If you would like information about any of the events mentioned for your youth, please email kathynemkovich@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Nemkovich
National Youth Commission Chairperson



Kurs 2023 Registration is Now Open

The Kurs encampment is July 1 – 8, 2023 at the Bishop Hodur Retreat & Recreation Center at Spójnia Farm in Waymart, PA. The camp is available to all youth ages 8 – 17. Camp Kurs is operated by the Polish National Catholic Church's Young Mens' Society of the Resurrection (Y.M.S. or R.) It is a week-long Christian residential camp that is a place of spiritual and personal growth and a place of joyful experiences.

The cost for Kurs is \$350.00 per child for Polish National Catholic Church (P.N.C.C.) members and \$450.00 per child for non-members. A \$25.00 deposit per child will be due at time of registration unless the child's parish is paying the entire cost.

Kurs registration is open from April 17th through June 25th. Registration must be completed within these time frames.

If you would like your child(ren) to take part in Kurs, complete an online Registration Form for each child. Registration forms can be found on the Kurs website at kurscamp.org.

To ensure sufficient provision is made for all registrants, no late or on-site registrations will be accepted.

For further information call 570-488-5686 or email info@kurs.org.

Y.M.S. of R. Spiritual Retreat

The 6th Annual Men's Spiritual Retreat - "Christ the Same" - is just around the corner. The retreat this year will be held from June 14th-17th, at the Bishop Hodur Retreat and Recreation Center in Waymart, PA. The cost is

\$125 (3 nights) or \$100 (2 nights). This fee includes:
 4 Day, 3 Night stay at the retreat center.
 All meals, beverages, and snacks.
 Retreat materials and printouts.
 Retreat gift bag.

Paper registration form (below) and check made out to the "United YMS of R" for \$125 or \$100, can be mailed to: Andrew Humphreys – 1054 Hamlin Highway, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

For complete information on the retreat, including registration forms, what to bring, and a tentative retreat schedule, go to sites.google.com/view/ymsofrmensretreat.

**6th Annual National YMSofR
 Bishop Bilinski Memorial Spiritual Retreat
 Bp. Hodur Retreat & Recreation Center
 611 Honesdale Rd. Waymart, PA 18472
 June 14-17, 2023
 "Christ the Same"**

Hebrews 13:8: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever!

Name: _____

Address : _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Name of Your Parish (if applicable) _____

City _____ State _____

Do you plan on staying from Wed.- Sat (\$125) _____ or Thu-Sat (\$100) _____

Do you need transportation from the airport/train stations? Yes No

Airline _____ Flight # _____ (if known) Airport _____

Name of person to contact in case of an emergency: _____

Home/Work # _____ cell _____

for any questions, contact Fr. Jason Soltysiak: frjason82@gmail.com or 216-978-6645

Please send completed form & appropriate check per person **by Friday, June 9** to:
 Andrew Humphreys- 1054 Hamlin Highway, Lake Ariel, PA 18436

***Plan to arrive Wednesday, June 14, 3-5pm
 or by Thursday morning, 9:30am**



NATIONAL UNITED CHOIRS
36nd General Convention/28th Music Workshop

Hosted by Central Diocese NUC
Wednesday, August 9 – Friday, August 11, 2023
At Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish, Dupont, Pa

Please join us as we expand our music education, lift our voices in praise to God, and enjoy the fellowship of other Music Ministers.

Convention - Wednesday, August 9

3:00 pm Registration Opens
5:00 pm Opening Mass / 6:00 pm Dinner
Convention 6:45 pm

Workshop – Thursday, August 10

8:30 am Registration Opens
Sessions and Rehearsals including Morning Prayer
Lunch
Sessions and Rehearsals
Dinner
Evening Entertainment

Workshop – Friday, August 11

8:45 am Sessions and Rehearsals including Morning Prayer
Meals
7:00 pm – Concert

REGISTRATION DEADLINE – JULY 8, 2023

Registration Fee: \$30.00 Includes Convention and Workshop, any or all days.

