

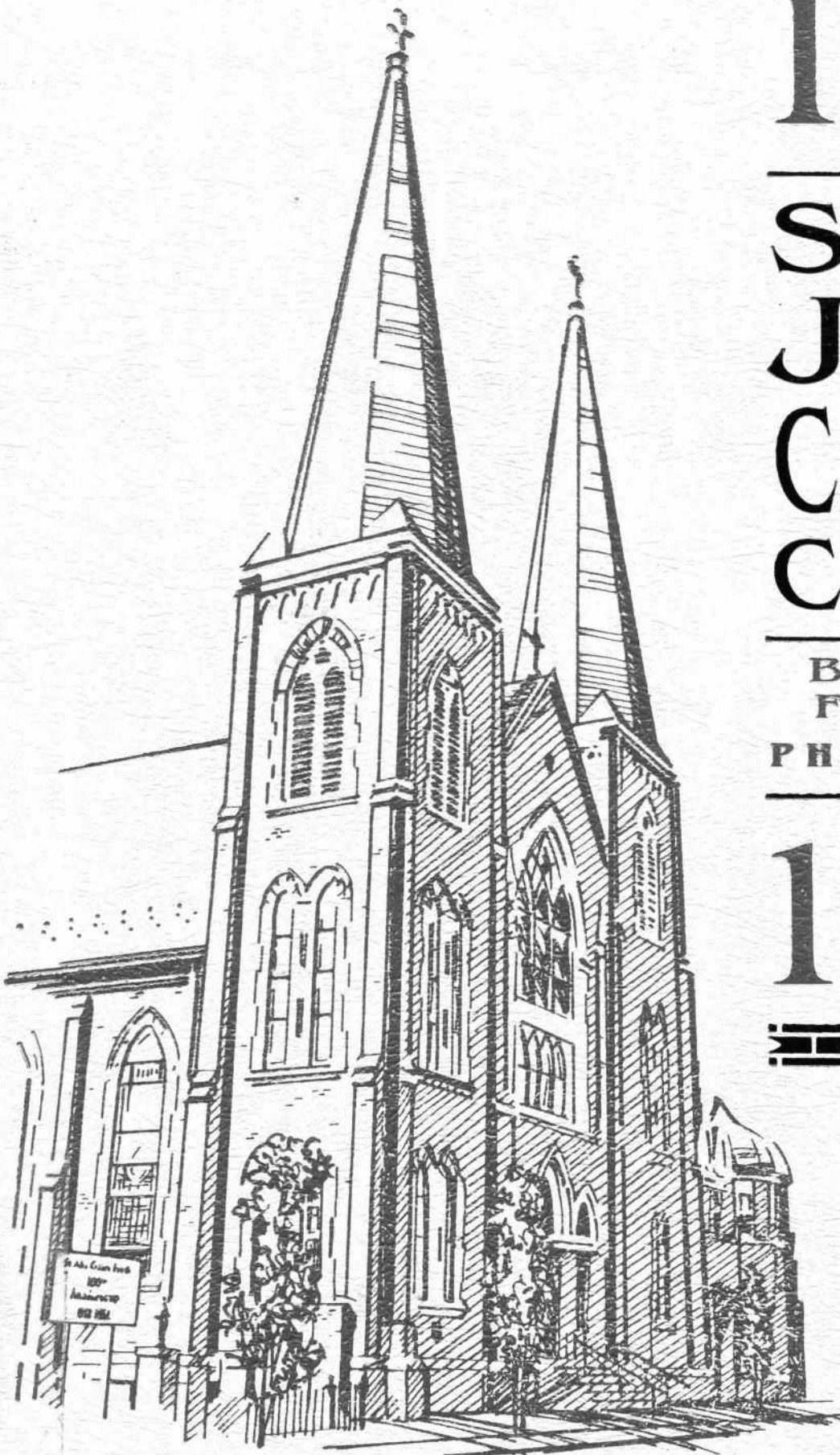


1892

SAINT
JOHN
CANTIUS
CHURCH

BRIDESBURG
FRANKFORD
PHILADELPHIA

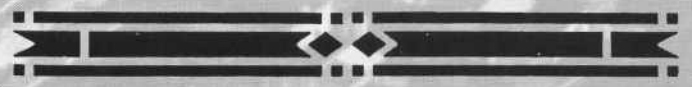
1992



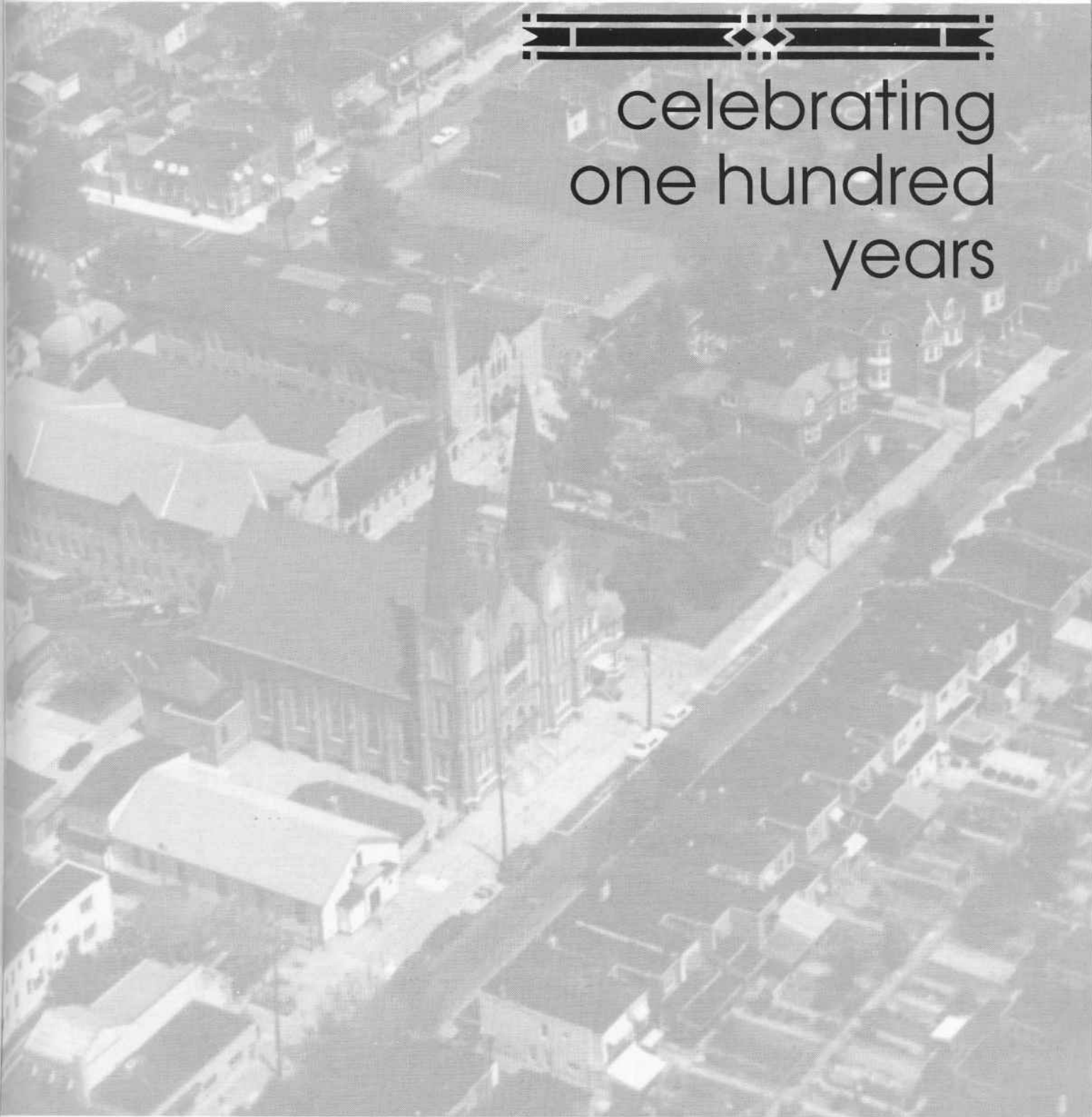
Gift of

Msgr. Bernard Witkowski

1892-1992



celebrating
one hundred
years



SAINT JOHN CANTIUS CHURCH

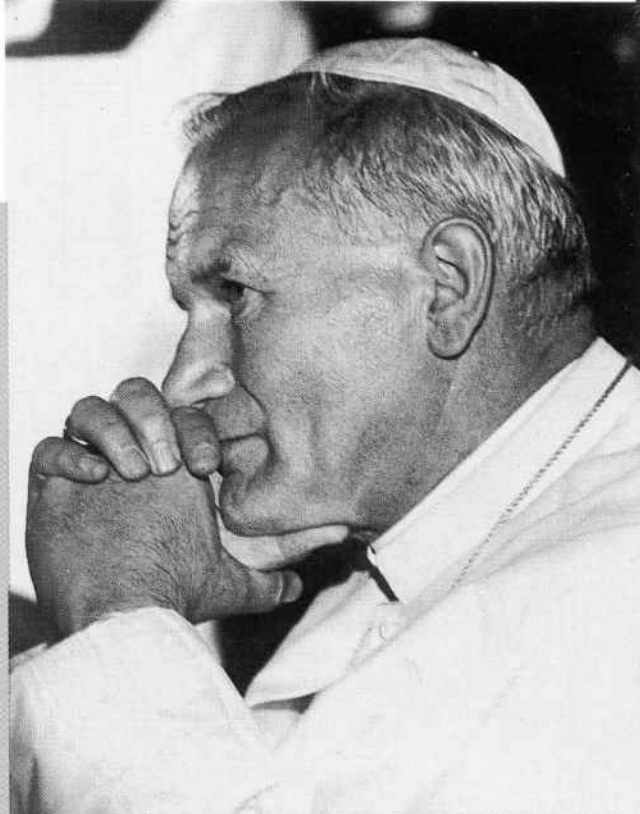


SEKRETARIAT STANU

SEKCJA PIERWSZA - SPRAWY OGÓLNE

WATYKAN, 14 września 1992

Czcigodny Księżę Prałacie,



Jego Świątobliwość Jan Paweł II łączy się duchowo z Ludem Bożym Parafii pod wezwaniem Św.Jana Kantego w Filadelfii, która w miesiącu październiku br. obchodzi 100-lecie swego istnienia.

U podstaw tej parafii leży wielki trud i ofiarna miłość ludzi kochających Boga.

Ojciec Święty modli się, aby Parafia Św.Jana Kantego była zawsze wiernym świadkiem zmartwychwstania i życia Chrystusa oraz znakiem Boga żywego i by przyczyniała się do szerzenia Królestwa Bożego w duszach ludzkich i uświęcania swych członków w prawdzie i miłości.

Całej Wspólnocie parafialnej wraz z Jej Duszpasterzem Ojciec Święty z serca udziela swego Apostolskiego Błogosławieństwa.

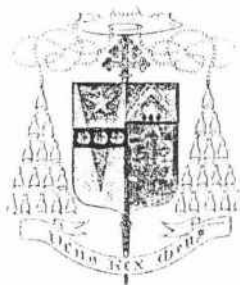
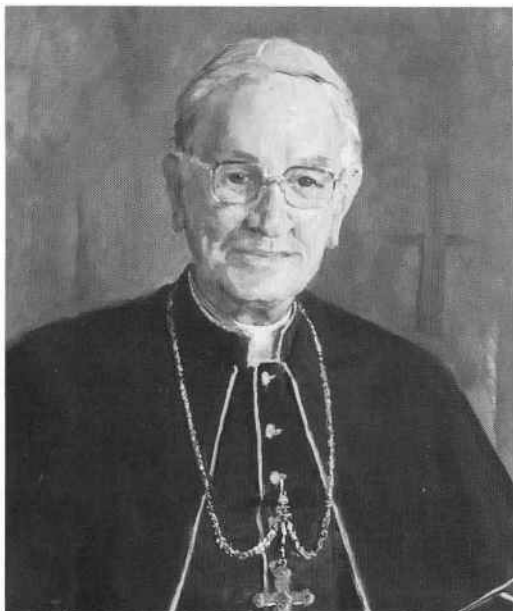
Łączę wyrazy szacunku

Arcybiskup G.B.Re
Substytut

Przewielebny Ksiądz Prałat
Ks.Bernard E.WITKOWSKI
St.John Cantius Rectory
4415 Almond St.
Philadelphia, PA 19137
USA



Mr. & Mrs. Norman Grous and their son, Father Albin Grous, present our Holy Father with one of our anniversary shirts during their visit to Rome at Eastertime, 1991.



September 17, 1992

Dear Monsignor Witkowski:

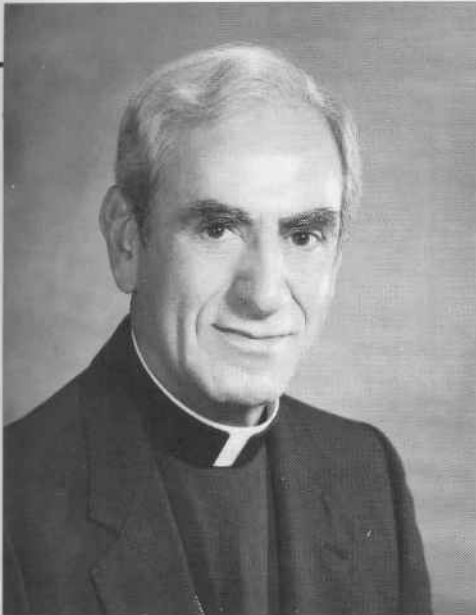
I share with you the joy which comes in the celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of St. John Cantius Parish.

The faithful of St. John Cantius Parish have been an example to other parishes and parishioners. God has been good to them and they have tried to honor God by their full cooperation with their pastors. A letter could scarcely contain all the good that was accomplished in the parish. How many sacraments of Baptism, of First Confession and Communion, how many marriages, and how many people were blessed at their funeral cannot be contained in one letter. I greet you, Monsignor, and all your parishioners and I firmly beg God to shower His most abundant graces and blessings upon you and your endeavors now and in the future.

Invoking God's blessings upon you and your parishioners, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

John Cardinal Krol
John Cardinal Krol
Archbishop Emeritus of
Philadelphia



Office of the Cardinal
222 N. 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

August 5, 1992

Dear Monsignor Witkowski:

On the happy occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Saint John Cantius Parish, I am grateful for the opportunity to express my sincere congratulations and prayerful best wishes.

The celebration of this important milestone in the life of your Parish provides a fitting occasion for you and your parishioners to give thanks and praise to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon you.

For one hundred years, the people of Saint John Cantius Parish have been joined together in a faithful community. With an admirable faith and a sincere love, the people of your Parish have prayed together and worshipped together. They have listened to the voice of God in their lives and have grown in the knowledge and love of the Lord. They have shared moments of joy and sorrow and have celebrated together the realities of life and death. And in every circumstance, they have encountered a God who has loved them very much!

As you reflect with gratitude upon your glorious history, you can also look to the future with hope and confidence. With trust in the Providence of Our Heavenly Father, we know that He will continue the good work He has begun in your midst, and that He will bless you always with His finest gifts.

I will be with you in spirit and prayer as you celebrate your 100th Anniversary on October 11, 1992. Through the intercession of your patron, good Saint John Cantius, may the Lord grant success to every endeavor. May He bless all the members of Saint John Cantius Parish will renewed faith, hope and love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Anthony Cardinal Riboldi
Archbishop of Philadelphia

To the Faithful of St. John Cantius Parish:

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

Felicitations and prayerful best wishes to all of you as you celebrate the centenary of your parish. I join you in thanking God for his goodness to St. John Cantius parish during its first one hundred years.

It has been my pleasure to visit your parish three times to administer the sacrament of Confirmation. Each time there was a different pastor, and each time I was impressed by the beauty of the liturgy and the devotion of the congregation. Both these are evidence of the deep faith of the parishioners and of their love for the Church.

I pray that God will bless St. John Cantius parish in a special way during this centennial year. And I pray that you will maintain during the next one hundred years your deep faith and your love for God.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Martin N. Lohmuller

Most Rev. Martin N. Lohmuller
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



Reverend and dear Monsignor:

With the advent of the Centennial Celebration of St. John Cantius Church, Philadelphia, I am happy to have the opportunity to extend my heartfelt congratulations to you, as well as to the Pastor Emeritus, Monsignor Adam J. Bydon, and the entire Parish--Religious and the Faithful--men and women and children alike, not so much on the fulfillment of the years, as on the magnificent record of what the Holy Spirit has wrought in your midst through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, touching the lives of the Polish-American Community down through the century.

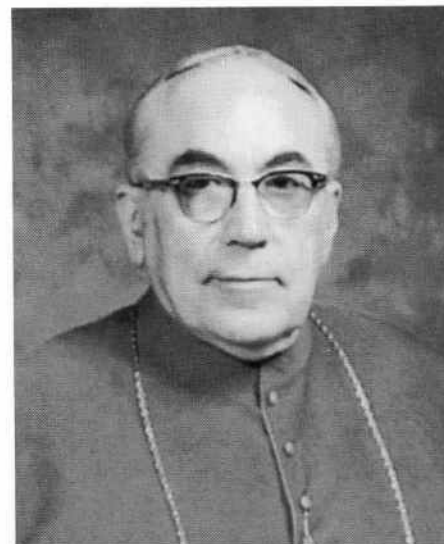
As we contemplate the calvacade of good works accomplished and generous sacrifices made through your humble hands and magnanimous hearts of Faith in God our Father and Jesus Christ, His Son, of service to one's neighbor in an all-embracing Divine Providence, I congratulate you that in this small portion of God's earth, Bridesburg, St. John Cantius Parish will continue to absorb His omniscient attention and draw forth His merciful love, that the future will be as replete with His Grace as the past has been resplendent with His Glory.

With warmest personal regards and prayerful best wishes, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ Jesus our Lord,

John J. Graham

Most Reverend John J. Graham, D.D., V.G.
Former Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



Dear Monsignor Witkowski:

Congratulations and best wishes to you and the faith community of St. John Cantius as you celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the parish. It is a joyful time and I join with you in prayerful gratitude to God.

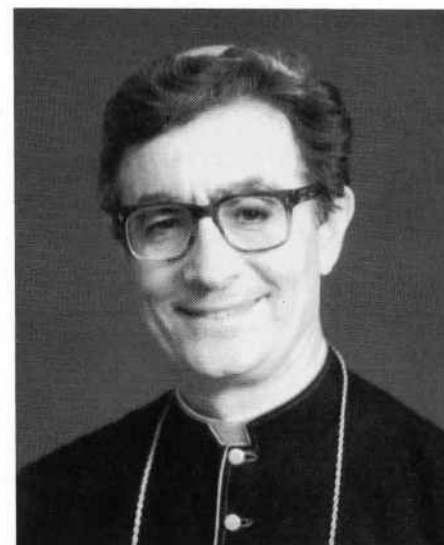
Much has been accomplished for the glory of God over the years and I know that your good people rejoice over these blessings which are a tribute to their faith and a reminder of their heritage.

May God always bless your parish and grant your people many graces through the hands of Mary Immaculate.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Louis A. DeSimone

Most Rev. Louis A. DeSimone
Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1992

Barbara and I are delighted to send greetings to all those who are celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. John Cantius Church of Philadelphia. Congratulations on this milestone.

We can all rejoice in what your house of worship has meant to its members. A place of prayer, fellowship, reflection, and renewal, it has also been the focal point for many acts of generosity and service to others. Indeed, because the faith and values nurtured within its walls are the foundation of strong families and communities, your church has been a source of strength for our entire country.

You have our best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Bill Bush

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

GREETINGS:

I am pleased to send warm regards to the congregation and friends of St. John Cantius Church of Philadelphia as you celebrate your 100th anniversary.

A church offers a foundation upon which people can build their lives. It is a solid and stable sanctuary to which we can turn for comfort and guidance, in celebration and sadness.

For a century, your church has helped those in need, cared for the elderly, educated children and assisted those struggling to find their goals. St. John Cantius Church has been a strong part of the Bridesburg community and an important part of countless lives.

I hope that you continue your outstanding service for many years to come. Best wishes and God bless you.



Robert P. Casey

Robert P. Casey
Governor
October 11, 1992



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ROOM 215 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107-3295
JTTU 186-2181
FAX 215-686-2170

EDWARD G. RENDELL
MAYOR

October 11, 1992

Centennial Celebration
St. John Cantius Church
4415 Almond Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19137

TO THE REVEREND CLERGY, SISTERS AND PARISHONERS:

As Mayor of Philadelphia, it is my pleasure to bring greetings to the Reverend Clergy, Sisters and parishoners of St. John Cantius Church as they celebrate 100 years of service to Catholics in the Bridesburg community.

Philadelphia, the cornerstone of religious liberty, is proud of churches like St. John Cantius and those in the religious life, past and present, who have served faithfully for a century. A Polish parish church, St. John Cantius has been a beacon of light in the community, and has had a profound effect on the quality of life of its parishoners.

Despite many changes over the two centuries, St. John Cantius has held to traditional family and religious values. Its school, convent and church are fine examples of institutions that have not given way to trends and have kept close guard on the values of time-honored truths.

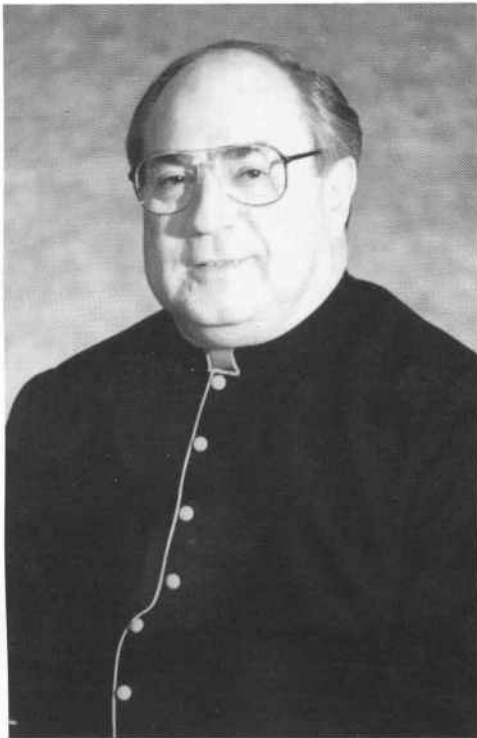
My best wishes to all in attendance at the October 11th celebration. May this day mark one of remembrance for the many priests, Sisters and parishoners of the past, who have served the Church and the City well.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Rendell

EDWARD G. RENDELL





Monsignor Bernard S. Witkowski
Pastor

ST. JOHN CANTIUS PARISH

4415 Almond Street
Philadelphia, PA 19137

(215) 535-6667

My dear Parishioners:

We have been given the privilege and the wonderful opportunity to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Parish. If you think about it, not very many people get the chance to do this. But, I am sure you realize, as I do, that there are numerous people to whom we must be grateful for this unique experience.

As I worked on the Parish history, I was very impressed with the determination and the generosity of our founders. They were men and women who loved the Church and their Faith and were willing to make great sacrifices in order to maintain both. They were also very proud of their Polish heritage and made every effort to pass this pride onto their children.

Their children - your grandparents or, perhaps your parents - gladly accepted this wonderful legacy, and they did not disappoint them. They protected and nurtured St. John Cantius Parish so that it could continue to be the strong citadel of Faith envisioned by our founders.

Then the stewardship was passed on to you. You were given the difficult task of keeping St. John Cantius Parish alive and well in the most trying times. You have had to keep your balance in a Church rocked by the changes of Vatican Council II. You have had to endure the onslaught of materialism, personalism and secularism. You have had to watch your own children turn their backs on the Church; your neighbors mock your generosity and faithfulness to the Parish; and a world that laughs at religion. But you have not been discouraged. You realize that membership in the Parish has more to do with membership in the Kingdom than simply saying, "I am a member of St. John Cantius Parish." Your faithfulness will be rewarded.

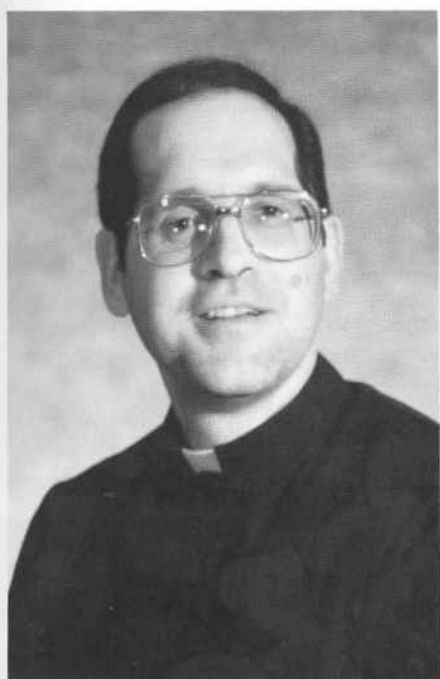
Of course, we realize that every great institution needs good leadership to endure and prosper. We have had a series of dedicated Pastors and Assistants who have worked hard to direct our Parish properly. We owe them a great deal. I have just been fortunate enough to be here at the right time. I only hope that I can continue their good work.

Lastly, we must be grateful to the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth who have taught you and your children for 82 years. Their good influence is known by all of you, and God will reward them.

And so, we move on with strong Faith and powerful determination as we begin our second 100 years. I know we will continue with the same spirit, the same determination, and the same love as our founders. Niech zyje Parafja Sw. Jana Kantego.

I'm proud of you,

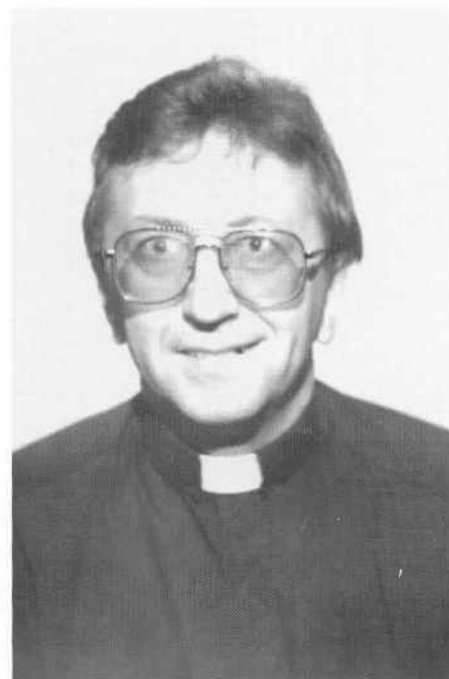
M. S. Bernard S. Witkowski



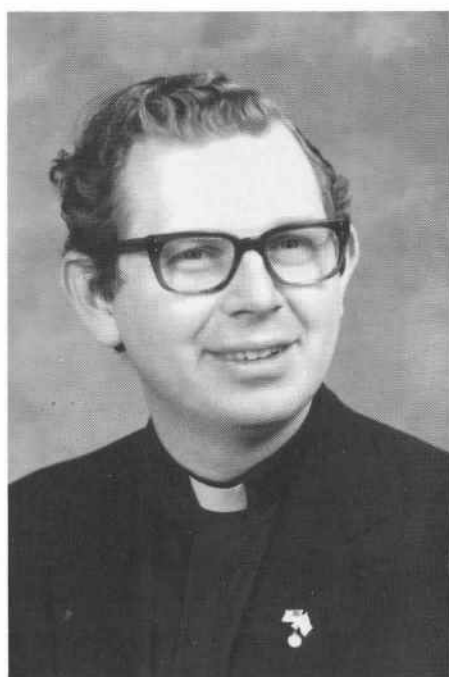
Reverend Dennis J. Witalec
Assistant Pastor



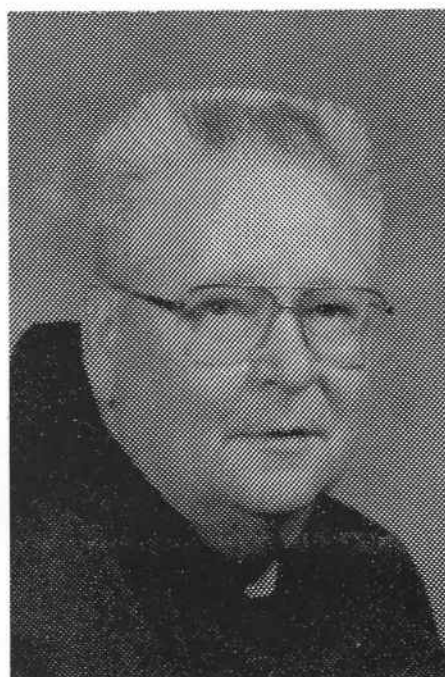
Reverend Andrew D. McCormick
Assistant Pastor



Reverend Jan Palkowski
Assistant Pastor



Reverend John B. Wendrychowicz
Resident



Reverend Aquinas Helwig
Weekend Assistant
Deceased

The following priests served in St. John Cantius Parish in the 90 Years since the parish was founded.

PASTORS

Rev. Msgr. Marian Kopytkiewicz 1892 – 1932
 Rev. Ladislaus Grynia 1932 – 1946
 Rev. Msgr. Casimir F. Lawniczak 1946 – 1964
 Rev. Joseph C. Klosinski 1964 – 1971
 Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Honorowski 1971 – 1979
 Rev. Msgr. Adam J. Bydlon 1979 – 1990
 Rev. Msgr. Bernard E. Witkowski

ASSISTANT PASTORS

Rev. John Dabrowski – December 1903
 Rev. Joseph Poreba, 1904 – 1905
 Rev. Francis Grzywocz, 1905 – 1907
 Rev. Arnold Waszyca, 1907
 Rev. Stanislaw Sobieniowski, 1907 – 1909

Rev. Jacob Ploszaj, 1909 – 1910
 Rev. August Kuczynski, August 1910 – 1911
 Rev. Teodor Lugowski, 1910
 Rev. Teodor Such, 1911 – 1912
 Rev. Henry Roszkowski 1911 – 1912
 Rev. Paul Obolewicz, 1912 – 1913
 Rev. Ladislaus A. Grynia, 1913 – 1932
 Rev. John Mleczo, 1915 – 1918
 Rev. Bronislaw Gebert, 1919 – 1921
 Rev. Ladislaus Dabrowski, 1921 – 1925
 Rev. John S. Pytko, 1922 – 1930
 Rev. Anthony Szczypin, 1926 – 1932
 Rev. Szczepan Wyborski, 1930
 Rev. John S. Baruch, 1930 – 19
 Rev. Joseph Macek, 1932 – 1939
 Rev. John B. Ligenza, 1938 – 1955
 Rev. Bruno A. Kucment, 1939 – 1949
 Rev. John A. Gaj, 1949 – 1951



Rev. Msgr. Marian
Kopytkiewicz



Rev. Ladislaus
Grynia



Rev. Stanislaus J.
Garstka



Rev. Teofil C.
Lewandowski



Rev. Josef F.
Niemiec



Rev. Msgr. Casimir F.
Lawniczak



Rev. Joseph C.
Klosinski



Rev. Stanislaw A.
Sliwinski



Rev. Bruno A.
Kucment



Rev. Henry J.
Krzészinski



Rev. Msgr. Joseph R.
Honorowski



Rev. Msgr. Adam J.
Bydlon



Rev. Stanislaw J.
Skowronski



Rev. Anthony T.
Kubacki



Rev. Ladislaus J.
Ryczek



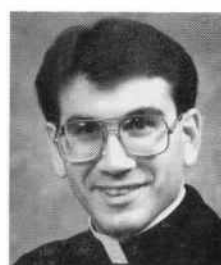
Rev. Msgr. Bernard E.
Witkowski



Rev. Leonard
Lewandowski



Rev. Michael
Bielecki, O.S.A.



Rev. Albon
Grous

Rev. Joseph Swies, 1951 – 1956; 1969 – 1979
 Rev. Michael Augustyn, 1955 – 1951
 Rev. John Smigielski, 1956 – 1960
 Rev. Joseph R. Honorowski, 1959 – 1961
 Rev. Stanislaus Skowronski, 1944 – 1959
 Rev. Henry Krzesinski, 1960 – 1966
 Rev. Francis J. Kulhawik, 1961 – 1966
 Rev. Edward Hoffman, 1963 – 1967
 Rev. Anthony Ziemba, 1964
 Rev. Charles A. Stelmach, 1966
 Rev. John A. Sitko, 1966, 1972
 Rev. Albin Yodzis, 1967 – 1968
 Rev. Joseph Jarosz, 1972 – 1975
 Rev. Francis A. Gwiazda, 1975 – 1980
 Rev. George Ostaszewski, 1976 – 1982
 Rev. Joseph Zingaro, 1980 – 1981
 Rev. John Wendrychowicz, 1982 – 1983
 Rev. Edward Kuczynski, 1983 – 1984

Rev. Dennis Witalec, 1985
 Rev. Andrew McCormick, 1987
 Rev. Jan Palkowski, 1988

RESIDENTS

Rev. Edward Baraniak, 1946 – 1964
 Rev. Stanley Matraszek, 1962
 Rev. Thomas Skindeleski, 1981 – 1983
 Rev. John Wendrychowicz, 1988

The following non-diocesan priests served in St. John Cantius Parish.

Rev. Patrick Wdowiak, 1957
 Rev. Alexander Krzyzanowski, 1978
 Rev. Joseph Galat, 1959
 Rev. Aquinas Helwig, O.F.M. (Providing Assistance on Sundays and Holy days since 1962.)



Rev. Francis
Garstkiewicz



Rev. Edward
Raszewski



Rev. Bernard J.
Garstka



Rev. Edmund C.
Westolowski



Rev. Camillus
Blaszcak



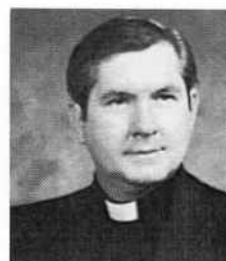
Rev. Stanley E.
Matraszek



Rev. Leonard A.
Furmanski



Rev. Robert J.
Grudowski



Rev. Edward A.
Pelczar



Rev. Alfred S.
Smuda, O.S.F.S.



Rev. Leon
Bonikowski, O.S.F.S.



Edward Dormer
Seminarian

PRIEST SONS - ST. JOHN CANTIUS PARISH

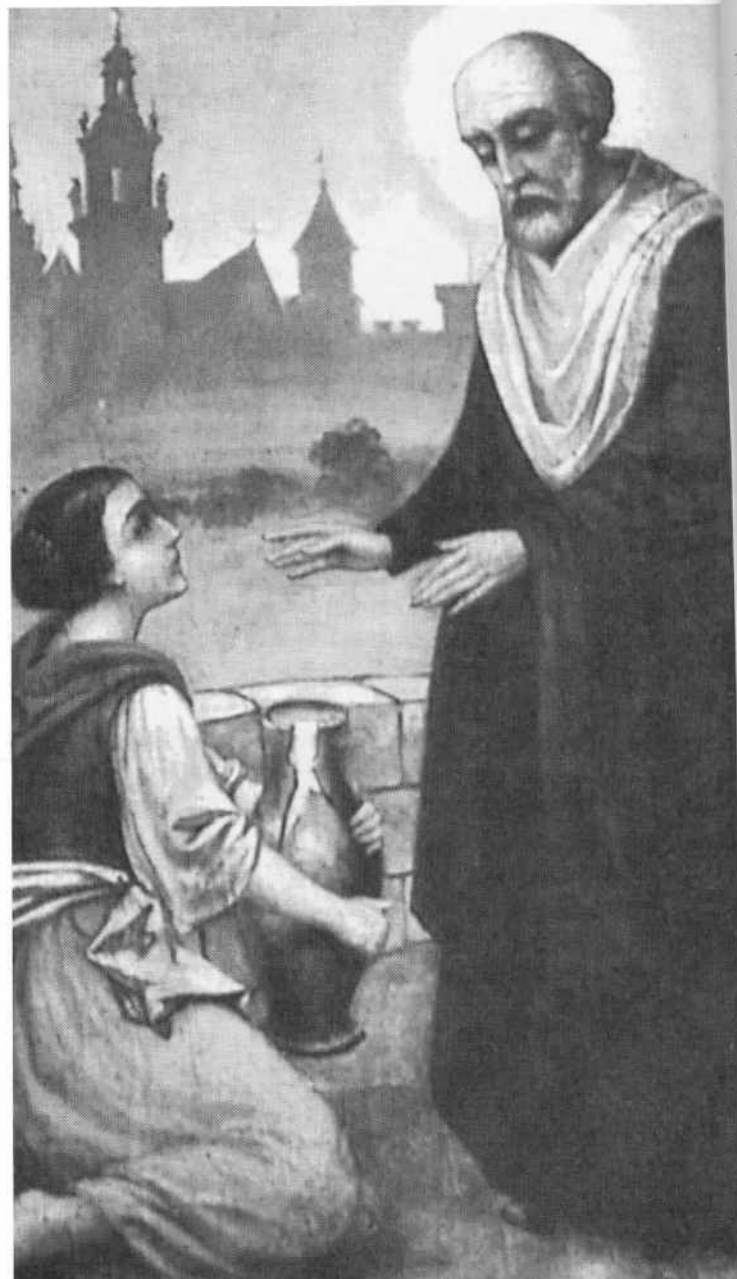
	Year Ordained
Rev. Stanislaus J. Garstka	1921
Rev. Teofil C. Lewandowski	1924
Rev. Josef F. Niemiec	1924
Rev. Joseph Skibinski, C.S.S.P.	1927
Rev. Stanislaw A. Sliwinski	1928
Rev. Bruno A. Kucment	1934
Rev. Stanislaw F. Solecki	1939
Rev. Henry J. Krzesinski	1940
Rev. Edward J. Hoffman	1941
Rev. Stanislaw J. Skowronski	1942
Rev. Francis Garstkiewicz	1944
Rev. Edward Raszewski	1946
Rev. Bernard J. Garstka	1948
Rev. Edmund C. Wesolowski	1948
Rev. Edward J. Chwieroth	1950
Rev. Camillus Blaszcak	1951
Rev. Stanley E. Matraszek	1958
Rev. Leonard A. Furmanski	1958
Rev. Robert J. Grudowski	1961
Rev. Edward A. Pelczar	1962
Rev. Ladislaus J. Ryczek	1962
Rev. Leon Bonikowski, O.S.F.S.	1965
Rev. Alfred S. Smuda, O.S.F.S.	1966
Rev. Leonard Lewandowski	1977
Rev. Anthony T. Kubacki	1980
Rev. Michael Bielecki, O.S.A.	1983
Rev. Albon Grous	1987

Religious Brothers

Brother Mansuetus (Koszarek)
 Brother Albert Pietrusinski, O.S.F.S.
 Brother John Jaskowiak, O.F.M.

BIOGRAPHY OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS

JUNE 24, 1390 - DECEMBER 24, 1473



St. John Cantius was born in the little town of Kety, located in the Archdiocese of Krakow. The grammatical declension of Kety leads to Kanty, and so, our patron Saint has been known as St. John Kanty. Some churches - we included - have adopted the latin designation of Kanty and refer to him as St. John Cantius. This probably happened because all official church documents are usually written in Latin. When we use Polish, however, we have no trouble with Sw. Jan Kanty.

His parents, Stanislaw and Anna, were devout Catholics who fostered a strong Faith in their son. After his basic studies in Kety, and after much deliberation, he decided to go to Krakow to further his studies. He was already 23 years of age at the time. However, his thirst for knowledge allowed him to excel academically, and his zeal for goodness allowed him to grow in virtue and holiness.

In 1418 he received his doctorate in Philosophy and was appointed to the faculty of the University. In 1429 he assumed the Chair of Philosophy. He was 39 years old at the time. St. John Cantius was already a Priest at this time; however, we do not know the date of his Ordination. His biographers note that he must have been ordained sometime before 1421.

In 1439 he was given the honorary title of Canon and attached to the church of St. Florian in Krakow. He was also appointed pastor of St. Andrew Church in Olkusz. Because of difficulties that he would encounter there, St. John Cantius resigned after just eight weeks.

He returned to teaching, this time as a Doctor of Theology, where he remained for the rest of

his life. His reputation as a teacher was so highly regarded that after his death his doctoral gown was used to vest each new doctoral candidate.

However, St. John Cantius was canonized because of his holiness, and there are many stories of his evident holiness that all of us should try to emulate. For example, he was very concerned about the poor. In our church, we have a picture above one of the confessionals that tells the story of his concern and his reward for that concern. One Christmas Eve while walking to the church to celebrate Mass he saw a poor man fall down in the snow. He went to the man, found him shivering with the cold, and gave him his own cloak. When he returned home, he was greeted by Our Blessed Mother who gave him a new cloak. Another incident, which we also have painted above the other confessional, involved a young girl who had dropped her pitcher of milk, and, of course, lost pitcher and milk. St. John Cantius saw her crying and went up to her to see what had happened. As he held the pieces, the pitcher returned to its original form. Then he poured water into the pitcher that immediately turned into milk.

There are many other miracles attributed to him and many other acts of outstanding piety. For example, he walked to Rome four times. He said he did it to make reparation for his sins. After his death on Christmas Eve, 1473, there was great devotion manifested to him and many people attributed miracles to his intercession.

Why it took so long, we do not know, but St. John Cantius was finally canonized in 1767 by Pope Clement XII.



EARLY IMMIGRATION

A significant number of Polish immigrants began arriving in America around the year 1870. Most of them came from the Prussian controlled section of Poland where they were restricted in the practice of their Catholic Faith and the use of their Polish language. They came to America to enjoy these freedoms; not just "for bread."

In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, which at that time included all of the state of Pennsylvania, the first evidence of a strong, growing Polish community was in Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, where they established the Parish of St. Casimir in 1872. There were also groups of Polish immigrants in Conshohocken and Phoenixville, as well as our neighbors in Camden, New Jersey.

PHILADELPHIA

In the city of Philadelphia the first Polish Parish was established in 1882 in the section of Philadelphia known today as Fishtown. It was the parish of St. Laurentius. It was a dream come true not only for the Poles of the neighborhood, but for all Polish immigrants in the Philadelphia area. Now they could hear sermons, go to confession, maintain their customs and traditions, all in the Polish language. And, perhaps, more importantly, they had their Polish Priests who could understand them and lead them as they worked to fashion a new life in their adopted country.

As more and more immigrants arrived in Philadelphia, there developed larger and stronger neighborhoods. In South Philadelphia, the Parish of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, was founded in 1890.

BRIDESBURG

At this time, there were about 90 Polish families living in Bridesburg. Counting all the children, the Polish population of Bridesburg was near 400. Most of them belonged to St. Laurentius Parish and had to travel by horse-drawn trolley every Sunday to attend Mass and Vespers. It seems that almost all of them attended Mass because we are told that the transportation company added extra trollies on Sunday to accommodate all the people.

Because of the availability of work in the neighborhood, more and more Poles moved to the Bridesburg-Frankford area, and, before long, it was obvious that a new Parish was needed. It was decided that a petition should be presented to Archbishop Patrick Ryan, and so, the following men were elected to approach the Archbishop: Mr. Stanislaw Wisniewski, President; Mr. Andrzej Petner, Treasurer; Mr. Kazimierz Kendzior, Secretary.

They arranged to meet with the Archbishop and in May of 1892 they presented their request for a new Parish in the Bridesburg-Frankford area. Archbishop Ryan was very understanding and he agreed that a new Polish Parish was needed. In fact, he promised to send them a Polish Priest as soon as one was available. At that time, there was a Polish Seminarian at Charles Seminary who was scheduled to be ordained on June 11, 1892. Everyone expected that he would be the Priest sent to them. For some reason, however, Mieczyslaw Kopytkiewicz was sent to St. Stanislaus Parish in South Philadelphia where his brother, Father Mariusz Kopytkiewicz was Pastor. Shortly afterwards, because of internal dissension, Father Mariusz resigned as pastor of St. Stanislaus and was

REV. M.

Father John Cantius was concerned about the sacrifice of all of them. Father E. I. All Saints agreed to Buckius. Father M. for a sum of 4636 R. On C. Parish. ended t. that ha. Kopytkiewicz's salary was 1000 dollars, but he was not getting his salary. He was feeling that he should have the money.

From the new Parish, the business was not going well. Of course, it began, and he collected money. Kopytkiewicz's payment was measured in bins, and he could not get the \$2,521.

OUR FOUNDING PASTOR

REV. MSGR. MARIAN KOPYTKIEWICZ

Father Marian Kopytkiewicz arrived at St. John Cantius on September 17, 1892. His first concern was to find a place to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There were no halls available in all of Bridesburg, and so, he approached Father E. Deham, Pastor of the German Parish of All Saints, and asked for his help. Father Deham agreed to rent the old church at Edgemont and Buckius Sts. for the amount of \$12.50 a month. Father Marian then searched the neighborhood for a suitable Rectory, and he found a home at 4636 Richmond St.

On October 2, 1892, the first St. John Cantius Parish Mass was offered, and the joy experienced that day was to generate an enthusiasm that has carried on for 100 years. Father Kopytkiewicz made note of this in the anniversary book. He said they had nothing. His vestments, the cruets, the candles, the Missal, everything had to be borrowed. But there was such a feeling of joy and unity that at last they would have their own Parish.

From that time on the work of establishing a new Parish was begun. The first order of business was to build a church and rectory. Of course, money was needed, and so, a collection began, and by the end of October, \$889.55 was collected. On January 4, 1893, Father Kopytkiewicz was able to put a \$50.00 down payment on eight lots on Thompson St. Each lot measured 20 feet. Unfortunately, Mr. R. Dobbins, owner of the property died before the deal could be finalized, and the final payment of \$2,521.43 could not be made until September.



pointed founding Pastor of St. John Cantius. His brother, Father Mieczyslaw was appointed Pastor of St. Stanislaus.

FIRST CHURCH, SCHOOL AND RECTORY

Plans were immediately made to build a church, school and rectory, all under one roof. F.I. Wintz & Co. began work on October 3, 1893, and by December 11, Father Kopytkiewicz was able to move into the new rectory. On December 17, the new church was blessed by Archbishop Patrick Ryan, and, interestingly, the sermon was delivered that day by Father Mieczyslaw Kopytkiewicz, the Priest who could have been the Founding Pastor.

The Parish records show that the original building - church, school and rectory - cost \$4,050.

As was common in the early 1900's, the rectory and school building were photographed and made into postcards to generate income for the parish.



FIRST SCHOOL

The early Polish immigrants knew well the need and the value of education. Even before the Parish was established, a private school was established in one of the homes on Pratt St. Mr. Fijalkowski was the teacher, and the school was supported by the parents of the students. A committee would go house to house every week to collect 5¢ for the support of the school. The people were so generous that they were able to buy two lots on the corner of Almond and Lefevre Sts. where they had planned to build a small chapel. Perhaps not knowing the proper procedure for the purchase of any property for religious use, that it must be in the name of the Ordinary of the Diocese, they purchased the property under the ownership of the Society of Prince Poniatowski. Before Father Kopytkiewicz arrived at St. John Cantius the property was sold and the money placed in the Treasury of the Society.

The Parish school actually started in September 1893. Since the first Parish building had

yet b
at 46
year.

tory-
their
50 ch
churc
howe
place
the ch
the m
help o
two S
numb
and th
becam
for th
other i

TH
Mar

Brides
from th

n early cl

yet been completed, the children met in a home at 4628 Richmond St. until December of that year. After the blessing of the new church-rectory-school building, the children moved into their new school in January of 1894. There were 50 children enrolled, and Mr. F. Majer, the church organist, was the first teacher. He left, however, in June of that year, and he was replaced by Mr. J. Chudyszewicz who also became the church organist. He remained until 1898. In the meantime, Father Kopytkiewicz sought the help of the Felician Sisters who agreed to send two Sisters to teach in the Parish school. The number of children increased rapidly, however, and the small school room was inadequate, so it became necessary to have two separate sessions for the children, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

THE NEW CHURCH

Many new families moved into the Bridesburg-Frankford area. Polish immigrants from the area of Poland known as Galicia came

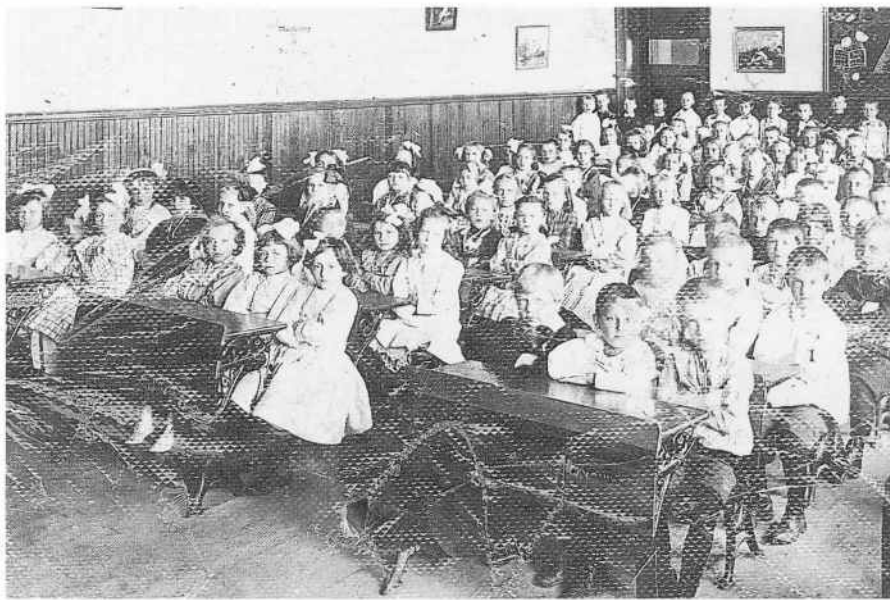
in great numbers, and, before long, the little wooden church and school was too small. From the original number of 90 families the Parish grew to 450 families by the end of 1897. At a Parish meeting on January 9, 1898, it was decided to build a new church. The parishioners agreed to take out a loan of \$23,000., and on March 4, 1898, 5 additional lots were bought adjacent to the original lots bought in 1893. The cost was \$1,750. In that same month, work began on the new church and rectory. The architect was Ludwik H. Giele of New York and the work was done by Wilson Milnor of Frankford.

On May 30, 1898, Archbishop Patrick J. Ryan blessed the cornerstone of the new church. He was assisted by Father Mieczyslaw Barabasz, Father Gabriel Kraus and Father Mieczyslaw Kopytkiewicz. Father Kraus delivered the sermon that day. On May 7, 1899, the Archbishop returned to bless the newly completed church, and the parishioners rejoiced in having a truly magnificent place of worship. The cost of the church was \$30,200.

With the church completed, the next order of business was to furnish it. Donations came in



An early classroom photo, circa 1915.



School picture from the period 1910 to 1920.

immediately, and Father Marian was able to order the beautiful stained-glass windows that are in our church. The names of these generous benefactors are listed below the windows. Then it was decided that bells were necessary, and Mr. Jan Szuman and Mr. Jan Kaczmarek of Frankford and Mr. Wojciech Hoffman and Mr. Wawrzyniec Smigaj of Bridesburg began collecting money for this purpose. In April of 1900 they were able to buy three bells from the Meneele & Co. of Troy, New York. The largest bell, JAN KANTY, weighs 1,841 pounds; the second one, MARYAN, weighs 902 pounds; the third one, JOZEF, weighs 549 pounds. The cost of the bells was \$1,042.22. Msgr. J. Loughlin, Chancellor of the Diocese, blessed the bells on May 20, 1900.