Accommodations: \$82 per night plus taxes and fees (\$97 total) at SpringHill Suites, 19 Radcliffe Dr, Moosic, Pa 18507, phone 570-207-1212. Reservations are to be made under Polish National Catholic Church.

Attire: For the Concert, dark bottom and white top.

For Additional Information Contact: Al Micka, Workshop Chairman at: home 570-569-2510 or cell 570-430-7685

REGISTRATION FORM
36nd GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL UNITED CHOIRS OF THE
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
28th MUSIC WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY August 9, 2023 – FRIDAY August 11, 2023
HOLY MOTHER OF SORROWS PNCC
212 Wyoming Avenue
Dupont, Pennsylvania

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ MOBILE PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

PARISH NAME, CITY _____

Soprano _____ Alto _____ Tenor _____ Bass _____ / Instrument _____

Registration \$30, due by July 8. This amount includes lunch for Thursday and Friday and dinner on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

____ CONVENTION AND WORKSHOP - Wednesday thru Friday

____ CONVENTION ONLY - Wednesday

____ WORKSHOP ONLY - Thursday and Friday

____ DAILY WORKSHOP THURSDAY ____ DAILY WORKSHOP FRIDAY

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS _____

Please make check or money order payable to: **Music Workshop**



Please mail to:
NUC Convention/Workshop
736 Beechwood Drive
Olyphant, PA 18447-1310

Hotel Accommodations are at the **SpringHill Suites, 19 Radcliffe Dr., Moosic, Pa 18507, phone 570-207-1212** at a rate of **\$82.00** per night plus taxes and fees (\$97 total). Complimentary shuttle from the airport. **Reservations must be made by JULY 8th under Polish National Catholic Church.**

BID TO SERVE FORM
36th GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL UNITED CHOIRS OF THE
POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
WEDNESDAY August 9, 2023
Dupont, Pennsylvania

I wish to serve in the capacity indicated:

THE NATIONAL BOARD

<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Vice President
<input type="checkbox"/> Recording Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Corresponding Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> Librarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Diocesan Director*

*Diocesan Directors must be elected at Diocesan Convention. In the event that no Diocesan Convention is held, the Diocesan delegates in caucus at the National Convention shall elect the Director (Art. IV, Sec. 2)

THE MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

<input type="checkbox"/> Music Scholarship Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Music Scholarship Reviewer*	

*A reviewer cannot be elected for more than two consecutive 2-year terms.

THE MUSIC COMMISSION

<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Commission Member
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THE 33RD GENERAL CONVENTION COMMITTEES

<input type="checkbox"/> Mandate	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions
<input type="checkbox"/> Auditing	<input type="checkbox"/> Nominating

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY, ST, ZIP _____
 PHONE _____
 EMAIL _____

I am a member in good standing of the Polish National Catholic Church at:

PARISH _____ CHOIR _____
 CITY, ST, ZIP _____
 SIGNATURE _____

Present this form to the NUC Corresponding Secretary; in person at the convention or email on or before July 30th, 2023:
 NUCPNCC@GMAIL.COM

Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese

From the Diocesan Bishop of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese

According to Article IX, Section 3 of the Constitution and Laws of the Polish National Catholic Church, the Rev. Edwin Perez-Fernandez is suspended as a priest of the Polish National Catholic Church as of May 1, 2023.

As a suspended priest, Edwin Perez-Fernandez is removed from the ranks of the active clergy of the Church and is not allowed to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of Mass nor administer any sacraments within any parish of the P.N.C.C.

Rt. Rev. John E. Mack
Bishop Ordinary
Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese

†**sp. Deacon Richard S. Golaszewski**



Deacon Richard S. Golaszewski, age 84, of Niagara Falls, NY, passed away peacefully on May 9, 2023. Born in Syracuse, NY on June 13, 1938, he was the son of the late Stanley and Genevieve (Kochan) Golaszewski; and the beloved husband of Betty (Bernat) Golaszewski, who he married on October 17, 1964. Richard was a journeyman electrician for over 60 years with IBEW #237. He worked on such projects as the building on Mount St. Mary's Hospital, the New York Power Project and NCCC. At age 17, he started playing the accordion in the Cavaliers polka band continuing to play for over 50 years finishing his career with The Steel City Brass of Buffalo.