After seven years of very hard work, Father Kopytkiewicz took a vacation to visit his family in Poland. While traveling in Europe he met Mr. J. Rifesser of Vienna and discussed the possibility of having a hand-carved altar prepared for the church and some statues. On November 20, 1901 the contract was signed; on November 14,

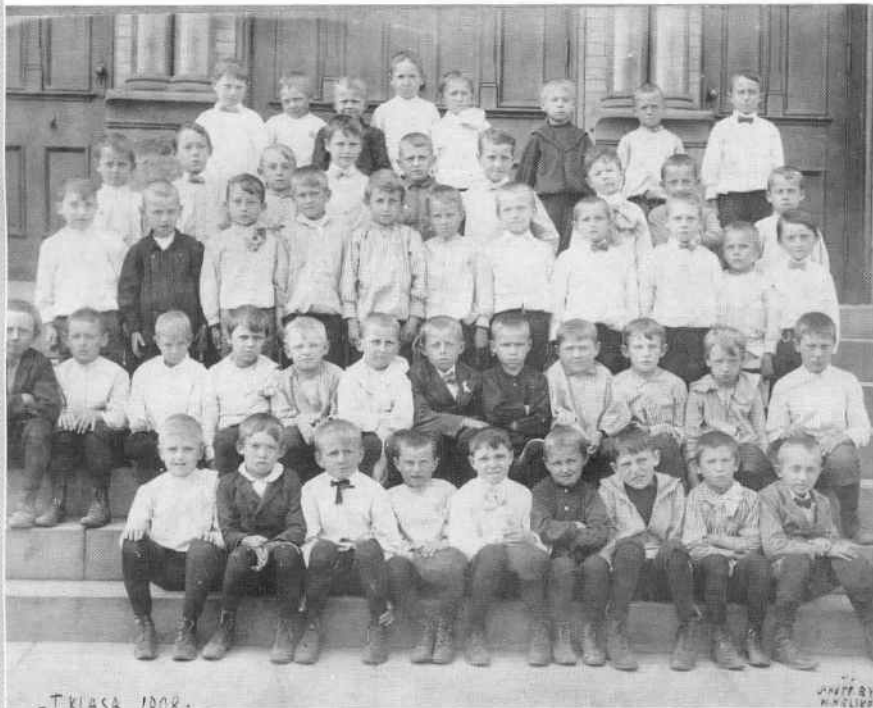
1902 Father Marian received word that the work was done; and on January 12, 1903 the altar and statues arrived. The cost: \$1,362.91.

And so, the parish had the church, windows, bells, altar and statues. What was still needed was an organ. Arrangements were made with the Estey Organ Co., and a new organ was purchased for \$3,150. It was blessed on November 25, 1906, by Msgr. J.P. Turner, the Chancellor of the Diocese. It was also in 1906 that Father Kopytkiewicz ordered a magnificent monstrance from Mr. Piotr Seipa, an artisan in Krakow, and it arrived at the Parish in March 1907.

In several short years these faithful pioneers, following the leadership of their energetic and devoted pastor, were able to build a majestic Church, a symbol of their devotion to God and a tribute to their strong Faith.

THE NEW SCHOOL

During this time of growth and activity the parish continued to increase. Many new immigrants arrived in the Bridesburg-Frankford area and they brought with them many children. The original wooden chapel, which became the school when the new church was built, was absolutely too small. By the year 1907 there were more than 400 children in school. Once again the parishioners were asked to be generous as Father Marian announced the need for a large school. First, more land had to be purchased. Thirteen lots were available on Almond St., and so they were bought for \$4,550. The project was again directed by Mr. L.H. Giele of New York and the work was begun in 1907. On September 13, 1908 the new school was blessed by Archbishop Edmond F. Prendergast, Archbishop of Philadelphia. When the school opened that year there were more than 500 children enrolled. Father Kopytkiewicz had to ask the Felicians for three more Sisters, and that brought the total number of Sisters to twelve.



CLASS 1908.

PHOTO BY H. G. GIELE

THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH

The early history of the Parish does not give the reason, but in 1911, The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth were invited to accept the responsibility of the Parish School. They accepted and have been at our Parish for the last 82 years. Msgr. Kopytkiewicz, in his personal entry in the 25th Anniversary Book, expressed the feeling that the arrival of the Nazareth Sisters in America and eventually in Philadelphia at St. John Cantius was the result of Divine Providence. He pointed out how the Nazareth Sisters were founded in 1873 by a holy, Polish woman, Franciszka Siedliska, just as the Polish immigration to America began. He also pointed out how responsive Mother Foundress was to the plight of the Polish immigrants in America, despite the fact that her Order was in its infancy. He gives great credit to the Sisters for the success of the life and growth of the Polish Parishes.

We know that the education of the children was a high priority among the early immigrants, especially an education in the Catholic Faith and Polish heritage. Of course, language was a special consideration since Polish was the only language spoken, and so, having Sisters who could speak Polish was truly a blessing. It is hard to imagine what would have happened to the children without the care and understanding of the Sisters.

By 1917, the history tells us that there were 15 Nazareth Sisters teaching more than 800 children. Knowing the need to assimilate themselves in the American way of life, the Sisters taught the children in English, except for Polish history and language. Religion was also taught in Polish by the Priests. Monsignor

Kopytkiewicz was proud to say that every child who graduated from St. John Cantius was well prepared to enter any secondary school in the city.

THE TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

On Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1917, the parishioners of St. John Cantius celebrated a double anniversary: the Silver Anniversary of the Parish and the Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Pastorate of Monsignor Kopytkiewicz. On the eve of this wonderful day, a banquet was held, and His Excellency, the Most Reverend Archbishop John V. Bonzano, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, was present. On the morning of the celebration, a Mass was offered at 8 A.M. for the school children, and Archbishop Bonzano was the Celebrant. A Solemn High Mass was celebrated at 10:30 A.M. for the rest of the parish, and Msgr. Peter Masson, described in the early history as "a sincere friend of the Polish clergy," was the Celebrant. He was assisted by Father John Dabrowski as Deacon and Father Stanislaus Sobienowski as Sub-Deacon. Bishop John McCort, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, was present in the sanctuary, along with Msgr. H.T. Drumgoole, Rector of St. Charles Seminary, and a host of other Priests.

SCHOOL EXPANSION

In the year 1919 there were so many children in school that plans had to be made once again to address the situation. First of all, more living space was needed for the Sisters. Msgr. Kopytkiewicz purchased a home for them on Thompson St. And, in order to prepare for future expansion, he purchased a large tract of land on

did you know?

The salary of the Sisters in 1917 was \$25. a month, and they were paid only during the ten months that they taught school. Since there were 15 Sisters teaching at the time, it cost the parish \$3,750. a year. Lay teachers at this time were being paid \$80. a month.

Almond St. By 1922, the situation of the school was serious, and something had to be done. The parishioners were once again asked to contribute to another building project, and, to their credit, they responded with their usual generosity and understanding. On May 6, 1923, ground was broken for an addition to the school and an auditorium which would stand between the two school wings. In the plans for the auditorium, it was mentioned that it should be the type of building that could easily be converted into a chapel. On July 22, 1923, the cornerstone was blessed by Bishop Michael J. Crane, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia. On May 25, 1924, the new building was dedicated by His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty in the presence of a large number of parishioners and visiting Priests. At the dedication, Cardinal Dougherty remarked: "This is but another monument of the loyalty of the Poles to the Catholic Faith."

DEATH OF MONSIGNOR KOPYTKIEWICZ

After 40 years of faithful service, Monsignor Kopytkiewicz was called to his heavenly reward on March 3, 1932. He was 69 years old at the time



1935 – Sr. Roseanne in the center, Sr. Aniela on the right and Sr. Eudoxia, seated in front.

of his death; forty of those years spent in St. John Cantius, building up this corner of God's vineyard. Through his leadership, and with the cooperation of the people, he was able to leave a magnificent monument of Faith and heritage. It will always give testimony to his excellent management and the love he felt for his Church and his people. He was truly a good shepherd.

His funeral took place on Tuesday, March 8, 1932. It was an overwhelming event! It began on Monday, March 7, with the transferral of his body from the rectory to the church. Father Gabriel Krause led the prayers. All evening and throughout the night, the parishioners came to pay their last respects to their Pastor. The young men of The St. John Cantius Youth Club stood as honor guards all through the night. On Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock, Father Joseph Skibinski, C.S. Sp., a Priest-son of the Parish celebrated Mass for the school children. At 9:30 A.M., a long procession of Priests filed into church, leading Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia. Father Joseph Kuczynski, Pastor of St. Ladislaus Parish, celebrated the Mass, and Cardinal Dougherty led the Absolution of the Body. Father Mieczyslaw Monkiewicz, Pastor of St. Adalbert Parish, led the prayers at the burial which took place at Holy Redeemer Cemetery.



Picnic of St. John Cantius' Young Mens Society Eddington, Pa. August 13, 1916.



OUR SECOND PASTOR

REV. LADISLAUS GRYNIA

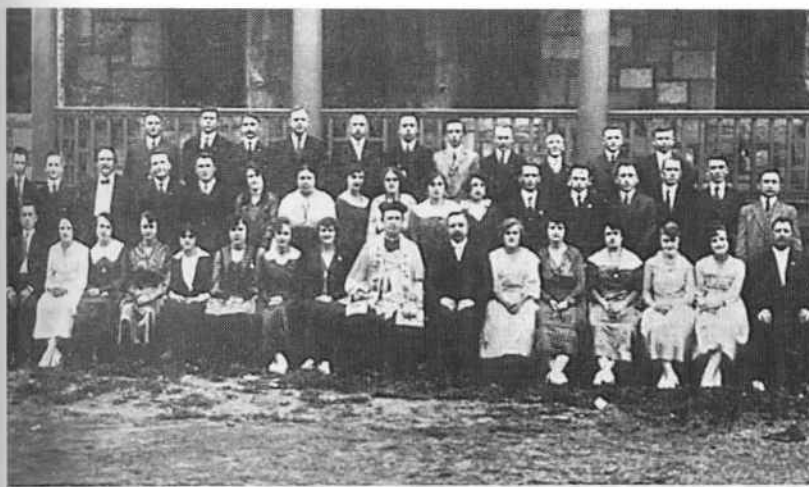
Father Ladislaus Grynia, a Priest-son of St. Laurentius Parish, arrived at St. John Cantius Parish on May 24, 1913, immediately after his Ordination. During the next 19 years, he assisted Monsignor Kopytkiewicz in the formation and growth of the young Parish. It was only fitting, then, that Father Grynia succeed Monsignor Kopytkiewicz as the Pastor of St. John Cantius Parish. And thus it was. Cardinal Dougherty appointed him Pastor on March 17, 1932.

During his years of stewardship, Father Grynia continued to nurture the growth of the Parish. He was able to eliminate the debt incurred by the building of the new part of the school and the auditorium. He established the Kindergarten and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) for the children who were in Public School. In October 1937, he established the Holy Name Society. He also organized the Altar Boys under the patronage of St. Aloysius. It is interesting to note that it was Father Grynia who raised parish Dues from \$6.00 to \$12.00. Interesting because this was in the 1930's.

Father Grynia also presided over the Golden Jubilee of the Parish. He renovated the church in time for the anniversary which was celebrated again on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1942. Father Stanislaus Garstka, a Priest-son of the Parish, celebrated the Mass. Bishop Hugh L. Lamb, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia, presided.

After 33 years, as Assistant Pastor and as Pastor, Father Grynia passed away June 14, 1946. He was laid to rest in Holy Redeemer Cemetery near the Parish he served so well.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



ST. JOHN CANTIUS CHOIR
Chor Tow. Sw Cecylii w Bridesburgu, Pa.

1917



St. Cecilia's Choir of St. John Cantius Parish. Trophy won June 8, 1912.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

PUBLIC LEDGER
PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 31, 1938

The Pilsudski Pays Philadelphia a Call



Polish Liner Pilsudski Welcomed to City By Mayor Wilson and Crowd of 20,000



When the Polish liner Pilsudski docked at Pier 84, South, today, these pretty girls were on hand with flowers and gifts of welcome from Polish organizations in the city. At right, Captain Knoetgen holds in his arms Jadwiga Swajkowska, 5, who with Carol Daniel, 6, presented him with a wreath from local school children of Polish descent.

THE POLISH LINER'S ARRIVAL BROUGHT THEM OUT EARLY.
picture can be seen some of the groups of costumed children, war veterans, bands and community groups which turned out for the occasion.

Multiply this by a score or two and you'll have an idea of the crowd which thronged the Delaware riverfront yesterday to welcome the Polish motorship Pilsudski to Philadelphia. In the

more than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

Polish Ship Welcomed By 40,000

City's Greeting So Warm It's Nearly a Riot

The Polish liner Pilsudski dropped anchor at the port of Philadelphia yesterday to pay a two-day call and found itself in the midst of a rousing reception that started amid speeches and roars and grew into a minor riot.

Men, women and children, many of them Polish by birth or descent, turned out almost 40,000 strong to welcome the first ship flying the Polish flag ever to come up the Delaware. They turned out—and they made up their minds to see the boat.

The dock at Pier 84, South Wharves, at Delaware ave. and Porter st., was already jammed when the streamlined 16,000-ton motorship, steamed into port there at 9 A. M.

CROWDS CONTINUE
Through the day a stream of buses poured out upon the dock what seemed an endless stream of visitors, all eager to take advantage of the ship's "open house."

Polish folk of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and up-State Pennsylvania, as well as Philadelphia, decorated upon the ship to join in the reception.

Political, civic and fraternal leaders of the State and city were the guests last night of the ship owners, Cyrillus-America Shipping Lines, Ltd., at a banquet aboard the vessel.

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

THE CAPTAIN AND A FRIEND

Youngest of the official delegates to greet Captain Zenko Knoetgen, master of the Pilsudski, as he arrived yesterday was five-year-old Jadwiga Swajkowska, who was on hand with a bouquet to present to the Polish naval officer.

Wilson Flower Bill Paid

Well, after all these weeks the City Treasurer yesterday paid a \$1200 bill to Florist Charles Grakelaw, and for a minute it seemed that Mayor Wilson had been sending orchids to City Hall.

Which, in view of some things I have been happening recently at City Hall, some citizens regarded as very strange, indeed.

But it turned out that the Mayor had been holding no love feast. Al-

though the bill read, "Flowers for City Council," the flowers were used for Mayor's reception room.

The Mayor explained it was a custom to decorate the room thus, and that, really, he had saved the city money, because usually it cost \$3000 or \$4000.

He seemed annoyed at critics who said he could have used the money to hire a clerk for a year.

He seemed annoyed at critics who said he could have used the money to hire a clerk for a year.

He seemed annoyed at critics who said he could have used the money to hire a clerk for a year.

He seemed annoyed at critics who said he could have used the money to hire a clerk for a year.

He seemed annoyed at critics who said he could have used the money to hire a clerk for a year.

Flowers, draped about the party area in the hands of the spectators, and native costumes, worn by thousands of school children and adults, gave the scene a festive note.

OLISH RITES HELD
In keeping with a Polish tradition, small loaf of rye bread and a wooden collar were presented to the ship's master, Captain Zenko Knoetgen, by two of the oldest members of the Polish community here, Jan Waligorski, 85, and Mrs. Zdzisława, 84.

Presenting the Polish school children of the city, Jadwiga Swajkowska, 5, and Carol Daniel, 6, presented him with a wreath.

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

More than 300 persons heard address by Brig. Gen. Edward C. Shannan, for the Governor; Capt. J. J. Pilsudski, Polish Ambassador

The young girl, Jadwiga Swajkowska, is a St. John's parishioner, Mrs. Harriet (Jadwiga) Gosciniak.

OUR THIRD PASTOR

REV. MSGR. CASIMIR LAWNICZAK

Several months after the death of Father Grynja, Cardinal Dougherty appointed Father Casimir Lawniczak as pastor. Father Lawniczak, known to everyone as Father Casey, arrived at St. John Cantius in November 1946. He energetically carried on the stewardship of the Parish, and did so well that on April 23, 1949, he was named Domestic Prelate with the title of Monsignor. He was also responsible for having the church consecrated, the only Polish church in the Archdiocese to have this privilege. The church was consecrated on October 23, 1952, by His Excellency Bishop Carol J. McCormick.

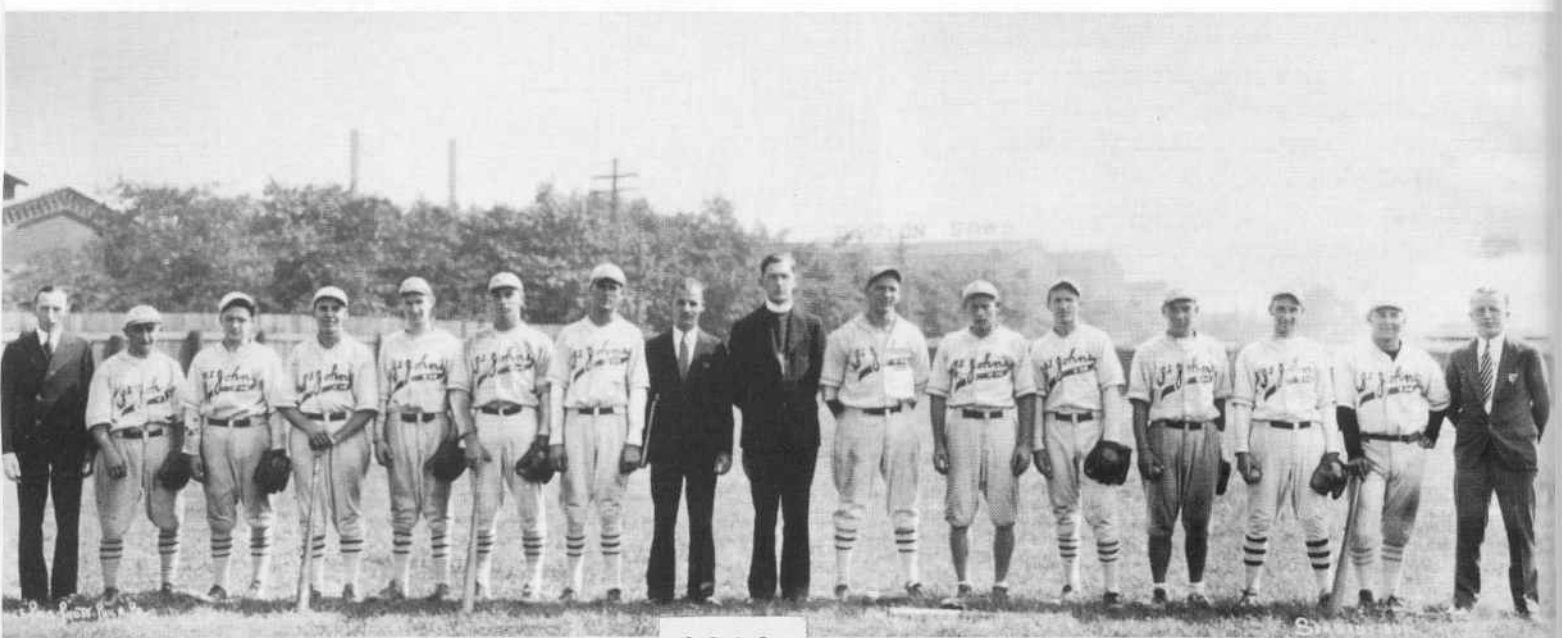
It was also during his time that the original chapel was once again used for Mass and devotions. For a while it served as the meeting place for the Young Men's Club, but in 1953, Monsignor had it renovated so that Mass could be celebrated there to accommodate the overflowing crowds. He also built an extension onto the rectory for much needed office space. And he purchased additional property so that the schoolchildren had some place to play. Monsignor was also very much involved in all the activities of Polonia, and, in fact, was one of the small group of Priests who helped in the founding of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown.

Monsignor was a well-liked and highly respected Priest, not only in the Parish but throughout the Archdiocese. Thus, when it was learned in June of 1964 that he was suffering from cancer and the illness was terminal, there were many tears shed. And, although everyone knew that the end was not far away, it was a



very sad day on July 3, when news of his death was circulated throughout the city.

John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia and a friend of Monsignor, celebrated the funeral Mass in the presence of numerous parishioners, friends and Priests. It was a tribute to his life and his Priesthood. After Mass, his body was escorted to and laid to rest in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.



1932

Father John Baruch with the 1932 St. John Cantius Baseball Team.

OUR FOURTH PASTOR

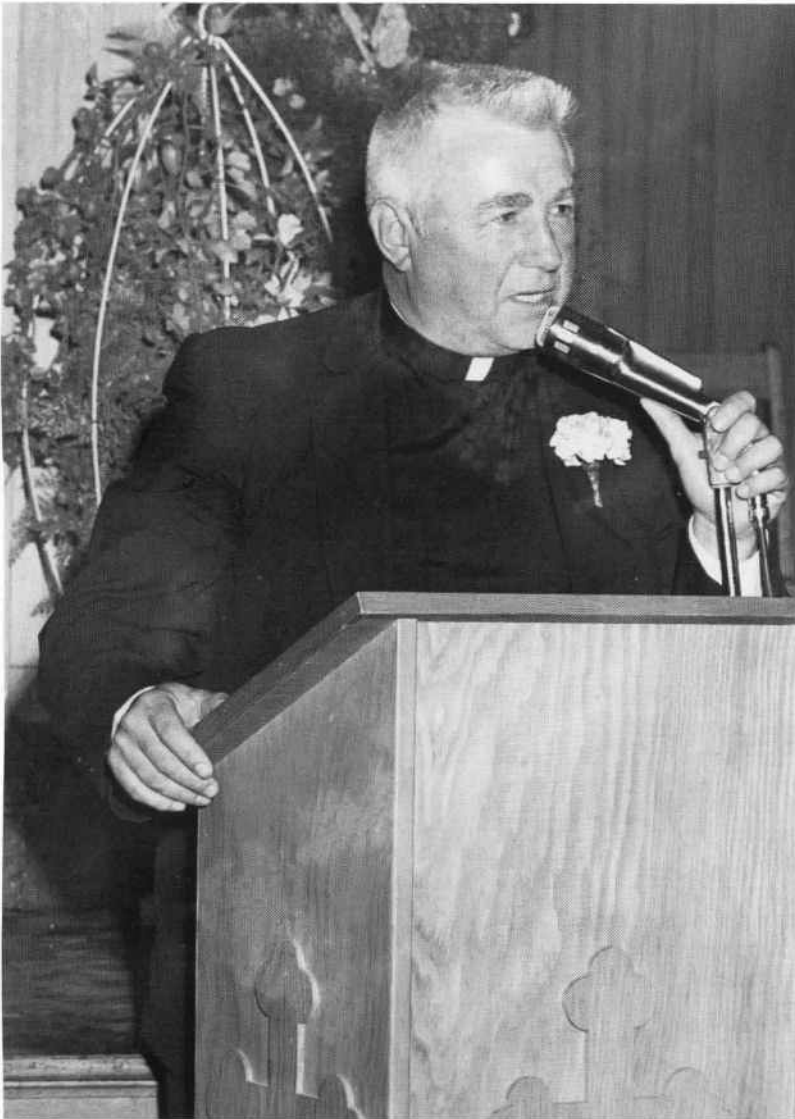
REV. JOSEPH KLOSINSKI

On September 12, 1964, Father Joseph Klosinski was named Pastor of St. John Cantius. If anyone ever imitated his patron saint, Father Klosinski certainly did. St. Joseph the Carpenter was his exemplar. Father could often be seen repairing, renovating or refurbishing some part of the Parish buildings. Since the Parish would celebrate its 75th anniversary in just a few years, Father Klosinski had the church painted, the outside was pointed, the sanctuary and reredos rearranged, new lights installed, the sacristies rearranged to eliminate the passage way behind the altar and a new sound system installed. Renovations were also done in the chapel, among which were four new confessionals.

On September 17, 1967, the 75th anniversary was celebrated with a special Mass of Thanksgiving offered by His Excellency, Bishop Gerald McDevitt, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia. The Jubilee Banquet took place that evening.

In 1971, Father Klosinski retired as Pastor, having reached the compulsory age for retirement, 75. For a while he lived in Green Acres, Florida with his Sister. He then took up residence at the Jersey shore, and when his health began to fail, he entered the Villa St. Joseph, the diocesan retirement home for Priests. Father Klosinski died there on October 13, 1990, in his 95th year of life and his 60th year in the Priesthood. Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua, Archbishop of Philadelphia, celebrated his Mass and Msgr. Adam Bydlon, Pastor Emeritus of St. John Cantius and the second successor of Father Klosinski, preached the homily.





OUR FIFTH PASTOR

REV. MSGR. JOSEPH HONOROWSKI

Upon Father Klosinski's retirement, Cardinal Krol appointed Father Joseph Honorowski as Pastor. Father had been a Curate at St. John Cantius from 1959 to 1961, and so, he knew the Parish and was well known by the parishioners. As is always necessary for a Pastor, Father Honorowski continued the care and repair of the Parish. He had new stained glass doors installed at the church entrance and beautiful cut glass doors in the vestibule. It was also Father Honorowski who had the church air-conditioned.

He was rewarded for his good work in December 1974 when he was elevated to the rank of Monsignor. A banquet was held in his honor on January 14, 1974. During the International Eucharistic Congress which was held in Philadelphia in August of 1976, Monsignor Honorowski was Co-Chairman of the Polish Committee with Msgr. Anthony Jaworowski of St. Adalbert's Parish.

Unfortunately, Monsignor's health slowly declined, and, after a long illness, he died on April 22, 1979. His death was mourned deeply by the many parishioners who loved him. He is still remembered as the happy, personable Priest who served his people so well.

did you know?

Ann (Dombrowski) Stahl can claim proudly that her mother and two sisters were nuns. Her mother, Ann, entered the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth at the age of 65. Her daughter, Sr. Marian, was already a Nazareth Sister, and another daughter, Sr. Mary Venard was a Bernardine.

Sr. Ann Dombrowski, the mother, died in 1972 after 17 years of service in religious life. Sr. Marian died in 1990 shortly before her 50th anniversary. Sr. Mary Venard died in 1991, a few months after her 50th anniversary.

The only problem with this unusual situation, according to John Stahl, was trying to convince people that his mother-in-law was a nun.

Carol Lada Banach, First Polish Festival Queen at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa.



1934 - 8th grade students with teacher Sister M. Cyrynla on left & Mother Superior on right.

Dear Parishioners,

I congratulate you on the One Hundreth Anniversary of your parish. Each of you, loyal and faithful sons and daughters of St. John Cantius Parish, can be justifiably proud of your parish with its glorious and magnificent history as a parish community. I share with you the joy and happiness as you celebrate your Hundreth Anniversary and I am grateful to almighty God for allowing me the special grace to be assigned to St. John Cantius Parish for eleven of those one hundred years.

I realize that I stand in the shadow of the many good and devoted priests who laboured in your parish throughout these hundred years, the pastors and assistant pastors. I look back in admiration at the progress made, spiritual and temporal, and I marvel at the sacrifices made not only by the dedicated priests and sisters, but also by the splendid cooperation of the parishioners.

My prayer is that the celebration of the Hundreth Anniversary of your parish, will inspire the 1992 generation of parishioners and the generations to come with even greater courage, dedication, loyalty to the Church and service to the Community of Faith that is St. John Cantius Parish.

Gratefully yours,

Rev. Msgr. Adam J. Bydlon
Rev. Msgr. Adam J. Bydlon
Pastor Emeritus

OUR SIXTH PASTOR

REV. MSGR. ADAM J. BYDLON

On June 4, 1979, Father Adam J. Bydlon succeed Monsignor Honorowski. He had been the Pastor of St. Hedwig Parish in Chester, after serving many years as a Chaplain in the United States Armed Forces. Shortly after his arrival, St. John Cantius and all the parishes of the Archdiocese began preparing for the visit of Pope John Paul II in Philadelphia in October. While the Pope was in Philadelphia during the days of October 3rd and 4th, many of the parishioners joined the million and a half people who came out to see him. When his motorcade went down Broad St. to the Cathedral, the St. John Cantius School Band was lined up in full uniform to greet him along the way. And many of our Ushers acted as Marshalls at the Mass at Logan Circle.

On August 8, 1982, Father Bydlon was named Prelate of Honor to his Holiness by Pope John Paul II with the title of Monsignor. During his stewardship, Monsignor Bydlon continued the excellent care of the Parish buildings. He enlarged the school library, installed new heaters in the central heating system, and, most importantly, restored the pipe organ. The organ had first been installed in 1906 and then mechanized in the 1940's. The renovation was completed in 1982.

One of the things Monsignor was very proud of was the accreditation that the school received from the Middle States Educational Association. It was a tribute to the faculty and the administration of the school. It also showed the interest and the cooperation of both parents and students.



Award winning Polish Dance Troupe of the St. John Cantius C.Y.O. at the Annual Talent Show in 1983.

Being accredited is no easy thing. The process began in 1979, under the direction of Sr. M. Frances, the Principal, and it was not completed until 1983.

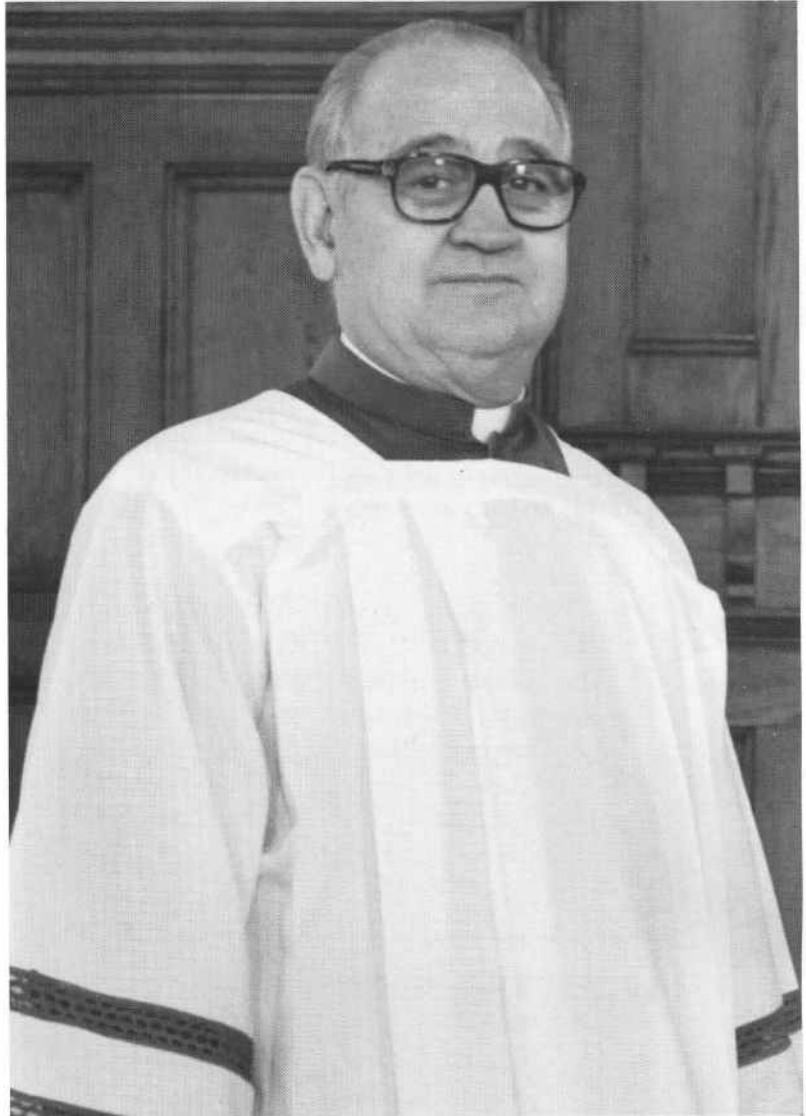
Monsignor Bydlon also contributed much outside the Parish. He was very interested in the life of Philadelphia's Polonia and served for many years as the Chaplain of the Polish American Congress. He continues today as the Chaplain of the Polish Beneficial Association. He was also the Diocesan Director of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland - Liga Katolicka.

In March of 1990, Monsignor suffered a serious setback when he had to undergo bypass surgery. After some time in the hospital, he realized that it would be very difficult for him to resume the strenuous responsibilities of pastor, and so, he thought it best for the Parish, if he were to resign. He also realized that the Parish was also approaching its 100th anniversary, and that would require a great deal of time and effort. Cardinal Bevilacqua remarked later that he had accepted Monsignor's resignation "reluctantly."

Monsignor's resignation was not only a loss for the Parish; it was also a loss for Philadelphia's Polonia. He was Chaplain of the Polish American Congress and active in all its events. He was the Diocesan Moderator for The Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland - LIGA KATOLICKA. And he was Chaplain of the Polish Beneficial Association, a position, however, that he still holds today.

Since his discharge from the hospital, Monsignor has been officially a resident of Villa St. Joseph; however, he does help at several Parishes when the need arises. He also has more time to spend with his family.

At the 100th anniversary banquet, Monsignor was honored with a beautiful plaque as a sign of gratitude from the parishioners he served so well.



did you know?

The Parish of Our Lady of Calvary is an outgrowth of a mission church named St. Michael which was taken care of by the Priests of St. John Cantius. Evidently there were many Polish people living in the North-East, and, to make it more convenient for them, the Priest would celebrate Mass there on Sundays. The interesting fact about this is that the Mission was established in 1922. In 1956 it was renamed Our Lady of Calvary Mission, and then on February 25, 1958, it was officially named a Parish.

The notice in The Catholic Standard and Times of February 21, 1958, read as follows: "The new canonical Parish is a further development of the mission church known since 1956 as Our Lady of Calvary, founded originally as St. Michael's Mission in 1922, and attended by the Priests of St. John Cantius Parish in Bridesburg."



June 9, 1990 – Fr. Bernard Witkowski signing the Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity at his installation as Pastor by Msgr. Edward P. Cullen, on left, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, witnessed by Fr. Bernard's nephew, John McCole, a seminarian at St. Charles Seminary.

OUR SEVENTH PASTOR

REV. MSGR. BERNARD E. WITKOWSKI

Having accepted the untimely resignation of Msgr. Bydlon, Archbishop Bevilacqua chose Father Bernard E. Witkowski to assume the leadership of St. John Cantius. He had been the Pastor of St. Ladislaus Parish in the Nicetown section of Philadelphia for 12 years. Father Bernard is a Priest-son of St. Adalbert parish, and he was ordained by John Cardinal Krol on May 19, 1962. Since Ordination, Father served as Chaplain at Philadelphia General Hospital, Teacher at Cardinal O'Hara High School, Administrator of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, and Pastor of St. Ladislaus.

Father Bernard came to St. John Cantius with the realization that he had to carry on the good work done by the dedicated Pastors who preceded him. His immediate concern was to carry on the preparations for the 100th anniversary begun by Msgr. Bydlon.

Confirmation, November 5, 1990.

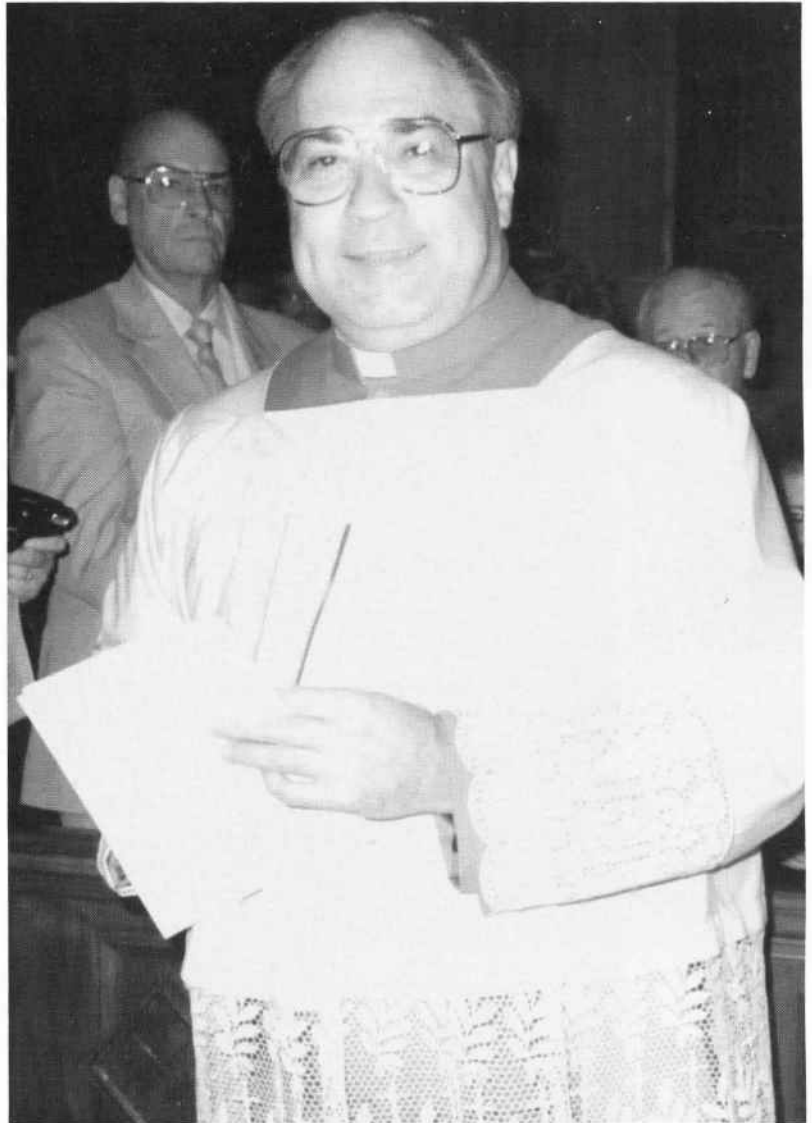


Father Bernard was installed as Pastor on Saturday, June 9, 1990, by Msgr. Edward P. Cullen, Vicar General of the Archdiocese and a close friend of Father Bernard. He immediately began planning for the painting of the church which was part of the preliminary plans for the 100th anniversary. Father Bernard contracted Mr. Emmanuel Utti, an excellent artist from the Philadelphia area, and he agreed on January 2, 1991, to do the work. It was also at this time that all the lights were removed and taken to be cleaned and polished. Since the old sound system had the speakers in the lights, it was decided to remove them and install a new sound system for the church.

On Friday, August 2, 1991, Father Bernard received a call from Cardinal Bevilacqua informing him that the Holy Father had honored him by naming him an Honorary Prelate to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, with the title of Monsignor. The actual ceremony of conferral took place at the Cathedral on September 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. The following week a banquet was held in the Parish hall.

Father Bernard is also very involved in the activities of the Polish American community, and along with his Parish duties, he finds time to be Chaplain of the Polish American Congress and the Polish Veterans, Placowka 12. He is also the Vice Chaplain of Unja Polek and the Archdiocesan Director of LIGA KATOLICKA. He believes that the strength of Polonia and the Polish Parishes lies in its faithfulness to its Polish Faith and Heritage.

Father Bernard guided the parish in its 100th anniversary which was celebrated on October 11, 1992. During the course of the year, there were several events that prepared everyone for the final celebration. Now that it is over, Father looks to the beginning of the next 100 years. He has but one goal: That we remain faithful to our dedication to God and our Polish Heritage.



FATHER BERNARD IS NAMED MONSIGNOR

Witold Kalinowski and Violet Rogozinski congratulate Msgr. Bernard on his elevation to Monsignorship. Joseph Slabinski, Master of Ceremonies at the Banquet, looks on with approval.

Msgr. Bernard being congratulated by Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua on his elevation to the Monsignorship, September 15, 1991.



Monsignor, cutting the cake at the Banquet, flanked by his brother, Casimir, and his sister, Antoinette, and his nephew, Anthony Azzolina.



Father Bernard's sister, Mrs. Antoinette "Sis" McCole addressing the crowd at his Monsignorship Banquet.

Return
Salt ar



Returning from the Monsignorship Ceremony at the Cathedral, Monsignor Bernard is greeted in traditional Polish style with Bread, Salt and Wine by Janina Porebska.

1982-1992

Dec. 1982	Renovation Plans for Chapel began.	Nov. 5, 1984	Special Mass offered for slain Fr. Jerzy Popieluszko. Principle Celebrant was John Cardinal Krol.
Feb. 1983	Death of Rev. Edward Hoffman, Pastor of St. Mary's Church in Conshohocken and a priest son of the parish.	Nov. 11, 1984	Picture of Last Supper installed in Chapel Altar.
March 1983	Two memorial plaques were placed in vestibule of the Church to honor two former pastors: Fr. Grynia and Msgr. Lawniczak.	Nov. 1984	Repairs begun on stained glass windows in church costing \$21,000.00
March 1983	Death of Rev. Stanislaus Skowronski, pastor of St. Agnes Church, Sellersville and priest son of the parish.	Nov. 1985	Middle window in front of church replaced now depicting three saints: St. John Neumann, St. Stanislaw Kostka, and St. Maximillian Kolbe.
May 22, 1983	Fr. Aquinas Helwig celebrates 25 Anniversary to the Sacred Priesthood.	Dec. 1985	Church roof repaired around steeples costing \$7800.00
July 30, 1983	Ordination of Fr. Michael Bielecki, a priest son of the parish. The following day, July 31st, he celebrated his first Mass in the church.	Jan. 1986	Fr. Joseph Stec became administrator while Msgr. Bydlon recuperated from an operation.
July 1, 1983	Meeting of Polish priests with guest speaker Cardinal Krol.	Apr. 6, 1986	Complete chapel renovation begun. Name of Our Lady of Czestochowa given to chapel.
Sept. 11, 1983	Installation of Banner commemorating the 600th Anniversary of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Jasna Gora, Poland.	June 1, 1986	Msgr. Bydlon returns from recuperation.
Sept. 1983	Holy Ghost Convent was sold back to the parish by Holy Family Sisters of Nazareth for \$5000.00 which was the sum paid by the sisters to Msgr. Lawniczak in 1950 to accommodate the large number of sisters.	Oct. 1986	Chapel stained glass windows and doors installed.
Apr. 7, 1984	Holy Year Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestockowa in Doylestown.	Nov. 1986	Handicap ramp installed outside the Chapel.
		Dec. 1986	New stations of the Cross placed in chapel.
		Jan. 20, 1987	Chor Ackademicki Organum gave a concert in our Church.
		Jan. 4, 1987	Papal Coat of Arms and Cardinal Krol's Coat of Arms installed in Church.
		May 17, 1987	Fr. Albin Grous celebrates First Mass in our church.
		Oct. 25, 1987	Holy Name Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

- Nov. 8, 1987 Parish celebrates 95th Anniversary with a special Mass.
- Dec. 6, 1987 Holy Family Sodality celebrates 35th Anniversary.
- Feb. 27, 1988 Parish Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine to celebrate Marian year.
- July 28, 1988 Oratorium Choir from Radom, Poland gave concert in church.
- Sept. 6, 1988 Pilgrim Virgin Statue brought to our church.
- Jan. 1989 Installation of new boilers. \$60,000.00 loan taken out from the Archdiocese.
- Feb. 5, 1989 Andrzej Bator gives Marian concert in church.
- Mar. 24, 1989 Andrzej Bator gives Special Lenten Concert in church.
- April 23, 1989 Beatification of Mother Frances Siedliska, Mother Foundress of the Holy Family Sisters of Nazareth.
- June 1989 New roof installed on old school building - cost \$56,000.00
- Oct. 22, 1989 90th Anniversary of Polish Beneficial Association celebrated with a special Mass.
- Oct. 23, 1989 Cardinal Krol celebrates Polish Heritage Month Mass in our church.
- Dec. 10, 1989 Emilia Golaszewski gave concert in church at all the Masses.
- Mar. 29, 1990 Polish Nightingales of Poznan, Poland gave concert in church.
- April 4, 1990 Msgr. Bydlon undergoes heart by-pass operation.

October 1991 - Jennifer Pezanowski was the second place winner of the Pulaski Coloring Contest with Theresa Romanowski, the Honorable Joan Krajewski and Michael Blichasz, President of the Polish American Congress.

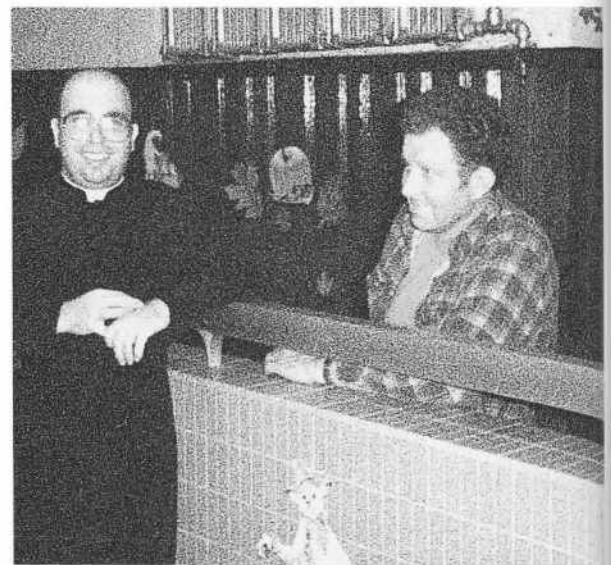
October 1992 Pulaski Coloring Contest Winner Melanie Maslany with Mayor Edward Rendell and Michael Blichasz.



1982-1992

- May 1990** Msgr. Bydlon retires. Fr. Bernard Witkowski, former pastor of St. Ladislaus is assigned pastorship of St. John Cantius Parish.
- June 9, 1990** Installation of Fr. Witkowski as pastor.
- June 24, 1990** Sacred Heart Sodality celebrates 75th Anniversary with Mass and Banquet.
- Oct. 13, 1990** Fr. Joseph Klosinski, former pastor, dies.
- March 11, 1991** Emilia Golaszewska sings at all the Masses.
- June 17, 1991** Work is begun to paint the church, scaffolding is set up.
- June 24, 1991** Painting of church is begun by Mr. Emmanuel Utti and son.
- Aug. 2, 1991** Fr. Witkowski receives word from Cardinal Bevilacqua that he is to be named Monsignor.
- Sept. 1, 1991** Mr. Joseph Mensick, the parish organist, retires and is replaced by Mr. Wojcik Hollender.
- Sept. 1991** Painting of church completed. The lights are taken out to be polished cleaned and rewired.
- Sept. 8, 1991** Solemn Blessing of the image of our Lord of Divine Mercy which marked the beginning of the Arch-diocesan Spiritual Renewal of our parish.
- Sept. 15, 1991** Fr. Witkowski receives the honor of the title Monsignor at the Cathedral.
- Sept. 22, 1991** Mass of Thanksgiving and Banquet in the hall to honor our pastor in his being conferred the title Monsignor.

May Queen 1992 - Monica Maslany.



Father Andy and Vince Collins getting ready for another Parish event.

October 13, 1990 – Bishop Alojzy Orszulik during a visit to Saint John Cantius.



Sept. 29, 1991

Fr. Alfred Smuda, a priest son, celebrated his 25th Anniversary to the Sacred Priesthood with a Mass and banquet in our hall.

Oct. 30, 1991

100th Anniversary Celebration begun with a special Mass. His Excellency, Bishop Abramowicz was the homilist.

Nov. 27, 1991

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service celebrated in our church.

Dec. 1991

Alleluia Prayer Group donates picture of Divine Mercy for the chapel.

Dec. 1991

New paintings installed in church: Our Lord of Divine Mercy, St. Maximillian Koble, and two other paintings depicting the life of St. John Cantius. These paintings were done by Mr. Emmanuel Utti.

Dec 15, 1991

Novena to St. John Cantius begun.

Dec. 18, 1991

The Altar Society was newly formed.

Dec. 23, 1991

Feast of St. John Cantius observed with the closing of the Novena and Procession. Oplatek Dinner in the parish observed as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Jan. 19, 1992

100 Anniversary Committee formed.

Jan. 23, 1992

Feb. 1992

Consecration crosses and Holy Water founts installed in church after being cleaned and polished.

Feb. 1992

Statue of St. John Cantius which stood at the entrance of St. John Kanty Preparatory School in Erie, arrived



Fr. Kowalski visits Saint John Cantius Parish in the Summer of 1992. Lorraine Mach, Janina Porebska, Fr. Aleksy Kowalski of Czestochowa, Poland, Stella Lada and Gloria Zacierka.

1982-1992

Feb. 29, 1992

at our parish. The transportation, cleaning and installation in church was financed by the Alumni of this school.

March 8, 1992

Parish Chicken Dinner, as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, held.

March 15, 1992

Special Family Mass offered.

Special Prayer Room was installed which was once the Usher's Room. The Prayer Room is dedicated to our Lady of Sorrows and contains the statue of our Blessed Mother holding Her Son after being taken down from the Cross.

Two new statues were placed in the alcoves in the back of church; one depicting the adolescent Jesus preaching in the temple and the other of St. John the Baptist. All three statues were purchased from the Archdiocese as a result of Cor-

March, 1992

pus Christi Church closing. The marble Baptismal Fount which once stood neglected in the Usher's Room was moved inside the church to be used for Baptisms.

March 25, 1992

St. John Kanty Statue is cleaned and repaired and moved into church.

April 5, 1992

Special Parish Meeting to discuss finances held in auditorium.

April 25, 1992

Parish Mission begun. Bishop Zygmunt Kaminski of Plock, Poland directed the Mission in Polish, Fr. Charles Sangermano, of Our Lady of Consolation, director the Mission in English.

Parish Jajko Dinner, as part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration, held in the parish hall.



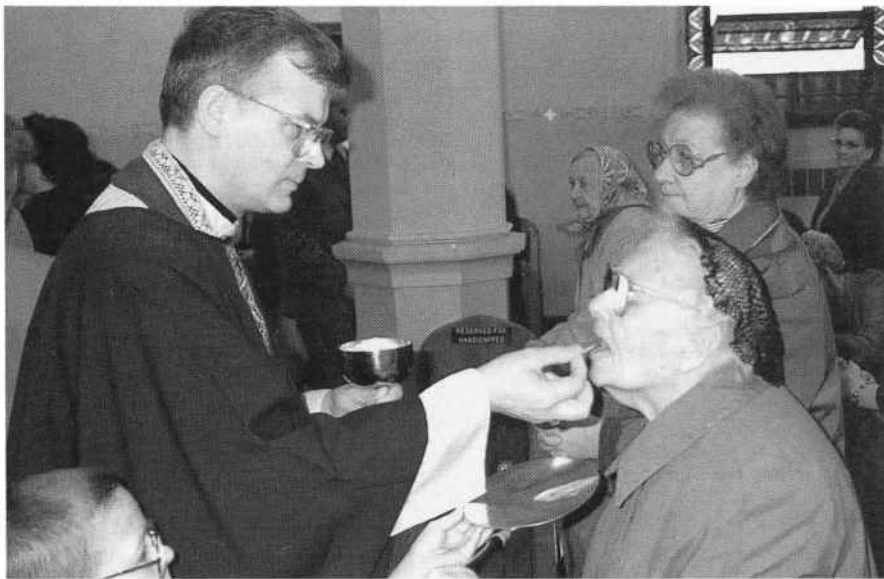
Father Aquinas Helwig and Father Stanley Matraszek at the Banquet for Msgr. Bernard's Monsignorship celebration, September 21, 1991.

- May 18, 1992 Confirmation held. Bishop Martin Lohmueller was celebrant.
- June 26, 1992 Fr. Stanley Matraszek, a priest son, dies.

did you know?

Father Marian Kopytkiewicz was the first Polish Priest of the Archdiocese to be named a Monsignor. He received this honor from Pope Benedict XV on the 24th of April, 1921.

Irene (Hoffman) Walicka was born in St. Joseph's Hall. Her father was the sexton at the time and the family lived there.



Mrs. Helen Konczal and Mrs. Theresa Bartnikowski receiving Holy Communion from Bishop Jozef Michalik of Gorzow, Poland, (October, 1991).

- Sept. 17, 1992 Special Mass and Procession to Msgr. Marian Kopytkiewicz's grave was celebrated to mark the 100th Anniversary of our first pastor's arrival to the Polish immigrants living in Bridesburg.
- Oct. 2, 1992 Special Mass offered to commemorate the first Mass offered by Msgr. Marian Kopytkiewicz for the member of the newly-found parish of St. John Cantius.
- Oct. 11, 1992 Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving offered with Bishop Louis DiSimone as principle celebrant marking the 100th Anniversary of our parish. A banquet followed at Ilona Keller's.

Historja Powstania i Rozwoju Parafji Św. Jana Kantego *Bridesburg i Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa.*

ROZDZIAŁ I.