Following his retirement in 2000, Richard became a Deacon of the Polish National Catholic Church, serving and playing the organ at St. Michael the Archangel National Catholic Church in Niagara Falls, NY. Richard was a gentle, compassionate man with many skills and talents. He will be greatly missed by his loving family.

In addition to his wife of 58 years, Richard is survived by his loving children, Lisa (Tim) Krawczyk, David (Tara) Golaszewski, Jeffrey (Daniela) Golaszewski, Sandra (John) Moore and John (Vicki) Golaszewski. He was also the cherished papa of eight and great-papa of two.

Deacon Richard's Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Bishop John Mack on Saturday, May 13 in St. Michael the Archangel National Catholic Church, 250 27th Street Niagara Falls, NY 14303. Interment at St. Michael's Cemetery. Memorial offerings may be made to the Church.

Central Diocese

Palm Sunday at Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish Dupont, PA

On Sunday, April 2, Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish, Dupont, PA, celebrated Palm Sunday with the Liturgy of Palms, procession and Mass. After Mass, a complimentary and delicious Breakfast was served at the Parish Hall. All children received gifts. We thank all who made this event successful and very enjoyable.

Submitted by Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid



District 1 PNU Helps with St. Stanislaus Cathedral's One Hot Meal Program Scranton, PA

In April, members of District 1 of the Polish National Union of America enjoyed volunteering at St. Stanislaus' Cathedral's One Hot Meal distribution. One Hot Meal is held on the first Saturday of every month. Volunteers come together to prepare and package meals for groups and individuals in the community. Meals are delivered to the Scranton Community Intervention Center and St. Joseph's Mother Infant Program.

Take outs are also packaged and given to various people as they come during a one hour designated time to pick up their own individual meals. As volunteers, members of District 1 enjoyed meeting new people as they worked with the "regulars" to help package the food and then clean up.

We truly enjoyed helping and left with a good feeling inside, knowing that in some small way we made a difference in someone's life.

Julie Andrzejewski, Director, District 1, PNU



First Holy Communion at Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish

Dupont, PA

Eleven children received First Holy Communion at Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish, Dupont PA, on Sunday, May 21, 2023. Special thanks to Debbie Bilinski who was the class teacher.

Fr. Sr. Zbigniew Dawid celebrated the Holy Eucharist and administered First Holy Communion. Fr. Jason Soltysiak was in attendance and assisted at Mass.

The following children received communion for the first time: Karissa Kazinetz, Stella Hawk, Hunter Anderson, Quinn Anderson, Emmie Anderson, Myles Anderson, Ben Yuschovitz, Geno Marks, George Morgan, Carley Nalaschi and Leah Nalaschi;



Eastern Diocese

**Our Saviour Parish Delivers Easter Baskets to Local Children
Woonsocket, RI**

On April 14th, a group of parishioners from Our Saviour Parish in Woonsocket, RI, delivered 29 baskets to a local family shelter. The parish SOCL prepared the baskets for the children in the shelter. Thanks to everyone who helped with this project; especially Carol, Brenda, Berenika, Patrycja, Tyler and Lindsay, for delivering the baskets to the shelter.



2023 EASTERN DIOCESE ALTAR SERVER RETREAT

TUESDAY – JUNE 27, 2023

BLESSED TRINITY PARISH – FALL RIVER, MA

“SERVING JESUS AND BEING JESUS TO OTHERS”

BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. WITH HOLY MASS AND ENDS AT THE BEACH

SESSIONS ON DISCIPLESHIP AND SERVING DURING THE LITURGIES OF THE CHURCH



Time in prayer, learning, fellowship and fun with your fellow

Altar Servers - Plus a trip swimming at a local beach

Open to Altar Servers of our Eastern Diocese - registration is just \$15



*To register or for additional
information contact:
Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich
RobNem21@aol.com*

Blessed Trinity Parish Happenings

Fall River, MA

On Wednesday, April 5th, Fr. Sr. Rob Nemkovich offered prayers for the Veterans Easter Luncheon by The Veterans' Kitchen at the Corky Row Club in the great city of Fall River, MA. He was able to enjoy a delicious meal with many amazing local Veterans who served our country so well, and was honored to chat with a couple of WW II veterans, too.