ZARYS OGÓLNY.



mieście Filadelfji na przestrzeni objętej rzeką Delaware od wschodu, torem kolejowym kolei "Pennsylvania" od zachodu, cmentarzem św. Piotra od południa, a dużymi polami niezamieszkałymi od północy, w roku 1892-gim mieszkało 90 polskich rodzin. W tej miejscowości dla tych Polaków pracy dostarczały następujące fabryki:— fabryka przetworów chemicznych "Charles Lenning and Co.", powroziarnia "Fittler Rope and Cable Co.", fabryka młotków i toporków "F. Plumb Tool Co.", i niedawno zamknięta garbarnia "R. Foederer and Co."

W tym gronie istniała bardzo żywotna grupa Związku Nar. Pol. 176-sta pod wezwaniem Towarzystwa Obrony Narodowej Polski, założona już w grudniu 1891-go roku. Właśnie z tej grupy Związkowej wyszła myśl założenia osobnej parafji polskiej na Bridesburgu i Frankfordzie. Zatem z tej grupy Związkowej zawiązał się Komitet, który miał na celu starać się o założenie własnej parafji. Na czele tego Komitetu stanął pan Stanisław Wiśniewski jako prezes, pan Andrzej Petner jako kasjer, a pan Kazimierz Kędziora jako sekretarz (wszyscy już dzisiaj nie-żyjący). W maju roku 1892-go ten Komitet udał się do śp. ks. Patryka Jana Ryan, podówczas Arcybiskupa Filadelfijskiego, z prośbą o księdza polskiego. Do tej pokornej prośby Najprzewielebniejszy ks. Arcybiskup się przychylił, dziełu temu

pobłogosławił i obiecał przysłać księdza polskiego, ale dopiero wówczas kiedy go mieć będzie. W międzyczasie w domu pana Kaź. Kędziory na Buckius ulicy przy Edgemont odbyło się posiedzenie Polaków. Na tem posiedzeniu jednastu obywateli złożyło 107 dolarów, które były niejako nasieniem tej dzisiaj olbrzymiej parafji.

We wrześniu 1892-go roku ks. Arcybiskup P. J. Ryan nazначzył ks. Marjana Kopytkiewicza jako proboszcza i założyciela tej nowej parafji. Dnia 17-go września tego roku przybył do Bridesburga ks. Marjan Kopytkiewicz. Na całym Bridesburgu i Frankfordzie nie było Hali, gdzieby można odprawić mszę świętą. Dopiero za ofiarnością ks. Ernesta Deham, proboszcza niemieckiej parafji Wszystkich Świętych, otrzymał ks. Proboszcz za miesięcznym czynszem dwa naście i pół dolarów ich stary kościółek z całym urządzeniem dla użytku Polaków na ich nabożeństwa przy ulicach Buckius i Edgemont. Na plebanję został wynajęty dom pod numerem 4630 przy Richmond ulicy. Więc dnia 2-go października tegoż roku z wielką radością ten lud polski wysłuchał na Bridesburgu poraz pierwszy mszę świętą odprawioną przez polskiego kapłana i poraz pierwszy na Bridesburgu usłyszał kazania w języku ojczystym. Biedny był to początek, bo wszystko było pożyczone lub wynajęte, ale była dobra wola obecnych i poświęcenie ogromne, gotowe na wszelką ofiarę.

Teraz rozpoczął się okres pełen gorliwych wysiłków, okres pełen ofiar pracy i pieniędzy na rzecz swego własnego kościoła. Zbierano składki, kolektując od domu do domu co tydzień i już we wrześniu 1893-go roku ks. Proboszcz zakupił gotówką za 2,500 dolarów osiem lot na ulicy Thompson niedaleko ulicy Orthodox pod nowy kościół, szkółkę i plebanję. Zaraz po nabyciu gruntu budowniczy pan F. I. Wintz rozpoczął pracę przy budowie. Już dnia 11-go września tegoż roku ks. Marjan Kopytkiewicz wprowadził się do nowej plebanji. Poświęcenie nowego kościoła dokonał ks. Arcybiskup Patryk J. Ryan w asystencji ks. W. Małuseckiego i ks. Mieczysława Kopytkiewicza, który też wygłosił kazanie. Wiecej parafia św. Jana Kantego wówczas już posiadała nowy kościół, salę szkolną i plebanję ze sześciu pokoi, kosztem 4,050 dolarów. Był to okres pierwszych początków parafji.

Parafia jednakowoż ciągle wzrastała. Ustala emigracja z pod zaboru pruskiego, ale zato rozpoczęła się emigracja najsamprzód z Galicji, a później z pod zaboru ruskiego. Ludzie napływali gromadami w poszukiwaniu za chlebem i pracą. Z drugiej strony, ruch przemysłowy w Stanach Zjednoczonych rozwijał się do rozmiarów gigantycznych. Dlatego okolica Bridesburgu i Frankford poczęła się zaludniać i zapęłniać przeróżnymi fabrykami i interesami.

W roku 1898-ym parafia już liczyła 450 rodzin. Kościół drewniany okazał się za ciasny, sala szkolna za mała, a parafia posiadała w gotówce 7,600 dolarów. Dlatego też na posiedzeniu parafjalnem dnia 5-go stycznia 1898-go roku uchwalono budowę nowego kościoła ceglanego. Zakupiono pięć lotów na ulicy Thompson zaraz przy drewnianym kościółku za 1,750 dolarów i w marcu tegoż roku rozpoczęto budowę nowego kościoła ceglanego z przyległą plebanją. Plany na kościół w bogatym stylu gotyckim, przyozdobiony we dwie wieże, wykonał architekt pan Ludwik H. Giele z Nowego Yorku, a kontraktorem był pan Wilson Milnor z Frankfordu. Budowa kościoła — same mury — kosztowały 30,200 dolarów. Dnia 30-go maja 1898-go roku w drugi dzień Zielonych Świątek ks. Arcybiskup Patryk J. Ryan poświęcił kamień węgielny kościoła w udziale ks. Mieczysława Barabasza i ks. Gabrijela Kraus, który też wygłosił kazanie. Jednakowoż, dopiero dnia 7-go maja 1899-go roku ks. Arcybiskup Ryan dokonał poświęcenia nowego kościoła, a kazanie wygłosił ks. Stanisław Wnek, misjonarz z zakonu Jezuitów.

Po wystawieniu nowego kościoła ks. Proboszcz Kopytkiewicz zajął się urządzeniem tegoż, co znowu wymagało wielkiej ofiarności ze strony parafjan. Prywatne osoby i towarzystwa pośpieszyły z ofiarami na witraże czyli okna kościelne. Dnia 20-go maja 1902-go roku ks.

Prałat J. Loughlin, ówczesny kanclerz djecezjalny, dokonał poświęcenia trzech dzwonów:— wielkiego imieniem Jana Kantego, średniego imieniem Marjana i małego imieniem Józefa. Przy tej okoliczności kazanie wygłosił ks. Zygmunt Rvdlewski ze Zgromadzenia Ducha św. W styczniu 1903-go roku z Tyrolu Austriackiego przybyły trzy ołtarze i czternaście stacyj, które kosztowały 4,600 dolarów. Dnia 25-go listopada 1906-go roku ks. Prałat J. P. Turner poświęcił nowy potężny organ wyrobu Estey, który był zakupiony za sumę 3,150 dolarów. W marcu 1907-go roku z pracowni Seipa w Krakowie przybyła szczerosrebrna Monstrancja w stylu gotyckim za sumę 500 dolarów. Chociaż wzięło osiem lat, jednakowoż kościół został bogato urządzony i zaopatrzone we wszystko obficie, co do służby Bożej jest potrzebne. To tylko wykazuje, że lud zgromadzony przy parafji umiłował ten Dom Boży.

Na pokrycie kosztów budowy i urządzenia kościoła i plebanji ks. Proboszcz był zmuszony zaciągnąć w roku 1899-ym pożyczkę w sumie 23,000 dolarów. Dług ten ks. Proboszcz zaczął spłacać dopiero w roku 1903-ciem, a już dnia 11-go stycznia 1907-go roku ostatnia rata została spłacona. Jeszcze jeden dowód ofiarności ludu przy tej parafji!

Rok 1905-ty i 1906-ty przyniósł nową bołączkę dla parafji. Powstała bowiem nagła potrzeba nowej i większej szkoły, a co zatem idzie pomieszczenia odpowiedniego dla Wielebnych Sióstr. Aby zaradzić temu przepełnieniu szkółki w starym drewnianym kościółku, postanowiono wybudować nową szkołę i nową plebanję, plebanję zaś przy kościele na ul. Thompson obrócić na dom Sióstr. W tym celu w roku 1907-ym zakupiono za sumę 4,550 dolarów przy ulicy Almond 13 lotów, sąsiadujących z dotychczasowymi gruntami parafjalnemi, tak że własność parafjalna rozciągała się od ulicy Thompson do ulicy Almond. Obydwa budynki projektował pan Ludwik H. Giele z Nowego Yorku. Budowniczym został sam ks. Proboszcz, aby w ten sposób zaoszczędzić parafji to, co miał zarobić kontraktor. Tak ks. Proboszcz zaoszczędził parafji przy tej budowie przynajmniej 15 tysięcy dolarów. Budowę obydwóch budynków rozpoczęto w czerwcu 1907-go roku. Dnia 16-go czerwca 1908-go roku ks. Prałat J. P. Turner, kanclerz djecezjalny, dokonał poświęcenia kamienia węgielnego szkoły, a 13-go września tegoż roku ks. Biskup Edmond F. Prendergast dokonał poświęcenia budynku szkolnego. Zatem ks. Proboszcz wybudował gmach szkolny z granitu Pennsylvanickiego o dwóch piętrach i 15-stu salach szkolnych i dogodną plebanję kosztem tylko 70 tysięcy dolarów. Tak z wielkiem poświęceniem zdrowia i swoich talentów ks. Marjan Kopytkiewicz zdo-

łał parafję niskim kosztem wzbogacić dwoma budynkami tak wspinałemi.

W roku 1917-tym nadeszła 25-ta letnia rocznica istnienia parafji. Wiele łask i dobrodziejstw spłynęło na parafję w tych latach. Dlatego ks. Proboszcz, aby złożyć przez ten Srebrny Jubileusz nowy dar na chwałę Bożą, wezwał parafjan do składek w roku 1916-tym na pomalowanie kościoła i na poczynienie potrzebnych zmian dla podniesienia jego piękności i, cytując słowa z Pamiętnika na Srebrny Jubileusz samego ks. Proboszcza, "parafja stanęła jak jeden człowiek i w nie-całym roku miałem już złożoną potrzebną sumę". Ks. Proboszcz tedy zaangażował artystę pana Mino Squillace, który przeprowadził malowanie kościoła według planów ks. Proboszcza. Ściany kościoła zostały pomalowane w kolorze bladzielonym. Sklepienie głównej nawy i prezbiterjum zostało powiązane w jedno przez umieszczenie obrazów Litanji Loretańskiej do Matki Bożej, punktem kulminacyjnym będąc Krzyż, podtrzymywany przez Aniołów jako znak zwycięstwa w środkowej paneli sklepienia w prezbiterjum. Aby wprowadzić więcej światła białego do kościoła, w dziesięciu oknach ścian podłużnych kościoła zostało zmienione tło witraży z koloru ciemnoniebieskiego na bursztynowy, a w prezbiterjum zostały wybite dwa okna i wstawione dwa witraże. Wszystkie trzy Ołtarze zostały przemalowane na kolor kości słoniowej, a w nawie głównej została dodana ambona, wykonana w tym samym kolorze, co Ołtarze, według wzorów starogotyckich, dar Bractwa Różańca świętego. W prezbiterjum na bocznych ścianach zostały umieszczone dwa ogromne obrazy z życia Najśw. Marji Panny, mianowicie, Zwiastowanie i Boże Narodzenie. Prezbiterjum zostało przedłużone, przez co nawy straciły po trzy ławki. Nowe balaski zostały wstawione, dar dzieci szkolnych. Nowa posadzka z dębowego drzewa została położona w prezbiterjum, w kościele i w kruście. Cała zaś świątynia została upiększona światłem z nowych elektrycznych kandelabrow. Zatem ks. Proboszcz nie szczędził żadnych trudów i kosztów, aby jak najokazalej świątynia Pańska była urządzona na tak ważną chwilę w życiu parafji, jaką jest Srebrny Jubileusz. To też te przygotowania kosztowały około 20 tysięcy dolarów i zabrały wiele czasu, bo ta praca trwała od początku kwietnia do końca listopada.

Dnia 29-go listopada 1917-go roku w dzień Dziękczynienia odbyła się ta tak długo oczekiwana i radosna uroczystość i to uroczystość podwójna:— 25-cio lecie założenia parafji i 25-cio lecie pasterzowania ks. Proboszcza Marjana Kopytkiewicza. Uroczystości jubileuszowe rozpoczęły się już dzień przedtem przyjęciem Delegata Apostolskiego, przedstawiciela Ojca św. we Wa-

szingtonie, ks. Arcybiskupa Jana Bonzano. Został On przywitany przez wszystkie towarzystwa w parafji w odznakach i w mundurach, przez dzieci szkolne w polskich strojach i przez Komitet i Marszałków parafjalnych. Tegoż wieczora po kolacji ks. Delegat wraz z księżmi obecnymi udał się na halę parafjalną, gdzie byli zebrani parafjanie, i tutaj dzieci szkolne uczciły ks. Delegata popisem.

W sam Dzień Dziękczynienia uroczystości jubileuszowe rozpoczęły się mszą świętą o godzinie ósmej dla dzieci szkolnych, którą odprawił ks. Delegat Jan Bonzano przy śpiewie dziatwy szkolnej. Dla parafjan odbyła się Suma Dziękczynna o godzinie wpół do jedynastej, którą odprawił ks. Prałat Piotr Masson, wielki przyjaciel Polaków, w obecności ks. Delegata-Arcybiskupa. Ks. Jan Dabrowski, proboszcz parafji św. Kazimierza w Shenandoah, służył jako Diakon, ks. Stanisław Sobieniowski, proboszcz z Wilkes-Barre jako Sub-djakon i ks. Djonizy A. Corbett, profesor Liturgiki w Seminarjum Duchownem św. Karola w Overbrook, jako Mistrz Ceremonij. Na tej mszy świętej byli obecni:— ks. Biskup-Sufragan Jan J. McCort; ks. Prałat H. T. Drumgoole, rektor Seminarjum duchownego św. Karola; ks. Prałat J. Górzyński; ks. Prałat J. Strzelecki; ks. Dekowski, kapelan wojsk polskich w Niagara-on-the-Lake i wielu innych miejscowych i pozamiejscowych księży. Chór miejscowy z panem Piotrem Wizłą na czele pod batutą pana organisty Wiktora Gutkowskiego wykonał przepiękną Mszę, a kazanie wygłosił ks. Gabriel Kraus, proboszcz parafji św. Wawrzyńca. Po tej uroczystej Sumie ks. Prałat J. Górzyński odczytał i wyjaśnił dekret błogosławieństwa papieskiego, przysłany na ten dzień ks. Jubilatowi-Proboszczowi i jego parafji z Rzymu, a ks. Delegat udzielił tegoż błogosławieństwa wszystkim obecnym. Te uroczystości jubileuszowe zakończyły się uroczystymi Nieszporami, które odprawił ks. Prałat J. Górzyński przy udziale ks. J. Zielińskiego jako Djakona i ks. Sebastjana Jerzaka jako Sub-djakona, a kazanie wygłosił ks. Stanisław Sobieniowski.

Następny ważniejszy wypadek w życiu parafji przypada na rok 1919-ty. Ks. Proboszcz widział jak parafja się rozszerzała i, chociaż emigracja z Polski ustała z powodu wojny, to naturalny rozrost parafji był ogromny. Szkoła była zapełniona i personel Wielebnych Sióstr musiał być powiększony do szesnastu nauczycielek. Dlatego na mieszkanie dla Wielebnych Sióstr Nazaretanek został nabyty wielki dom podwójny od Doktora Władysława Wiza za 11 tysięcy dolarów. Aby zaś być przygotowanym na przyszłość w razie potrzebna byłaby rozbudowa szkoły, nabyte zostały trzy loty na ulicy Almond, przylegające własność parafjalną, za 1,500 dola-

rów. W tym samym celu zakupione były przy-
ległe trzy loty na ulicy Almond w lipcu roku
1922-go za 2,400 dolarów.

W roku 1921 -szym wielki zaszczyt spotkał
ks. Proboszcza, a w jego osobie całą parafję.
Dnia 17-go marca 1921-go roku Papież Benedykt
XV odznaczył ks. Arcybiskupa Djonizego D.
Dougherty, nadając mu godność Kardynała.
Papież zarazem odznaczył szesnastu kapłanów
z archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej, a pomiędzy nimi
ks. Marjana A. Kopytkiewicza, nadając im god-
ność Prałata. Dnia 24-go kwietnia tego roku ks.
Prażat Piotr Masson na Sumie uroczystie przy-
odział ks. Proboszcza w szaty Prałackie. Ks. Pro-
boszcz za swoją pracę i swoje poświęcenie otrzy-
mał to odznaczenie — pierwszy polski Prałat i
jedyne w archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej.

Przy końcu roku szkolnego 1921 — 1922 w
szkole parafjalnej znajdowało się 1,350 dzieci.
Wszystkie klasy były zajęte i nawet dwie klasy
były umieszczone w starym kościółku, a dzieci
z pierwszych dwóch stopni uczęszczały tylko
półdnia do szkoły. Więc ks. Prałat powziął
kroki aby temu przepelnieniu szkoły parafjalnej
zaradzić. Po trzykrotnem ogłoszeniu w kościele,
jak to wymagało prawo stanu Pennsylvanji, zo-
stało zwołane posiedzenie parafjalne do Audyto-
rjum pod szkołą na 22-go kwietnia 1923-go roku.
Ks. Prałat otworzył posiedzenie i przedstawił
plany na nową szkołę parafjalną z granitu Penn-
sylwańskiego z dwoma piętrami, na których mia-
ło być 16-cie pokoi na klasy, jako też na obszerne
Audytorjum, które w swej budowie będzie po-
dobne do Kaplicy ze swemi trzema nawami, a
to, aby w przyszłości mogło posłużyć jako Kapli-
ca dla dzieci szkolnych. Ogół zgodził się na
przedstawiony projekt, bo wszyscy odczuwali, że
dzieciom szkolnym dzieje się wielka krzywda z
powodu przepelnienia, a każdy ojciec i każda
matka życzyli sobie umieścić swoje dziecko w
polskiej, katolickiej szkole parafjalnej. Zatem
przystąpiono do wyboru Komiteu Budowy Szkoły
i Audytorjum. Następujący Komitet został wy-
brany:— pan Kazimierz Ratke prezes, Dr. Sta-
niław Petner wice-prezes, pan Kazimierz Przy-
byłowski, sekretarz; Jakób Wojnar marszałek.
Budowa została oddana w ręce firmy budowniczej
W. L. and G. H. O'Shea.

W niedzielę dnia 6-go maja 1923-go roku po
nieszporach Ks. Prałat, w otoczeniu księży miej-
scowych i ks. Proboszcza Gabrijela Kraus, pierw-
szy złamał grunt pod nową szkołę i Audytorjum.
Każdy zaś z parafjan otrzymał zaproszenie na
tę ceremonję łamania gruntu. To też przy tej
okazji parafjanie złożyli przeszło 1,200 dolarów.

Dnia 7-go maja tegoż roku odbyło się drugie
posiedzenie parafjalne względem tej budowy no-
wej szkoły i Audytorjum. Ogół parafjan na tem
posiedzeniu zgodził się na prośbę ks. Prałata i

dał pozwolenie ks. Kardynałowi D. Dougherty
zaciągnąć pożyczkę na tę budowę. Parafjanie
zaś postanowili siebie opodatkować, 25 centów
od rodziny na tydzień, aby tę pożyczkę jak naj-
prędzej spłacić.

Teraz praca przy budowie poczęła postępo-
wać szybko naprzód, tak że już w niedzielę dnia
22-go lipca tegoż roku ks. Biskup-Sufragani Mi-
chał J. Crane przy udziale księży ze sąsiednich
parafji położył kamień węgielny pod te nowe
budynki. Ks. Dr. Piotr Klekotka był diakonem,
ks. Józef Niemiec sub-diakonem, ks. Dr. Wła-
dysław Grynia mistrzem ceremonji, a kazanie
w języku polskim wygłosił ks. Jakób Płoszaj,
proboszcz parafji św. Jadwigi w Chester, Pa.

Dopiero dnia 25-go maja 1924-go roku nas-
tąpiła dedykacja nowych budynków. Poświęce-
nia nowej szkoły i audytorjum dokonał Jego
Eminencja, ks. Djonizy J. Kardynał Dougherty,
w asyście ks. Józefa Kuczyńskiego jako diakona,
ks. Józefa Gaździka jako sub-diakona, ks. M.
Maciejewskiego jako mistrza ceremonij, a ks.
Mieczysław Monkiewicz, proboszcz parafji św.
Wojciecha, wygłosił poniosłe kazanie.

I znowu parafja nabyła coś wspaniałego
i parafja też wykazała, że dzieci rodziców kato-
lickich i polskich mają prawo od Boga do wyksz-
tałenia katolickiego, polskiego. I, jak powied-
ział Jego Eminencja ks. Kardynał D. Dougherty
przy Dedykacji, stanął jeszcze jeden pomnik
przywiązania Polaków do wiary katolickiej.
Koszt budowy nowej szkoły i Audytorjum ze
wszelkimi urządzeniami wynosił 230 tysięcy do-
larów.

Po czterdziestu latach wytężonej pracy na
niwie kapłańskiej w parafji św. Jana Kantego,
śmierć nieubłagana zabrała ks. Prałata z grona
naszego dnia 3-go marca 1932-go roku. Przeżył
on lat 69, spędzając większą część swego żywota
wśród swoich, chociaż na obczyźnie. Pozostawił
po sobie pomnik, którego czas zatrzeć nie może.
Albowiem wartość parafjalna przy jego zgonie
wynosiła trzy - czwarte miliona dolarów, podczas
gdy dług parafjalny pozostał tylko i to w części
na nowej szkole i Audytorjum. Parafja, chociaż
wielka, jest nawet do dziś dnia znana ze swej
pobożności i stateczności. Osiedle Bridesburg i
Frankford jest znane ze swej trzeźwości i roz-
tropności. Lud jest oszczędny i pracowity. A to
wszystko dzięki pracy duszpasterskiej śp. ks.
Prażata przez 40-ci lat swego pasterzowania!

Pogrzeb za duszę śp. ks. Prałata odbył się
we wtorek dnia 8-go marca. Ekspozycja zwłok
do kościoła odbyła się w poniedziałek po połu-
dniu, której ks. Gabrijel Kraus przewodniczył.
Przy katafalku po nieszporach i przez całą noc
straż pełnili członkowie towarzystwa Młodzieży
św. Jana Kantego. We wtorek rano o godzinie
ósmej ks. Józef Skibiński, C. S. Sp., wychowanek

ks. Prałata, odprawił mszę św. za duszę śp. ks. Prałata dla dzieci szkolnych. O godzinie wpół do dziesiątej orszak pogrzebowy z Jego Eminencją, ks. Djonizem Kardynałem Dougherty na czele wyruszył do kościoła. W kościele najprzód księży licznie zgromadzeni odśpiewali Wigilię. Mszę świętą za spokój duszy zmarłego celebrował ks. Józef Kuczyński, ks. Sebastian Jerzak był diakonem, ks. Władysław Dąbrowski sup-diakonem, ks. Jan S. Pytko mistrzem ceremonij, ks. Stanisław Śliwiński turyferarjuszem, ks. Stanisław Polityka i ks. Józef Skibiński akolitami. Na tronie po stronie Ewangelji zasiadł Jego Eminencja ks. Kardynał, a jego kapelanami byli:— ks. Prałat Jan A. Górzynski z Pittsburgha i ks. Prałat Andrzej Żychowicz ze Scrantonu. Po stronie Epistoły zasiadł ks. Biskup-Sufragan Gerald O'Hara, a kapelanami jego byli:— ks. Prałat Józef C. Dworzak z Yonkers i ks. Prałat Ignacy Szudrowicz z Jersey City. Jego Eminencja ks. Kardynał odprawił Absolucję nad zwłokami. Orszak zaś pogrzebowy z kościoła na cmentarz Odkupiciela Świata poprowadził ks. Mieczysław Monkiewicz, a księży wszyscy odśpiewali na cmentarzu "Salve Regina". Trumnę nieśli następujący:— Mecenase Feliks Piekarski, pan Mieczysław Dombrowski, pan Wincenty Rojewski, Dr. Stanisław Petner, pan Kazimierz Przybyłowski, pan Kazimierz Ratke, pan Józef Domański Jr. i pan Franciszek Jańczak. Na pogrzebie było obecnych przeszło sto księży ze stanów Pensylwanii, New York, New Jersey i Delaware.

Parafia św. Jana Kantego niedługo była osierocona, bo już dnia 17-go marca Jego Eminencja ks. D. J. Kardynał Dougherty naznaczył na to stanowisko Proboszcza długoletniego asystenta w tej parafii, ks. Władysława A. Grynię. Ks. Władysław A. Grynia urodził się w dzielnicy Richmond we Filadelfji. Został wyświęcony na kapłana dnia 17-go maja 1913-go roku. Swoją pierwszą Solenną Mszę Świętą odprawił w kościele św. Wawrzyńca. Naznaczony został zaraz do parafii św. Jana Kantego jako asystent i pozostał na tem stanowisku przez 19-cie lat aż do śmierci śp. ks. Prałata. Ks. Grynia objął ster parafii po śmierci śp. ks. Prałata i zostaje na tem stanowisku jako Proboszcz już lat dziesięć. Więc 29 lat ks. W. Grynia służy parafii św. Jana Kantego.

Po objęciu stanowiska Proboszcza parafii, ks. Władysław Grynia starał się poprowadzić dalej pracę wydatną po śp. księdzu Prałacie. Na parafii ciążyła jeszcze hipoteka na nowej szkole i Audytorjum. Więc ks. W. Grynia, idąc w ślady śp. ks. Prałata, starał się z dochodów utrzymać parafię i co rok pewną sumę spłacić z hipoteki, co za współ-pracą parafjan zdołał uczynić, nawet w tych latach kiedy w kraju całym panowała depresja. To też przy sprawozdaniu rocznem w

styczniu 1942-go roku mógł ks. W. Grynia ogłosić parafjanom, że hipoteka została zupełnie spłacona, żaden dług nie ciąży na budynkach parafjalnych, a hipoteka będzie oficjalnie spalona na bankiecie Złotego Jubileuszu.

Parafia jako taka przybierała na wieku, a więc budynki parafjalne poczęły wymagać reperacji i odnowienia. Więc na wewnątrz i zewnątrz były odnowione obydwie domy Sióstr, obydwie szkoły, dom Kościelnego i plebanja. Audytorjum została odrestaurowana i Kościół na zewnątrz został oczyszczony i podreperowany. To też wszelkie reperacje i odnowienia za gospodarstwa ks. Władysława A. Gryni przez ostatnie dziesięć lat kosztowały około 40 tysięcy dolarów.

Jakie zmiany zaszły przez ostatnie dziesięć lat pracy ks. Władysława A. Gryni? Aby umożliwić każdemu z parafjan wysłuchać mszę świętą, siedem mszy świętych zostało zaprowadzonych w każdą niedzielę. W szkole rozmaite ofiary dzieci szkolnych zostały zupełnie zniesione, książki szkolne za małym rentem są wypożyczane dzieciom, przedszkole, czyli tak zwane "kindergarten" zostało zaprowadzone. Parafjalne, czyli opłata miesięczna na parafię, zostało podniesione ze sześciu dolarów na dwanaście, a opłata na spłacenie długów została zniesiona. Dla dzieci ze szkół publicznych została wprowadzona nauka religijna po szkole przez cały rok i szkoła wakacyjna, a dla dzieci ze szkół wyższych została wprowadzona godzina religijna jeden raz na tydzień. W tym czasie też powstało towarzystwo Ministrantów św. Alojzego, towarzystwo Najśw. Imienia Jezus, które liczy dzisiaj 850 członków, i Sub-Komitet Ratunkowy na pomoc ofiarom wojny w Polsce. Zmiany więc zaszły wielkie w życiu parafji, ale wszystkie są obliczone ku dobru ogólnemu parafjan.

Pozostaje więc tylko odnowienie na wewnątrz Świątyni Pańskiej, co ks. Władysław A. Grynia pozostawił na rok Jubileuszowy 1942, jako też uroczysty obchód Złotego Jubileuszu. Praca nad odnowieniem wewnętrznym Kościoła rozpoczęła się dnia 20-go kwietnia i obecnie jest w toku. Uroczysty obchód Złotego Jubileuszu ma się odbyć w Dzień Dziękczynienia dnia 26-go listopada 1942-go roku.

HISTORJA PARAFII (Ciąg-Dalszy) 1942 - 1982



roczystą Msze Świętą Jubileuszową odprawił wychowanek parafii Sw. Jana Kantego, Ks. Stanisław Garstka, dnia 26go listopada, 1942 w obecności Ks. Biskupa Hugh Lamb, D.D., Sufragana

Archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej. Bankiet Jubileuszowy odbył się na Sali Four Chefs po Mszy Świętej.

Po długiej i owocnej służbie duszpasterskiej w parafii Sw. Jana Kantego przez 33 lata, jako Asystent i jako Proboszcz, Ks. Grynia pożegnał się z tym światem 14go czerwca, 1946 roku. Zwłoki pochowane są na Cmentarzu Sw. Odkupiciela, w dzielnicy Bridesburg.

Władza Kościelna na miejsce Ks. Gryni, mianowała Ks. Kazimierza Ławniczak. Ks. Ławniczak objął probostwo parafii w listopadzie, 1946 roku. Nie długo po objęciu parafii, Ks. Ławniczak, w roku 1949, wyniesiony był do godności Prałata przez Ojca Sw. W roku 1952, Kościół Parafialny był konsekrowany przez Biskupa Sufragana Archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej, Biskupa Carroll J. McCormick, D.D. Jest to wielki zaszczyt dla parafii i jedyny polski kościół w naszej Archidiecezji który cieszy się tą godnością.

W czasie probostwa w parafii, Sw. Jana Kantego, Ks. Prałat Ławniczak idąc w ślady swych poprzedników, starał się nadal upiększać i poprawiać stosunki parafialne. W tym okresie historii parafii, w części szkoły która nie była dokończona od początku budowy nowej szkoły w roku 1923, zamieszczony był klasztor dla sióstr. W roku 1953, stary budynek kościelny, który w tych latach był używany jako Klub Młodzieży, przerobiony był na Kaplicę, która używana jest na nabożeństwa, szczególnie w niedziele. W roku 1957 remont na plebanii, dodał nowe mieszkania dla księży jakoteż pomieszczenia na biura parafialne.

W lipcu 1964, Ks. Prałat Ławniczak zmarł po długiej chorobie. Pogrzeb odprawił Ks. Kardynał Król, w obecności Biskupów, wielu Księży, i parafian. Zwłoki pochowane są na Cmentarzu Sw. Odkupiciela.

Na następcę Ks. Prałata Ławniczak, przeznaczony był Ks. Józef Kłosinski. Ks. Kłosinski, objął probostwo parafii Sw. Jana Kantego dnia 12go sierpnia, 1964. Ks. Kłosinski, uważając że budynki parafialne były w użyciu przez wiele lat, podjął prace remontu z tą samą gorliwością i poświęceniem które charakteryzowały jego poprzedników.

Za trzy lata po objęciu probostwa, parafia obchodzić miała Diamantowy Jubileusz założenia parafii. Potrzebne były pewne przygotowania. Kościół był odmalowany, jakoteż całe sanktuarium było przerobione zgodnie z wskazówkami liturgicznymi Soboru Watykańskiego Drugiego. W budynku szkolnym, kafeteria była odnowiona z nowoczesnymi urządzeniami. W tym okresie, kaplica była także odnowiona z

dodaniem nowych konfesjonatów.

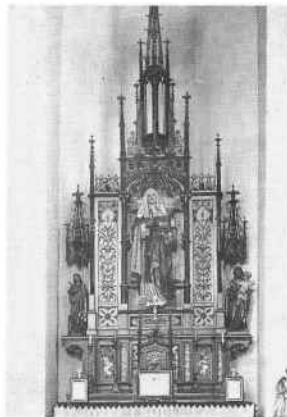
W roku 1967, parafia Sw. Jana Kantego obchodziła Jubileusz Diamantowy, 75 lat założenia. Dnia 17go września, w kościele odprawił Mszę Świętą Dziękczynną, Jego Ekselencja Ks. Biskup Carroll J. McCormick, D.D. Biskup Sufragan Archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej. W koncelebrze brali udział Ks. Proboszcz Kłosinski, Ks. Prałat Franciszek Pałeczki, Ks. Jan Smigielski i Ks. Stanisław Skowronski. Kazanie wygłosił Ks. Infułat Piotr Klekotka, J.C.D. Mistrzem Ceremoni był Ks. Józef Gallagher w Asyscie był Ks. Edward Baraniak. Bankiet Jubileuszowy odbył się na Sali Four Chefs o 6:30 po południu.

W roku 1971 Ksiądz Proboszcz Kłosinski, mając lat 75, przeszedł na Emeryturę. Obecnie Ks. Kłosinski, licząc lat 85, zamieszkuje w Florydzie.

W następstwie Ks. Kłosinskiego, w sierpniu, 1971, Ks. Kardynał Król назначił Ks. Józefa R. Honorowskiego. Ks. Honorowski, dobrze już znany w parafii Sw. Jana Kantego ponieważ służył w parafii jako Asystent w latach 1959-1961, rozpoczyna swą pracę duszpasterską z tą samą gorliwością i poświęceniem podobnym do swych poprzedników. W roku 1973, wprawione były nowe drzwi przy wejściu do kościoła wewnątrz i na zewnątrz. W grudniu 1973, Ks. Honorowski mianowany był Prałatem przez Ojca Świętego Pawła VI. Mszę Świętą dziękczynną odprawił Ks. Prałat dnia 14go stycznia 1974 w kościele. Bankiet ku czci nowego Prałata odbył się na Sali Four Chefs po Mszy Świętej. W roku 1974, dalsze odnowienie budynków parafialnych nastąpiło z dodaniem wentylacji do kościoła kosztem \$44,000.00.

W roku 1976, Parafia Sw. Jana Kantego brała udział w Międzynarodowym Kongresie Eucharystycznym, który odbył się w Filadelfii w dniach 1go-8go sierpnia. Połączona z Kongresem była odprawiona Msza Święta Polska w Stadionie Weteran-

Two of our older side altars paid homage to the Sacred Heart and St. Hedwig.



ów. Ks. Prałat Honorowski był Współ-Przewodniczącym Komitetu Polskiego na Kongres Eucharystyczny razem z Księdzem Prałatem Jaworowskim, Proboszczem Parafii Sw. Wojciecha. Na Kongres Eucharystyczny, przyjechało 19 Biskupów z Polski i brali udział w Kongresie i w Polskiej Mszy Świętej. Między Biskupami, którzy przyjechali na Kongres z Polski był Ks. Kardynał Wojtyła, który dwa lata później był wybrany Ojcem Świętem.

Dnia 22go kwietnia 1979 roku, po długiej chorobie, zmarł Ks. Prałat Honorowski. Ks. Kardynał Król odprawił pogrzeb w obecności Biskupów, wielu Księżów i parafian. Ks. Prałat Honorowski pochowany jest na Cmentarzu Sw. Odkupiciela.

Następca Ks. Prałata Honorowskiego, Ks. Adam Bydłoń objął stanowisko proboszcza parafii Sw. Jan Kantego, dnia 4go czerwca 1979. W październiku Parafia Sw. Jana Kantego, podobnie jak całe Stany Zjednoczone, przeżywała szczególne chwile gdyż w tych dniach odwiedził Stany Zjednoczone Ojciec Święty, Jan Paweł II. Odwiedzenie Ojca Świętego w Filadelfii w dniach 3go i 4go października, pozostanie w pamięci wszystkich przez długie lata. Były to dni pamiętne jako też i historyczne dla wiernych nie tylko w Archidiecezji Filadelfijskiej, ale i dla wiernych w całym kraju. Była to chwila pamiętna dla naszej parafii, bowiem wielu parafian brało udział w przywitaniu Ojca Świętego na lotnisku, były także obecne dzieci z naszej szkoły parafialnej, orkiestra dzieci szkolnych w mundurach miała wyznaczone miejsce na przywitanie Ojca Sw. przy moście nowym Girard Point Bridge i sporo z naszych marszałków parafialnych brało udział jako marszałkowie na Mszy Świętej w centrum miasta, przy Logan Circle. Były to chwile przepiękne i bogate które pozostaną żywo w sercach wszystkich parafian.

W latach 1980-1982 organizowany był program (C.Y.O.) dla młodzieży w parafii pod przewodnictwem Ks. Józefa Zingaro.

W listopadzie 1979, rozpoczął się bardzo ważny okres dla naszej szkoły parafialnej. Rozpoczął się proces Akredytacji szkoły parafialnej. Akredytacja szkoły jest to proces, w którym organizacja Middle States Educational Association uznaje, że szkoła akredytowana prowadzi zajęcia według przepisanych zasad, które zgadzają się z nowoczesnymi metodami kształcenia dzieci. Proces akredytacji zaczął zwykle trzy lata. W marcu, 1982 szkoła nasza przeszła pierwszy stopień procesu i nasza szkoła otrzymała certyfikację od Middle States Educational As-

sociation. Proces akredytacji prowadzi się nadal. Gdy się skończy, szkoła będzie akredytowana. Będzie to niezwykle honor nie tylko dla szkoły ale i dla całej parafii.

W sierpniu 1982, parafia Sw. Jana Kantego znów zaszczycona była, gdyż Ojciec Święty, Jan Paweł II mianował Ks. Bydłonia, Honorowym Prałatem. W niedzielę 12go września, Ks. Prałat Bydłoń odprawił Msze Świętą dziękczynną w kościele. Po Mszy Świętej odbył się bankiet na Sali Four Chefs.

Historia Parafii od 1982 roku

Po uroczystych obchodach Jubileuszu 90-cio lecia, życie parafialne powróciło do normalnego biegu ale z każdym rokiem, mówiono coraz częściej o zbliżającym się kolejnym Jubileuszu.

W każdym roku parafialna szkoła, miała około 500 uczniów. Każdego tygodnia w Piątek, dzieci szkolne brały udział w Mszy św. a raz w miesiącu, przystępowały do Sakramentu Spowiedzi św. Po ukończeniu naszej szkoły, większość uczniów, kontynuowało naukę w Katolickich Szkołach Średnich.

Ksiądz Prałat Adam Bydłon, jako proboszcz parafii, czuwał nad całością spraw duszpasterstwa parafialnego, oraz nad sprawami materialnymi parafii. Zawsze, otaczał wielką troską nowo przybywających emigrantów z Polski. Wiele razy, przybywający w tym najtrudniejszym, pierwszym okresie, doznawali opieki i wsparcia materialnego.

Pierwszą, poważniejszą inwestycją tego dziesięciolecia, była naprawa systemu ogrzewczego, wszystkich budynków kościelnych. Wyszłużone przez lata, piece do ogrzewania, należało wymienić na nowe. W krótkim czasie po tej inwestycji, wyszła niespodzianka kolejna - remont dachu na szkolnym budynku. W tym czasie Ks. Prałat A. Bydłon zaczął tworzyć fundusz na coraz szybciej zbliżający się kolejny Jubileusz. W przedsionku kościoła, pojawiły się specjalne tablice a na nich plakietki, których fundatorzy składali ofiary na potrzeby kościelne, związane z Jubileuszem.

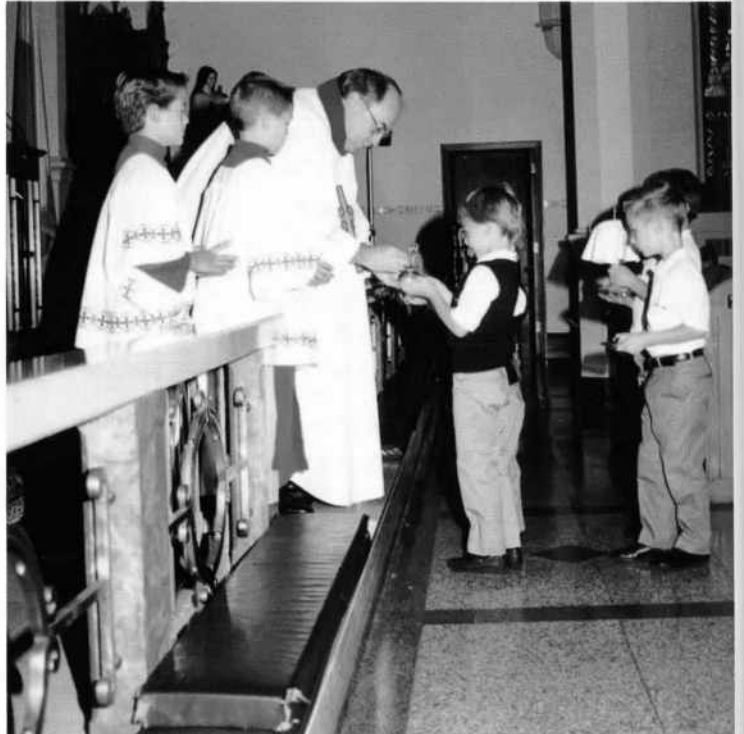
Nie najlepsze zdrowie, ciągłe nowe, trudne sytuacje i problemy, które trzeba było rozwiązywać, sprawiły to, że Wiosną 1990 roku, Ks. Prałat Bydłon znalazł się niespodziewanie w szpitalu i natychmiast musiał poddać się trudnej operacji. Po uda-

[illegible]

OPENING OF JUBILEE YEAR CHILDRENS MASS

Mark Gabrys presents Offertory Gift to Fr. Bernard Witkowski.

Kevin Lutz reading.



Christopher Napierkowski reading.



Kelly Martin reading.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Seated: Florence Landwajtowicz, Janina Porebska and Stella Skorupa. Standing: Bishop Abramowicz, Theresa Gartska, Lillian Domzalski, Mary Prajzner, Michaeline Zglinicka and Florence Florkowski.



Vincent Rozanski greets Bishop Abramowicz after Mass.

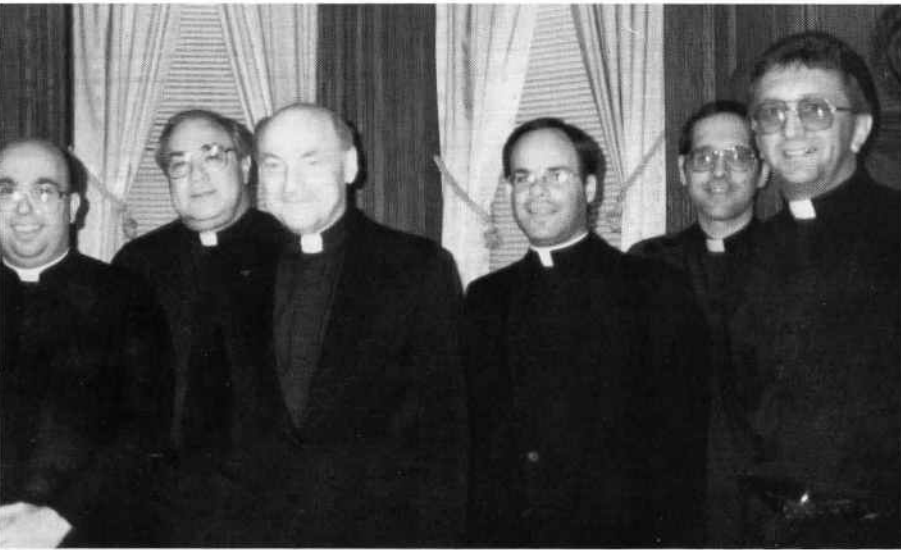


Irene Wojciechowicz, Wanda Przychowicz, Bishop Abramowicz, Regina Landwajtowicz, John Witkowski and Clara Stabene.



Bishop Alfred A. Abramowicz, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, who presided over the Mass, blessed the people as he leaves the church.

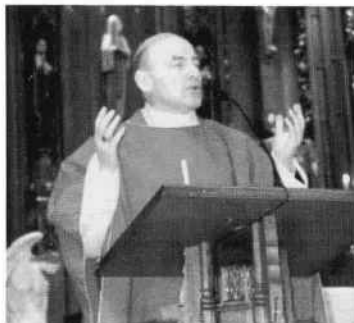
Fr. Andrew McCormick, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Bishop Zygmunt Kaminski, Fr. Charles Sangermano, Fr. Dennis Witalec and Fr. Jan Palkowski.



Bishop Kaminski blessing the new painting of "ECCE HOMO", painted by Emanuel Utti.



Parish Mission Theme "Return to God".



Bishop Zygmunt Kaminski, of Plock, Poland, preaching the Mission.



Msgr. Witkowski dedicated the parish and neighborhood to Divine Mercy.

 CELEBRATE

THE MISSION



MISJE ŚW. PARAFJI
 ŚW. JANA KANTEGO
 OD NIEDZIELI
 5-GO KWIEŃNIA
 DO CZWARTKU
 9 GO KWIEŃNIA
 PO POLSKU - W KOŚCIELE
 PO ANGIELSKU - W KAPLICY
 7:00 WIECZOREM
 HOLY MISSION
 ST. JOHN CANTIUS PARISH
 FROM SUNDAY APRIL 5TH
 TO THURSDAY APRIL 9TH
 POLISH - CHURCH
 ENGLISH - CHAPEL
 7:00 PM

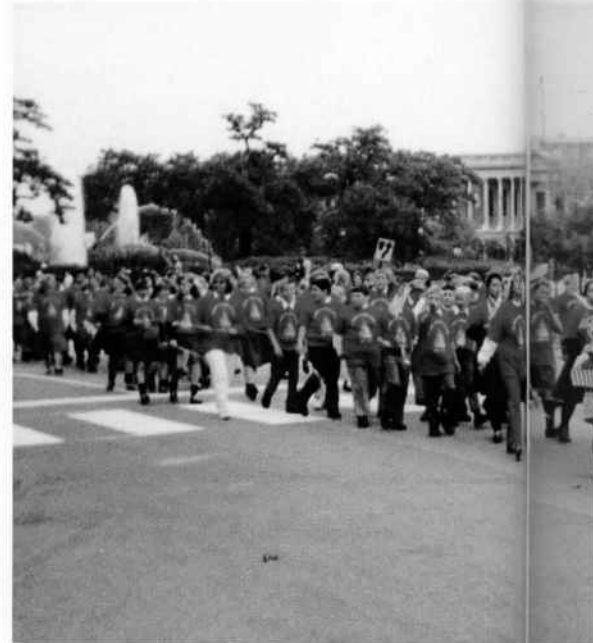


Fran Duffy, President of the Home and School Association, leads the school children. Kevin Lutz and Dana Quattrone carrying the banner.

Latisha Collins and Jennifer Gracey carrying the school banner. Far left. Vince Collins.



CELEBRATE A PARADE



School children marching around Logan Circle.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Assistant Grand Marshall, Walter Patruskey, Fr. Dennis Witalec, Edward Dormer, Honey Kochanowicz, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Fr. Andrew McCormick, and Fr. Jan Palkowski.

The 1992 float with the replica of our parish church.





A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



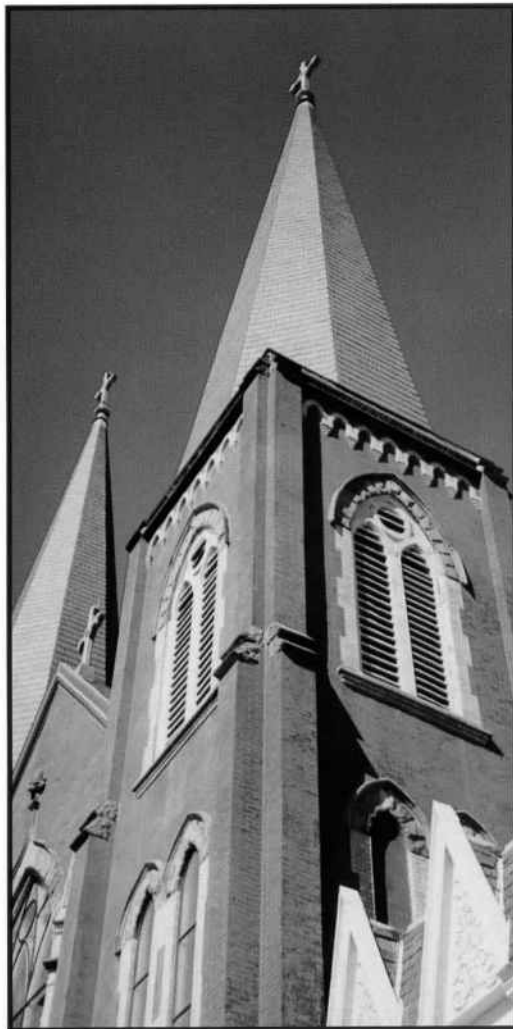
School children getting ready to march in parade.

The Honorable Gerard Kosinski, Walter Patruskey, Phyllis Rooney, Kathy Lisiewski, Honey Kochanowicz, Fr. Dennis Witalec and Christopher Napierkowski holding the banner.



School children wearing their "STO LAT" hats.

A JUBILEE CELEBRATION



Bishop DeSimone greeting Mr. Leonard Wierzchzynski and Mrs. Frances Nowaczyk after Mass.



Fr. Joseph Mytych of Chicago, Fr. Bernard Witkowski, main celebrant and Fr. Alfred Smuda of Brazil celebrate opening Mass.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Mrs. Veronica (Honey) Kochanowicz reading at the Anniversary Mass.



Antoinette (Tosia) Pelczar, reading at Mass.



Mark Pasternak reading at the Anniversary Mass.



Ninety-year olds who were honored at the Anniversary Mass. Mrs. Regina Walczak, Mrs. Stella Chwilkowski, Mrs. Mary Rybacka Smith, Mrs. Lottie Zaporowski.



Celebrating the Anniversary Mass: Father Jan Palkowski, Father Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Robert Grudowski who delivered the homily, Bishop Louis DeSimone, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Msgr. Adam Bydlon, and Msgr. Charles Devlin, Vicar of Philadelphia - North.

Presented to Mrs. Valerie Rogozinski - Pani VI. In grateful appreciation from four pastors, many curates and thousands of parishioners who were the recipients of your dedication and concern for the parish. May God bless you for your wonderful work in the rectory. The Priests and Parishioners of St. John Cantius, October 11, 1992.



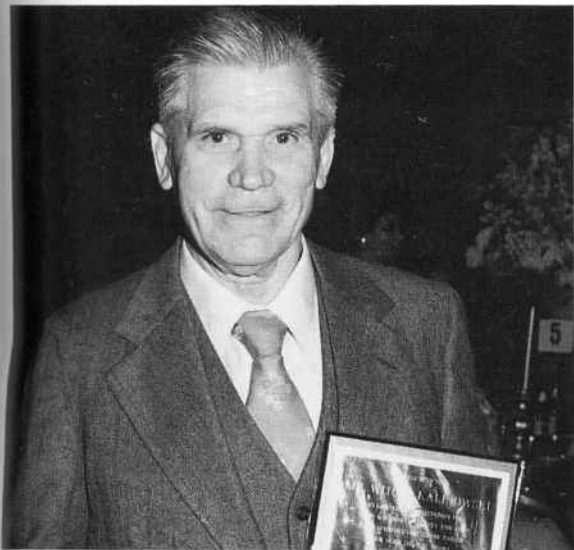
Bishop Louis DeSimone entering the church to begin the Anniversary Mass.

Monsignor Bydlon, Pastor Emeritus, during the Anniversary Mass.



Presented to Mrs. Barbara Zawacka. In grateful appreciation from the entire parish and from the thousands of students to whom you have been Teacher and Mother and Friend for 25 years. May God bless you for all you have done and for all you have been to them. The Priests and Parishioners of St. John Cantius, October 11, 1992.