On April 13th, Fr. Sr. Nemkovich delivered items collected during the Blessed Trinity Lenten Food Drive to the local Citizens for Citizens. Thanks to everyone who supported this food drive.



Western Diocese

St. Mary's Parish Mission Team

Parma, OH

The St. Mary's Parish Mission Team, Parma, OH, meets each first Tuesday of the month at 10am for an activity. Usually it is prayer blanket making, but it has also rotated to a few other things.

On Tuesday March 7, they met and made some St. Patrick's Day cards to share with those in the local community. God bless the creativity of those who come together each month to show the love of Christ in the continuing Mission of the Church.



Lenten Food Drive

For well over a decade, the faithful and friends of St. Mary's have participated in a guided Lenten Food Collection. The parish collects these items on behalf of the Parma Hunger Center, located at Parma Lutheran Church, and our own parish weekly Food Ministry.

For a second straight year, we have partnered with the Polish National Union of America spring program: "Roll Away the Stone of Hunger" sponsored by PNU Districts 5 & 12 and hosted by Branch 112.



Mr. John Spilka, PNU Branch 112; Parish Pastor Fr. Jason Soltysiak, and Parish Chair Susan Boehnlein.

Lenten Retreat of the WD Northeast Seniorate Resurrection Parish, Temperance, MI

The annual Lenten Retreat of the Northeast Seniorate of the Western Diocese took place on Saturday, March 4, at Resurrection Parish in Temperance, MI. Fr. Sr. Jarosław Nowak, Administrative Senior, led the introduction of the event. Father Senior Nowak, Father Jason Soltysiak, and neo-presbyter Father James Ploskonka were the presenters this year. The focus was on the Stations of the Cross, with each priest addressing a portion of them to cover all 14. Fr. Jason closed the retreat portion of the event with a penitential service. The penance assigned included a reading of the seven penitential psalms. Much appreciation to all who attended and spent some time in prayer, worship, and learning.



† śp. Rev. Thomas M. Sheha

Rev. Thomas Michael Sheha, 72, of Hollywood, FL, was called home to Jesus on Sunday, April 16, 2023. Rev. Sheha was born on March 7, 1951 to Joseph Sheha and Florence (nee Seely) of Cleveland, Ohio. He answered the call to the Catholic priesthood, graduating from St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in 1978, and was subsequently ordained by Archbishop McCarthy. In 1991 he married the love of his life and dear friend, Meg, and resumed ministry as a priest in the Polish National Catholic Church in 1993. In 1995 he and his wife welcomed a son, Joshua.

Rev. Sheha served as Associate Pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in Davie, FL, until 2012. In 2013 he began work as Chaplain of the Bishop Kardas Memorial Home in Davie until his death. In 2017, he furthered his ministry's outreach, regularly posting video Facebook Sermons. He worked as a chaplain for Memorial Pembroke Hospital for several years in the early 2000s.



Rev. Sheha was well known for his musical talents, mainly guitar, using music as a keystone of his ministry. He was member of the worship band Linda Rose & Co., playing concerts with them throughout the 80s and 90s. He will be remembered as a loving father, husband and a humble and resiliently loyal priest with an immense passion for the Word of God, the Eucharist and the poor. He will be missed by his family, friends and many of the parishioners he served and loved so dearly.

Rev. Sheha is survived by Margherita (Meg), his wife of 32 years, son Joshua, brother David (Sue Sabo) Sheha, sisters Virginia Daughety PhD. and Julie Milcinovic and many beloved nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; Joseph and Florence and brothers John, Joe and Carl (Bonnie Sheha).

A Funeral Mass was held at St. Joseph Polish National Catholic Church, 5401 SW 64th Avenue, Davie, FL. Interment at Calvary Cemetery in Cleveland, OH.