*With pleasure we invite you
to be our guest
at the Hundredth Anniversary Celebration
of St. John Cantius Parish
A special Mass of Thanksgiving
will be celebrated by
Bishop Louis A. DeSimone
on Sunday, October eleventh
nineteen hundred and ninety-two
at three p.m.
A banquet at Flona Kellers will follow
at five-thirty p.m.
We hope you will join us
Guests concelebrating are asked
to bring an alb and stole*



Presented to Mr. Witold Kalinowski. In grateful appreciation for your wonderful ability and your unselfish service to the parish for more than 27 years. May God bless you for your goodness, your sense of responsibility and your sincere concern for the parish. Your example is admired by us all. The Priests, Sisters and Parishioners of St. John Cantius, October 11, 1992.

CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY MASS

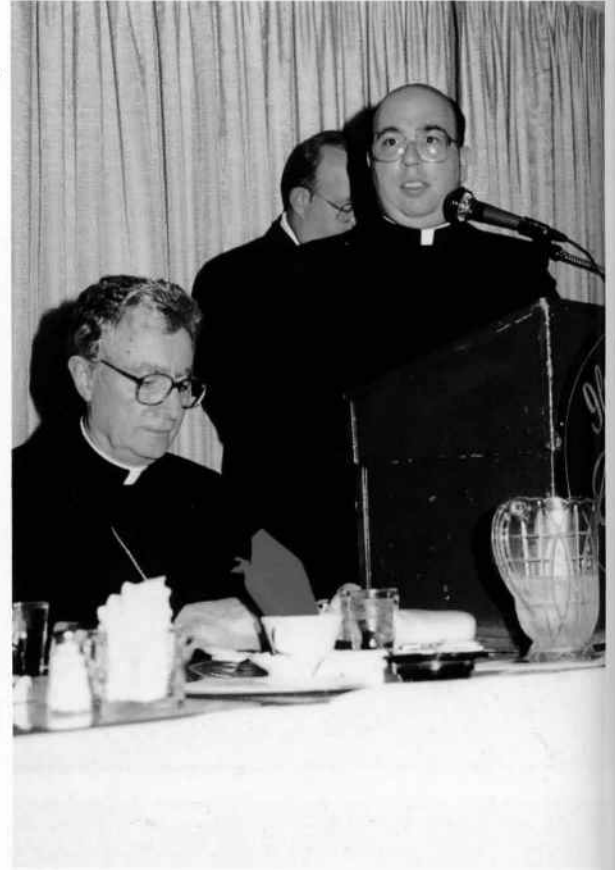
Celebration of
100 Years
Under The
Patronage of
St. John Cantius



The Anniversary Committee was advised of the following parishioners who are over 90 years old:

Stefania Bartkowski	Joseph Rominiecki
Irene Binczewski	Mary Rybacki Smith
Stefania Chwilkowski	Bronislawa Suwala
Josephine Kowalewski	Margaret Suwala
Blance Kowalski	Hattie Swiderski
Stephanie Krzeminski	Regina Walczak
Tekla Matela	Stella Wierzbowska
Stella Mioduszewski	Charlotte Wolkowicz
Anthony Pianka	Lottie Zaporowski
Emily Pietrowicz	

Father Andrew McCormick welcoming the guests to the Anniversary Banquet.



Seated: Stella Lada, Clare Walsh, Jane Maciejewski, Rita Waryga, Ann Witkowski. Second Row: Mildred Laskowski, Lawrence Laskowski, Stanley Maciejewski, Ben Waryga and Joseph Lada.



Enjoying the Anniversary Banquet, Helen Wisniewski, Mrs. Charlotte Wolkowicz who was also one of our ninety-year olds who was honored, and her daughter, Mildred Gawlinski.

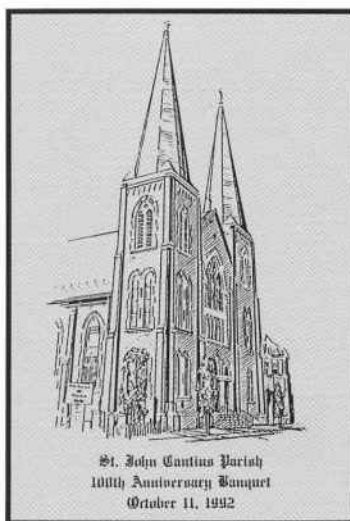
Waiting for the festivities to begin: Josephine Grous, Ruth Yukas, Lorraine Mach, Dorothy Pavelko, and Gloria Zacierka.



Mr. Michael Blichasz, President of the Polish American Congress, presents Father Bernard with a letter of congratulations to all the parishioners of St. John Cantius Parish. Msgr. Francis Urbanowicz is on the right.



CELEBRATE THE BANQUET



Seated: Mr. and Mrs. Norman Grous. Standing: Kathryn Pienkowski, Loretta O'Brien, Father Albin Grous and Joseph O'Brien. Joe Slabinski, Master of Ceremonies.

POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS, INC.

Representing Two Million Polish Americans In Pennsylvania



October 11, 1992

Dear Parishioners of St. John Cantius Parish:

On behalf of the officers and members of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, I take great pleasure in extending warmest best wishes to Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Pastor of St. John Cantius Church and the entire congregation of St. John Cantius Parish on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of your parish. It is a joy and honor to join with you to commemorate this special occasion.

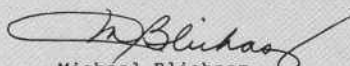
Since its founding in 1892, St. John Cantius Parish has been a source of spiritual and community strength for the residents of the Bridesburg and Frankford areas of Philadelphia. Furthermore, St. John Cantius Parish has and continues to strengthen Polonia in the Northeast Philadelphia area through the use of the Polish language and the observance of Polish customs and traditions.

We extend heartfelt congratulations to St. John Cantius Parish for its 100 years of fellowship and unity. The achievements of your clergy and parishioners, past and present, bear eloquent testimony to the example and teachings of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Congratulations and our best wishes in the future.

Sto Lat!
Respectfully,

Officers & Members
Polish American Congress
Eastern PA District


Michael Blichasz
President

FILADELFA

STULECIE KOŚCIOŁA ŚW. JANA KANTEGO

Dnia 11 października br. odbyła się uroczysta suma, celebrowała przez ks. biskupa Luoisa A. SeSimone'a, oraz obiad parafialny w restauracji Ilony Kellers przy Blvd. Roosevelt, z okazji obchodów stulecia kościoła parafialnego św. Jana Kantego w Filadelfii. Parafię tę, pod wezwaniem polskiego świętego i uczonego, założył w dzielnicy Bridesburg w 1892 roku ks. Marian Kopytkiewicz, wchłaniając zorganizowaną rok wcześniej polską szkołę i wznosząc w 1898 roku murowany kościół przy Thompson Street, obok wcześniej — i dotychczas — użytkowanej drewnianej kaplicy.

Budowniczy polskiego życia na Bridesburgu, ks. Kopytkiewicz, był tu proboszczem przez 40 lat. Jego następcy, to: ks. Władysław Grynia (1932-46), ks. prałat Kazimierz Ławniczak (1946-64), ks. Józef Kłosiński (1964-71), ks. prałat Józef Honorowski (1971-79), ks. prałat Adam Bydłoń (1979-90), b. wojskowy kapelan polowy w Wietnamie. Obecny proboszcz, ks. prałat Bernard E. Witkowski obliczył, że w ciągu stulecia istnienia, parafia wydała 84 powołania kapłańskie i zakonne.

Parafia św. Jana Kantego liczy obecnie 2400 rodzin. Odosobniona wskutek rozbudowania autostrady i zabudowy przemysłowej, dzielnica ta, skupiona wokół kościoła, zachowała polski charakter. Na sztydach rodzinnych biznesów widnieją nazwiska starej, zasiedziały tu Polonii.

Do szkoły parafialnej, gdzie nie ma już zapotrzebowania na naukę języka polskiego, uczęszcza około 500 uczniów. Do kilku ściśle dewocyjnych organizacji przykościelnych dołączył niedawno Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej (kapelan ks. Jan Palkowski), ściągający na Bridesburg członków nowej emigracji z różnych dzielnic Filadelfii.



ST. JOHN CANTIUS SCHOOL

The early history of the School is closely connected to the early history of the Parish and is contained in that narrative. It is interesting to note that in the early 1920's the average enrollment was 1,200 students, and there were 22 Sisters teaching in our School. At the time the largest graduating Class was 117 students in 1940. It is ironic because in 1940 the enrollment had dropped to under 1,000, the first time in many years.

From 1940 on, the student enrollment dropped steadily. From 1952 to 1970, however, the enrollment stayed around 1,000. During this

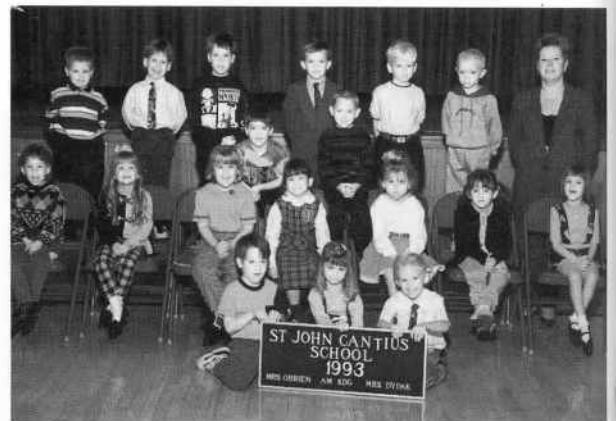
time, the largest graduating class ever was the Class of 1960, which had 144 students. Since then, the enrollment has gone down steadily, but we still have almost 500 students in our School. One thing that has dropped dramatically is the number of Sisters who are now in our School. For example, school records show that in 1956 there was only one Lay Teacher in St. John Cantius. Now, in 1992, we have only three Sisters present in our School: the Principal and two Sisters who teach. The rest of our faculty is made up of Lay Teachers who do an excellent job educating our boys and girls and helping to form them into good Catholic men and women. One of the best indications of the quality of education that has been provided for our children by the Sisters and Lay Teachers is the fact that over the years we have had 26 young men enter the Priesthood and 54 young women answer the call to Religious life.

Academically, we have been second to none. In fact, the School received Certification from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in July 1982. Finally, on March 3, 1983, the School received notification of its Accreditation, a recognition that all of us can be proud of.

SCHOOL



PRESCHOOL CLASS – Mrs. Catherine Simon. Mrs. Theresa Sheridan. ROW 1: Richard Kryzstoforski, Matthew Taylor, Timothy Bolinski. ROW 2: Lauren Baukus, Stephanie Gabrys, Brittany Lowell, Kathryn Howley, Stacey Zifferblatt, Rachel Zawisza, Ashley Koelle. ROW 3: Matthew Smith, Sean D'Ambrosio, Shaun Monroe, Michael Kierod, Ryan Simon, Thomas Chwiero, Matthew Rozycki.



KINDERGARTEN / A.M. CLASS – Mrs. Loretta O'Brien. Mrs. Cynthia Dydak. ROW 1: Christopher Jones, Ashlie Haas, Michael Kamedula. ROW 2: Dayna Breccia, Brittany Hawthorne, Dana Schwab, Stephanie Milcarsky, Kristin Haas, Mary Eldridge, Nicole Leonardis. ROW 3: Randolph Rodgers, John Baukus. ROW 4: Thomas Jakubowski, Philip Blazejewski, Mark Homka, Ryan D'Ambrosio, Thomas Wambold, William Sommerville.



KINDERGARTEN / P.M. CLASS – Mrs. Loretta O'Brien. Mrs. Cynthia Dydak. ROW 1: Katy Lynn Nowicki, Kyle Madden, Amber Lynn Campbell. ROW 2: Dana Daly, Ronda Rivera, Elizabeth O'Neal, Jessica Gaffney, Dana Miller, Lindsay McMonagle, Ashley Wysocki. ROW 3: Dennis Seladones, Daniel Seladones. ROW 4: William Graber, Kenneth Rooney, Adam Visconto, Richard Rimkunus, Raymond Jackowicz, James Du Beck.



GRADE 1 / ROOM 4 – Miss Virginia Kunkle. ROW 1: Kerianne Kuliga, Meghann Hainsworth, Ashley Bruner, Stephanie Stroman. ROW 2: Colleen McCune, Kristin McHenry, Erin Cramer, Jessica Kaminski, Jennifer Taylor, Melissa Smith, Danielle Milcarsky. ROW 3: Robert Szelagowski, Zachary Siegle, Stephen Dombkoski, Henry Baranowski. ROW 4: Francis Duffy, Brian Donlon, George Flagg, Athanasios Tsakiris, Michael Darabasz, Edward Gasiewski.



May Procession, 1990.

did you know?

The first Holy Name banner was made by our own Sisters of The Holy Family of Nazareth and presented to the Society on April 9, 1939.

The 1st Parish Picnic was held in "Nugent's Park" which today would be in the area of Richmond and Orthodox St.





SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH – Sister M. Barbara, Sister Charlotte, Sister M. Marceline, Sister M. Camille, Sister Clementine and Sister Rosarita.



GRADE 1 / ROOM 3 – Mrs. Mary Zawisza. ROW 1: Alicia Zampitella, Jamie Bartosiewicz, Laura Polaski, Caitlin Osborn, Rachael Krysztoforski, Alexandra Goral. ROW 2: Melissa Hamilton, Margaret Prendergast, Julie Self, Danielle Fields, Shavonne Aument, Holly Pruchniewski, Angela Gallagher. ROW 3: Ryan Szelagowski, Anthony Schurr, Francis Mattos. ROW 4: Ed Szambelak, Michael Morell, Michael Niemiec, Ryan Lutz, Nicolas Mangan, Scott McGuigan.



GRADE 2 / ROOM 16 – Mrs. Shirley Godfrey. ROW 1: Amy Cutter, Kelly Jones, Terence Allmond, Jennifer Polaski, Heather Stankiewicz. ROW 2: Christy Milcarsky, Katie Manherz, Danielle Doyle, Kelly McMonagle, Melissa Balczarek, Nicole Crossley, Heather Benedict. ROW 3: Mark Lemanowicz, James Miller, Robert Le Coney, Brian Pasternak, Eugene Walczak, Shawn Enggasser. ROW 4: Daniel Paluch, Krystian Tuliszewski, Philip Visconto, Jason Paul, Anthony Matynka, Michael Rooney, Shea Costello, Ryan McCune.



GRADE 2 / ROOM 17 – Mrs. Lois Fidura. ROW 1: Tiffany Stahl, Jamie Sellers, Denise Szambelak, Christina Elnicki, Tracy Smialkowski. ROW 2: Daniella Goral, Lauren Chybinski, Tiffany Lindsay, Jenna Pogorzelski, Amanda Lemanowicz, Kelly Wright, Sandra Roderig. ROW 3: William Godfrey, Ronald Skoczylas, Mark Gabrys, John O'Brien, Corey Jackson, Johnathan Kaminski, James Jones, Nicholas Houck. ROW 4: Vincent Della Polla, Kevin McDevitt, Matthew Kosmin, Martin Nowicki, Timothy Lovett, Michael Tyson, Steven Rawley, Christopher Perrault.



GRADE 3 / ROOM 12 – Miss Patricia Conway. ROW 1: Kelli Jonas, Kara Macool, Gina Buonanno, Sheena Barron. ROW 2: Dana Mitchell, Dana Kedziora, Lyndsay James, Casey Jackowicz, Kristina Pelc, Linda Marino, Stephanie Young, Jamie Visconto, Jamie Stypukowski. ROW 3: Kevin Kirk, Sebastian Dronski, Joseph Kupka, Louis Dilonardo, James Gasiewski, Joseph Rozycki, Paul Mizvitowicz. ROW 4: Brian McDevitt, Jason McCune, Mark Tyson, Timothy Rudy, Timothy Prescott, Peter Hipsz, Michael Tocydowski, Richard Cummons.



GRADE 3 / ROOM 13 – Mrs. Patricia Temple. ROW 1: Katie Reutter, Tara Gleason, Christina Lopez, Deborah Tomaselli, Jennifer Razler. ROW 2: Alicia Henderson, Dana Bartosiewicz, Megan Sheridan, Joanna Maslany, Nicole Flagg, Susan Kryzstoforski, Sandra Sommerville, Katie Kopacz. ROW 3: Christopher Gallagher, William Conn, Kevin Self, Steven Sucharski, John Barron, Andrew Martin, Thomas Taylor. ROW 4: Kevin Keller, Joseph Tadrzynski, Jason Wisniewski, Edward Nolan, Christopher Darabasz, Jeffrey McKane, Stephen Smolczynski, Joshua Madden.



GRADE 4 / ROOM 10 – Mrs. Stacey McWilliams. ROW 1: Crystal Daniels, Sandra Kosmowski, Danielle Le Coney, Jessica Frankowski, Janette Repsch. ROW 2: Molly Gallagher, Nicole Aichroth, Amanda Smith, Barbara Carr, Meghan Szymanski, Olivia Tuliszewski, Amy Helms, Christina Szambelak, Angelina Wagner. ROW 3: Ryan Osborn, Mark Letteer, Theodore Muszynski, Michael Della Polla, Eric Lepczyk. ROW 4: Zachary Fiorentino, Timothy Polaski, Anthony Baker, Michael Paluch, Wiktor Jozwik, Joseph Hackford.

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Dress up day during the Polish Heritage month.

FACULTY – ROW 1: Mrs. Barbara Zawacka, Mrs. Stacey McWilliams, Sister M. Barbara, Mrs. Diane Janka, Mrs. Geraldine Kahlert, Mrs. Shirley Godfrey, Mrs. Patricia Temple. **ROW 2:** Sister M. Marceline, Ms. Regina Kapusnick, Mrs. Maryann Cordalis, Sister M. Camille, Principal, Mrs. Lois Fidura, Mrs. Loretta O'Brien, Mrs. Ethel Kocinski. **ROW 3:** Miss Patricia Conway, Miss Kathryn Pienkowski, Mrs. Mary Zawisza, Miss Virginia Kunkle, Miss Virginia Kerneckel.



GRADE 4 / ROOM 11 – Mrs. Diane Janka. ROW 1: Theresa Milcarsky, Gloria Shorten, Jessica Mican, Christin Bandy, Denise Boerner. ROW 2: Kimberly Zacierka, Michalina Goral, Christina Smith, Carole Donlon, Erica Osuch, Kelly Mizvitowicz, Aimee Nelson, Stephanie Toner, Tara Jones. ROW 3: Courtney Wimmer, Andrew McClelland, Matthew Hathaway, Charles Lewitt, Andrew Rooney, Joseph Slabinski, Melanie Enggasser. ROW 4: Luke Kwiecinski, Charles Rogers, Mark Keller, Jonathan Bruner, James Elnicki, Christopher Nowicki.



GRADE 5 / ROOM 14 – Mrs. Ethel Kocinski. ROW 1: Katie Gallagher, Kristy Jonas, Marta Krzyspiak, Julie Radyn, Jillian Crossley, Amanda Tieri. ROW 2: Stacy Amoratis, Joann Conn, Desiree Kopacz, Natalie Butkiewicz, Elizabeth Orzechowski, Ericka Smith, Kimberly Baran, Elisabeth Fisher. ROW 3: Patricia Quinto, Rachel Di Gennaro, Kimberly Schrank, Wayne Young, Thomas Nolan, Jeffrey Madden. ROW 4: John Biondo, James McAllister, Matthew Dydak, Brian McSorley, Raymond Holton.

did you know?

Those who fulfilled their Easter Duty were given a small card with their name on it, and this was left on the Communion rail when they received.

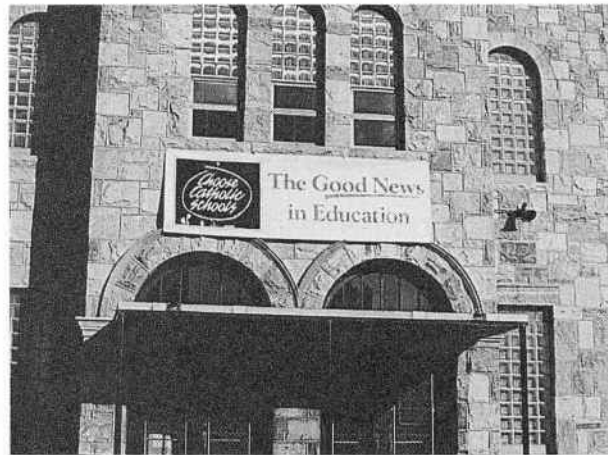
When a Sodalist of the Blessed Virgin Mary was married, the Sodalist's medal was removed - usually by the President - and she was presented with a statue of the Blessed Mother.



GRADE 5 / ROOM 15 - Mrs. Maryann Cordalis. ROW 1: Jacqueline Stroman, Kristen Kendall, Maria Dombkoski, Melissa Johnson, Donna Saraczewski. ROW 2: Diana Sucharski, Jamie Amoris, Kristen Bytof, Courtney Skoczylas, Selena Collins, Andrea Darabasz, Elizabeth Kosmin. ROW 3: Robin Novak, Kathryn Lewalska, Rose Rooney, Jennifer Donlon, Christopher Godfrey, Joseph Marino, John Rimkunas, Keith Szambelak. ROW 4: Joseph Morell, Daniel Du Beck, David Houser, Joseph Haughey, Shaun Costello, Kristan Barnes.



GRADE 6 / ROOM 8 - Mrs. Geraldine Kahlert. ROW 1: Lisa Smialkowski, Crystal Keller, Amy Chybinski, Erin Baker, Stacey Holmes. ROW 2: Rose Verbilla, Elizabeth D'Elia, Star Hodgetts, Megan Collins, Monique Flagg, Danielle Esenwein, Melanie Maslany. ROW 3: Daniel Gallagher, John Luczkowski, Gregory Tylek, Keith Arnoldy, John Jelinski, Andrzej Surel, Michael Pruchniewski, Joseph Tomczak, Lawrence Wright. ROW 4: Christopher Lemanowicz, Robert Howley, Daniel Kedziora, Nicholas Bandy, Kevin Osborn, Joseph Lombardo, Jason Specter, Sean Allmond, John Godfrey, John Jonas.



GRADE 6 / ROOM 9 – Ms. Virginia Kernekel. ROW 1: Christine Jereb, Helena Wafalowski, Gina Roscioli, Kelly Martin. ROW 2: Kevin Rawley, Joseph Sheridan, Peter Whittle, Lucas Dudkowski, Rafael Kaplanowski, Robert Dzieniszewski, Joseph Kider, Vincent Wisniewski, Antoni Butkiewicz. ROW 3: Sylvia Twardowski, Gina Osuch, Monika Moldysz, Crystal Donlon, Sofia Suberska, Jessica Mawson, Victoria Viscont. ROW 4: Robert Lemanowicz, Anthony Baisch, Timothy Kosmin, Walter Rolle, Scott McCune, Jason Morgan, Christopher McNally, Joseph Jelnicki, David Repsch, Kenneth Koelle.



GRADE 7 / ROOM 6 – Miss Regina Kapusnick. ROW 1: Anastasia Helms, Jillian Baran, Elizabeth Trocki, Audrey Gibbon. ROW 2: Kelly Stahl, Susan Bruce, Margaret Wrona, Danielle Aument, Tina Rozycki, Shioban Siegle, Selene McAllister. ROW 3: Joseph Stoney, John Fries, Sean Quinn, Robert Zusin, Paul Morlock, Leonard Yarush. ROW 4: Audrey Ross, Kristy Kopacz, Sandra Lucas, Lauren Holmes, Maria Shorten, Michelle Malandra.



GRADE 7 / ROOM 5 – Sister Marceline, C.S.F.N. ROW 1: Sandra Seladones, Christa Wojtylak, Rae Ann Roselli, Jill Nicoletti, Kim Kupka, Diana Girnius. ROW 2: Connie Martin, Jennifer Henderson, Jennifer Frankowski, Anne Donlon, Marta Twardowski, Katie Jagaczewski, Adria Peta. ROW 3: Patrick Howley, Harry Enggasser, Robert Zebik, Martin Przeworski, Frank D'Alessio. ROW 4: Ronald Janka, Michael Jukic, Michael Beach, Scott Healey, Christopher Napierkowski.



GRADE 8 / ROOM 7 – Sister M. Barbara, C.S.F.N. ROW 1: Monika Krzyspiak, Jillian Du Beck, Lori Marko. ROW 2: Heidi Zoladek, Suzanne Paul, Agnes Dzieniszewski, Jennifer Morgan, Mary Kosmin, Julia Chybinska, Dana Quattrone. ROW 3: Kevin Lutz, David Collins, Eryk Tylek. ROW 4: Andrew Gibbon, Eric Ochmanski, Charles Girnius, Michael Zuk, Sean Burski, Andrew Marsella.



GRADE 8 / ROOM 1 – Ms. Barbara Ann A. Zawacka. ROW 1: Marykatherine Barbalace, James Crossley, Jennifer Dolan. ROW 2: Lisa Kaczorowski, Kristan Houser, Agnes Kaplanaowski, Michele Cronin, Gwen Gallagher, Beth Nichols, Denise Sommerville. ROW 3: Heather Turlinski, Peter Luszczyński, Angelo DiSipio, Maciej Chamczak, Thomas Bas, Mark Novak. ROW 4: Eric Ochmanski, James Darabasz, James Madden, Jason Self, Joseph Biondo.



STUDENT COUNCIL – Christopher Napierkowski - Treasurer, Sister M. Camille, C.S.F.N. – Principal, Dana Quattrone – Vice-President, Kevin Lutz – President, Elizabeth Trocki – Secretary, Ms. Virginia Kerneckel – Moderator.

CHOIR – Miss Kathryn Pienkowski, Director. ROW 1: Jacqueline Stroman, Kristen Kendall, Maria Dombkoski, Marta Krzyspiak, Jamie Amoratis, Natalie Butkiewicz, Selena Collins, Melissa Johnson, Jillian Crossley, Katie Gallagher, Kristy Jonas. ROW 2: Crystal Keller, Stacey Holmes, Rae Ann Rosselli, Kimberly Kupka, Jason Morgan, John Luczkowski, Kristen Bytof, Michelle Malandra, Marykatherine Barbalace, Megan Collins, Keith Arnoldy, Antoni Butkiewicz, Erika Smith, Elizabeth Trocki, Rose Verbilla, Erin Baker. ROW 3: Dianna Girnius,

Sylvia Twardowski, Kimberly Schrank, Selene McAllister, Jennifer Henderson, Audrey Ross, Monika Krzyspiak, Rose Rooney, Constance Martin, Kelly Stahl, Elizabeth D'Elia, Robin Novak, Jill Nicoletti, Anastasia Helms. ROW 4: Sandra Lucas, Susan Bruce, Shioban Siegle, Lauren Holmes, Tina Rozycki, Marta Twardowski, Julia Chybinski, Mary Kosmin, Maria Shorten, Kristy Kopacz. ROW 5: Suzanne Paul, Crystal Donlon, James Crossley, Kevin Lutz, Margaret Wrona, Anne Donlon, Adria Peta.

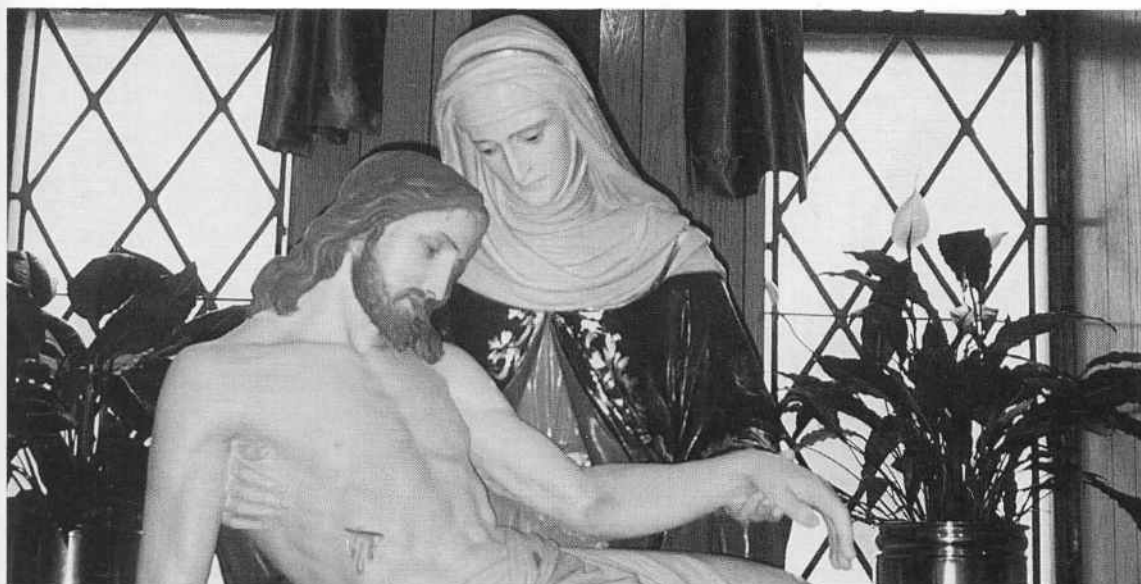


Altarboys – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick. Kevin Osborn, Kevin Rawley, Christopher Napierkowski, Peter Whittle, Christopher Nowicki, John Godfrey, Robert Lemanowicz, Mark Keller, James Elnicki, Matthew Hathaway, Antoni Butkiewicz, Daniel Gallagher, Vincent Wisniewski, Jason Morgan, Ryan Osborn, Charles Lewitt, Christopher Lemanowicz, Daniel Dubeck, Andrew Rooney, Daniel Kedziora, Scott McCune, Anthony Baisch, Scott Healey, Joseph Lombardo, Zachary Fiorentino, Theodore Muszynski, Joseph Kider, John Fries, Charles Girnius, Mark Novak, Lukasz Dudkowski, Joseph Tomczak, Joseph Sheridan, John Luczkowski, Larry Wright, Andrzej Surel, Jason Self.



did you know?

In our research to prepare the anniversary book we came across a Parish Dues Book that had a small piece of paper pasted to the top of the Parish name. The small piece of paper had "church of St. John Cantius." However, when we lifted this small piece of paper we found the "church of the Holy Rosary" was printed underneath. We couldn't understand the reason for this. But, we did find a letter from Father Klosinski, written to Msgr. Bydlon, in which he mentions that Msgr. Kopytkiewicz had used that name for the church evidently before the Archdiocese had decided on an official name. Father Klosinski mentioned that he had seen a baptismal certificate with the church listed as the "Church of Our Lady of the Rosary" and it was signed by Msgr. Kopytkiewicz.





St. John Cantius A Team.

May Procession, 1990.



K. PLOSZAJ K. GODFREY C. RYBAKOWSKI

SISTER BARBARA
REV. MONS.
WITKOWSKISISTER CAMILLE
MRS. ZAWACKA
PRINCIPAL

B. DYDAK J. PEZANOWSKI C. ROZYCKI



E. TEDESCO J. ZAPISEK M. OCHMANSKI



N. SLABINSKI J. KACZOROWSKI A. DUNPHY



J. GRIER M. MARKO H. JELINSKI



S. STABINSKI D. HESSER V. NOWERS



S. KRAJEWSKI L. COLLINS R. ANTONIOW L. JELNICKI

Saint John Cantius School

Class of 1992



A. McALLISTER E. TROCKI M. LEWALSKI K. FIORENTINO



L. JANKA D. GODFREY M. SOLECKI M. MAWSON D. STAATS A. BIONDO J. GRACEY C. RAWLEY P. CRONIN J. JONAS G. NOLAN N. FURTAK



D. SCHMIDT A. ROSKI M. HOLTON A. WINKIS N. FRICKER K. GIBSON L. BRUCE C. NEJMAN J. NAWARYNSKI A. ROXAS S. SMIALOWSKI

The Jewish
Gentile Studies



PARISH SOCIETIES

The strength of a Parish can often be measured by the strength of its Societies. The members are, after all, the parishioners who show the most interest in their own spiritual life and the life of the Parish. They are in touch with the activities of the Parish and are involved in them. They are also the people that the Pastor and the Priests of the Parish can contact most readily in order to inform them of some happening in the Parish.

St. John Cantius has been blessed with many men and women who have joined our Societies and have been instrumental in keeping the Societies and the Parish strong. Their dedication and hard work should be remembered in this 100th anniversary year because they have played such an important role in the history of our Parish. May God bless them, and may Our Beautiful Lady keep them always in her care.

THE ADORATION SOCIETY

The first religious Society founded at St. John Cantius was the Adoration Society. Its purpose was to honor and adore Our Lord hidden in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Society was founded on March 1, 1894 by Monsignor Kopytkiewicz and Mr. Franciszek Chwiero who was the first President. Jozef Chojnacki was

Vice-President, Franciszek Sucharski, Secretary, and Franciszek Szperka was Treasurer.

The Golden Anniversary Book still mentions the existence of the Adoration Society, but there is no mention of it in the 90th anniversary book.

THE HOLY ROSARY SOCIETY

Shortly after the Adoration Society was formed, Mr. Wojciech Kowalski, Jozef Franecki, Jozef Wisniewski, Wiktorja Szablewska, Konstancja Szrankowska and Agnieszka Wojnar met with Msgr. Kopytkiewicz to form a Society that would have as its purpose the love, honor and devotion of the Blessed Mother. They chose Our Lady of the Rosary and immediately encouraged their members and all parishioners to pray the rosary at one of the Sunday Masses.

One interesting fact about the Society was its decision to provide a fifty dollar benefit to the survivors of any member who died, in order to help with funeral expenses. It is another example of how the early immigrants took care of themselves. They did not wait for the government to help them.

It was the Rosary Society that donated \$2,000 at the time of the Silver Jubilee of the Parish for the beautiful pulpit that used to stand in the church. Unfortunately, it was disassembled during the renovation of the church after Vatican Council II. All that remains now are the small statues of the Evangelists that are on the wall of the sanctuary.

The Society today numbers 225 members, and the Officers are:

President: Clara Gronczewski

Vice-President: Leona Durczak

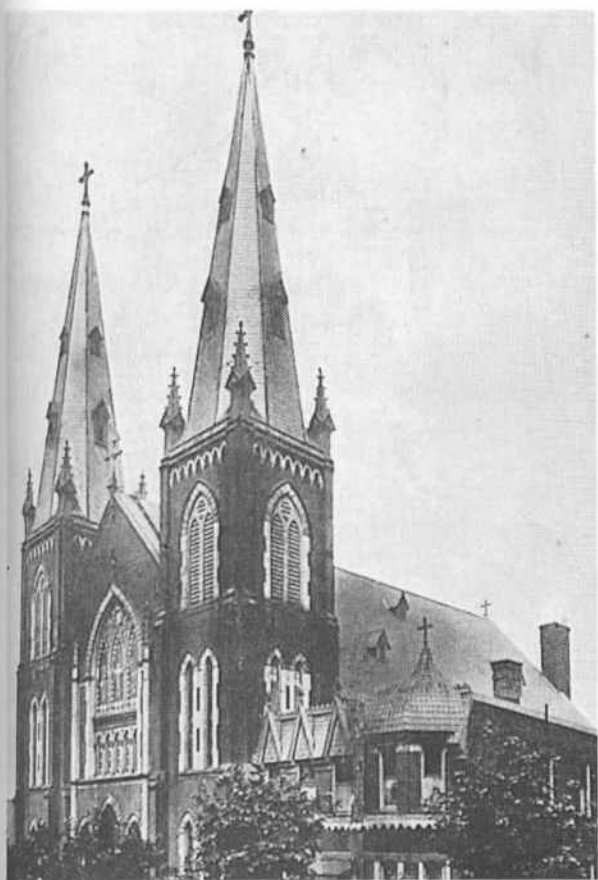
Secretary: Rose Kosinski

Treasurer: Harriet Gosciniak

SOCIETIES



The Senior Citizens group at a Bingo meeting.



SOCIETY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Msgr. Kopytkiewicz had a special devotion to the Sacred Heart, and, for that reason, he asked

Sacred Heart of Jesus Society – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Alfred & Laura Nitka, Dorothy Krzewinski, Victoria Przybylowski, Leona Durczak, Laura McCrystal, Agnes Koszarek, Adela Tomkowicz, Josephine Skierkowska, Cecilia Mazur, Josephine Darabasz, Florence Wozniak, Bertha Stach, Phyllis Rooney, Emilia Bialecka, Kathleen Lisiewski, Mary Mackiewicz, Valeria Rogozinski, Genia Stach, Clara Gronczewski, Sophie Szybowski, Wanda Szostek, Mary Hutkowski, Wanda Lachowicz, Sally Werner, Mildred Gawlinski, Theresa Bielecki, Rose Kosinski, Regina Zultanski, Rita Chrzan, Ann Witkowski, Jane Maciejewski, Dolores Busza, Harriet Gosciniak, Stella Lada, Ann Chaszczewicz. (Missing – Mary Ryczek.)



Rosary Society – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Alfred & Laura Nitka, Maria Sucharski, Dorothy Krzewinski, Rose Kosinski, Leona Durczak, Clara Gronczewski, Harriet Gosciniak, Laura McCrystal, Agnes Koszarek, Adela Tomkowicz, Josephine Skierkowski, Mary Jane Smereczynski, Sophie Szybowski, Wanda Szostek, Josephine Darabasz, Phyllis Rooney, Mary Hutkowski, Wanda Lachowicz, Dolores Michalak, Mildred Gawlinski, Hedwig Wenclawiak, Kathleen Lisiewski, Mary Prajzner, Stephany Kosinski, Hedwig Pachucki, Bernice Smuda, Dorothy Hoffman, Regina Zultanski, Rita Chrzan, Regina Filiczak, Lisa Filipczak, Ann Wiczerzywski, Edward Gronczewski. (Missing – Mary Ryczek.)



Third Order of St. Francis – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Josephine Skierkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. (Missing – Stefania Bartkowski, Mary Ryczek.)



the Jesuit Fathers to lead the first Parish Mission. The Jesuits were traveling throughout the United States trying to spread this devotion. Shortly after the Mission, in December of 1904, the Society was organized. Mr. Jozef Domzalski and Stanislaw Grabowski were instrumental in the formation of the Society. The purpose of the Society was to become acquainted with the mercy of God, manifested through His Most Sacred Heart.

The present Officers are:

President: Leona Durczak

Vice-President: Kathleen Lisiewski

Secretary: Emilia Bialecka

Treasurer: Phyllis Rooney

THE THIRD ORDER OF ST FRANCIS

The III Order of St. Francis was founded at our Parish by Father Zygmunt Janicki of Krakow, Poland, on March 24, 1912. Father Janicki visited Polish Parishes in America for this very purpose. At the outset, there were 130 members - men and women. Membership in the III Order is quite demanding. A person who chooses to join the III Order must, first of all, be of exemplary character; must accept a year of novitiate; must wear a scapular and cincture; and at profession must promise to obey the Commandments of God and the Church. There are certain required prayers, and confession is a monthly obligation.

Unfortunately, interest in the III Order has decreased greatly in all Parishes. In ours, we have only three members.

The first Prefect of the III Order was Jozef Matraszek and his assistant was Jozef Domzalski. The women were led by Wiktoria Szablewska and her assistant, Michalina Zaporowska.

CHILDREN OF MARY - DZIECI MARJI

In 1899, the Bernardine Sisters had established a Society for the young girls of the Parish known as the Young Women of the Immaculata (Towarzystwo Panien Niepokalanek). In 1912, when the Nazareth Sisters arrived at the Parish the name of the Society was changed to Towarzystwo Dzieci Marji. And so, it can be said that the Children of Mary has existed officially since 1912. The Moderator was always one of the Sisters, and, by vote, three girls were chosen to assist her. The first girls were: Julja Tyminska, Wiktoria Kedziora and Helena Drzewiecka.

It was through the generosity of the Children of Mary that Father Grynja was able to purchase the beautiful statue of Our Blessed Mother which stands on the north side of the church.

Today there are not very many members, but efforts are being made to revive the Children of Mary.

PARISH CHOIR UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ST CECELIA

The Parish Choir was founded formally on November 8, 1893, through the efforts of Msgr. Kopytkiewicz and the Organist at the time, Mr. Franciszek Majer. Mr. Szczepan Sejda was its first President and Mr. Jan Norkiewicz was elected Secretary. On July 5, 1901, Mr. Wiktor Gutkowski became the Organist and Choir Director, and he served in this capacity for 52 years. After his retirement in 1953, Mr. Edward



Presented to Mr. Joseph Mensick. In grateful appreciation for your marvelous talent that so enhanced our Masses and Devotions for 39 years. Unlike the man in the gospel story you did not bury your talent, but used it for God's glory and for the edification of those who heard you. The Priests and Parishioners of St. John Cantius, October 11, 1992.

Grudowski, father of Msgr. Robert Grudowski, become the Organist. However, he died shortly after, and Mr. Joseph Mensick then assumed the position of Organist and Choir Director. He stayed in this position for the next 39 years until his retirement. Today the Organist and Choir Director is Mr. Wojciech Hollender, a young, talented musician who is working hard to enhance the liturgical music that accompanies our Masses and devotions.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Concern for the poor, widows and orphans was always an important consideration of the Parish. There were several of these organizations in the Parish right from the beginning. However, on November 16, 1916, the Society of St. Vincent De Paul was founded. The money raised to help the needy was acquired through yearly dues of the members and from money collected each week in church. The original Officers included: Mr. Jozef Domzalski, President, Franciszek

Wolnowski, Vice-President, Marcin Szarejko, Secretary, Wacław Garstkiewicz, Treasurer, Rafał Pacewicz, Auditor. Mrs. Aniela Kowalewska and Mrs. Anna Dylewska were the visitors.

Today, a collection is taken up in church once a month to gain support for the work of the Society. The money is distributed to the needy of the Parish. The Pastor determines the extent of the need and he issues all checks.

THE UNITED SOCIETIES OF BRIDESBURG AND FRANKFORD

Father Grynia recognized that there was a lack of unity and, at times, a conflict of dates and interest among the Societies and so, he decided to found a United Society which would consist of representatives from every Society. The purpose was to foster harmony among all the Soci-



Children of Mary Society – 1st Row: Marta Krzyspiak, Gloria Shorten, Donna Saraczewski, Diana Sucharski. 2nd Row: Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Maria Shorten, Susan Bruce, Sandra Lucas, Natalie Butkiewicz, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Dennis Witalc.

eties so that they could work together for the good of the Parish and the good of each Society. The first Officers were: Stefan Hoffman, President, Wanda Buczkowska, Vice-President, Jozef Bogucki, Secretary, Jozef Domzalski, Marshal. It was founded on January 25, 1933.

It is interesting to note that the Golden Anniversary Book mentions that there were 60 organizations represented in the United Societies.

The United Societies still exists today, and its purpose and goal is the same as at its founding.

THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Father Grynja was also instrumental in the founding of the Holy Name Society. With the help of Father Stanislaw Pawlowski, OFM, the Society was founded on November 14, 1937. The first Officers were: Mr. Kazimierz Przybylowski, President, Stefan Rosinski, Secretary, Stanislaw Pietrusinski, Financial Secretary. The Directors were: Jozef Domzalski, Kazimierz Ratke, Henryk Dombrowski, and Antoni Gutkowski.

On the first Communion Sunday, January 19, 1938, more than 400 men filled the church and received Our Lord in Holy Communion. By the Golden Jubilee Year, 1942, there were 791 members.

The Holy Name Society is still very active and contributes much to the life of the Parish. In this 100th anniversary year they are making a strong effort to draw the young men of the Parish into the Society.

The present Officers are:

President: James DiDomenico

Vice-President: Thomas Butkiewicz

Secretary: Walter Patruskey

Treasurer: Francis Duffy

Marshal: Michael Oziemkiewicz

At one time, the membership consisted of 1000 men; today there are 212 men listed as members.

THE HOLY FAMILY SODALITY

In 1952, Archbishop John F. O'Hara requested



St. John Cantius Choir - 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Dorothy Rimkunas, Wojtek Hollender, Dolores Michalak, Diane Whittle. 3rd Row: Barbara Tedesco, Gloria Rosselli, Phyllis Rooney, Dolores Busza.

St. Vincent dePaul Society – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Laura McCrystal, Mary Mackiewicz, Agnes Koszarek, Josephine Skierkowski, Valeria Rogozinski. (Missing – Mary Lipiecki.)



Holy Name Society – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Francis Duffy, Walter Patruskey, James DiDomenico, Norman Czerwinski, Thomas Butkiewicz, Michael Ozimkiewicz, John Lachowicz, Leon Gosciniak, Edward Walczak, Raymond Bandosz, Joseph Glowacki, Robert Stabene, Joseph Nichols, Sigismund Wenclawiak, Edward Turlinski, John Chaszczewicz, Walter Pelczar, Joseph Wenclawiak, Theodore Filipczak, Francis Dombkoski, Edwin Gorski, Stanley Maciejewski, Walter Zarenkiewicz, Joseph Lada, Theodore Zembrzusi, Bernard Decowski, Anthony Golembiewski Jr., Henry Zych, Stanley Mocarski, Stephen Dombkoski, Anthony Paszk, Joseph Urbanek, John Witkowski, Joseph Dunphy, Theodore Czyzewski, Walter Czarnik, Edward Podgorski, Leon Tyszka.



Parish Organists – Msgr. Witkowski, Kathryn Pienkowski, Andrzej Ozga, Theresa Garstka, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Dennis Witalec. (Not shown: Wojciech Hollender.)



A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Bingo Workers – Edward Turlinski, Thomas Butkiewicz, Raymond Bandos, Anthony Paszk, Norman Czerwinski, John Chaszczewicz, Mary Jane Smereczynski, Joseph Nichols, Joseph O'Brien, Leon Tyszka, Walter Czarnik, Frank Strupczewski. (Not shown: Wally Han who was in the hospital at this time.)



Parish Staff – Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Gloria Zacierka, Secretary, Mark Pasternak, Maintenance, Stella Lada, Housekeeper, Alfons Niescier, Maintenance, Violet Rogozinski, Secretary, Lorraine Mach, Secretary, Witold Kalinowski, Maintenance, Fr. Dennis Witalec, Fr. Andrew McCormick.



Cook Janina Porebska. Cook Anna Delkowski.



Lectors – 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Harriet Gosciniak, Lisa Sucharski, Walter Patruskey, Joseph Glowacki, Sigismund Wenclawiak, Vincent Rozanski. 3rd Row: Veronica Kochanowicz, Frank Dombkoski, Stephen & Theresa Dombkoski, Thomas Butkiewicz, Mark Pasternak, Anthony Golembiewski.

that all Parishes in the Archdiocese form an organization known as The Archbishop's Committee for the Christian Home and Family. The purpose was to have members of this Committee visit mothers of new babies every three months for a period of three years to instruct the mothers about the spiritual welfare of their children. Pamphlets for this purpose were given to the mothers. The general idea was to interest the young mothers in the life and the needs of the Parish, especially in the life of the School. They were encouraged to meet the Sisters and form a close relationship with them.

The Society was eventually known as the Holy Family Sodality, and their title sums up their purpose and goals.

Msgr. Casimir Lawniczak, Father Stanley Skowronski, Mrs. Josephine Kaminski and Mrs. Anna Binczewski drew up the Constitution and By Laws on October 14, 1952. At the first general meeting on November 11, 1952, the following Officers were elected:

President: Josephine Kaminski

Vice-President: Martha Wiza

Recording Secretary: Irene Maslinkiewicz

Financial Secretary: Blanche Donacki

Assistant Secretary: Frances Nowaczyk

Treasurer: Wanda Rusek

The Sodality now numbers 310 members.

THE ALLELUIA PRAYER GROUP

The Alleluia Charismatic Prayer Group was founded as a result of the 41st International Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia in the summer of 1976. A handful of parishioners who had taken part in the Congress began to come together in their homes for prayer and praise. After a sufficient number of people continued to meet, permission was given to form a prayer



Holy Family Sodality – Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Mary Jane Smereczynski, Frances Alice, Victoria Przybylowski, Hedwig Pachucki, Ann Witkowski, Mildred Laskowski, Berniuce Smuda, Stephany Kosinski, Veronica Kochanowicz, Laura McCrystal, Agnes Koszarek, Laura Nitka, Mary Prajzner, Dorothy Krzewinski, Josephine Skierkowski, Wanda Szostek, Regina Sadowiczak, Mildred Gawlinski, Mary Hutkowski, Mary Krystofolski, Theresa Garstka, Rose Kosinski, Harriet Gosciniak, Sally Werner, Dolores Busza, Stella Lada, Florence Florkowski, Valeria Rogozinski, Stella Chwilkowski, Kathleen Lisiewski, Regina Filipczak, Josephine Darabasz, Clara Stabene, Irene Wojciechowski, Rita Chrzan, Wanda Przychowicz, Halina Jarecki, Dorothy Hoffman, Cecilia Mazur, Jane Maciejewski, Wanda Lachowicz, Maryann Marszalek, Henrietta Podgorski, Josephine Grous, Veronica Chwastyk, Loretta DiDomenico, Emily Makowski, Phyllis Rooney, Regina Zych, Stacey Gilborges, Mary Mackiewicz, Sophie Szybowski, Leona Durczak, Jennie Gibbon, Ann Wieczczynski, Hedwig Wenclawiak. (Missing – Mary Ryzek.)

group in the Parish. The first Charismatic Prayer Meeting was held in our St. Joseph's Hall in December of 1976. The Alleluia Group was placed under the patronage and the protection of Our Lady of Czestochowa by Msgr. Joseph Honorowski. Since that date the Prayer Meeting has continued to meet weekly for the Prayer of Praise. The Prayer Group takes part in the Archdiocesan Charismatic events, Days of Renewal, Retreats, and seminars. Masses have been offered for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. The heart of the Prayer Meeting is the praise of God in particular for our Parish and for all who serve the People of God in the Church.

There are ten women in the Group, led by Mrs. Phyllis Rooney.

CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION - CYO

Our Parish has a CYO Program for our High School students and one for the children in Grammar School. The present program was organized by Father Joseph Zingaro in 1980. The students take part in all phases of the



C.Y.O. - 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Phyllis Rooney, Rosemarie Zeiger, Jerri Miller, Joseph Healey, Linda Bruce, Kathleen Lisiewski. 3rd Row: Gabrielle Nolan, Jennifer Dunphy, Christian Kosmin, Julie Zapisek, Gary Hearn. 4th Row: Nicole Slabinski, Jennifer Gracey, Michael Kosmin, Mark Pasternak.



Alleluia Prayer Group - 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Dolores Busza, Phyllis Rooney, Linda Marsella, Regina Filipczak, Ann Chaszczewicz, Alexandra Subick. (Missing - Mary Ryczek.)



KIK.

Archdiocesan program - religious, social and athletic. As a matter of fact, our girls won the district Basketball championship in 1992.

The High School CYO has about 25 members. Father Andrew McCormick is the Moderator.

Chief Adult Advisor: Phyllis Rooney

Special Advisor: Kathleen Lisiewski

Spiritual Advisor: Phyllis Rooney

Service Advisor: Gary Hearn

Athletic Advisor: Mark Pasternak

Teen President: Tabatha Ronan

Teen Vice-President: Jerri Miller

The Junior CYO has about 50 members.

Spiritual Advisor: Father Andrew McCormick

Chief Adult Advisor: Kathleen Lisiewski

Social Advisor: Kathleen Lisiewski

Service Advisor: Maureen Kumosinski

Treasurer: Linda Lisicki

Cultural Advisor: Maryann Gracey



Altar Men - Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Christopher Rawley, Michael Kosmin, Christian Kosmin, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Dennis Witalec. (Missing - Michael O'Brien, Christopher Smialowski, David & Michael Kocinski.)



Pro-Life Committee - John & Stacey Gilborges, Phyllis Rooney, Kathleen Lisiewski, Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski.

KLUB INTELIGENCJI KATOLICKIEJ - KIK

The youngest organization associated with St. John Cantius Parish is the Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej - KIK, as it is known - which is an organization of recent immigrants to the United States. The purpose of KIK is to help the new Polish immigrants acclimate themselves to their new life in America. They share information about jobs, doctors, places to live and immigration information. They also arrange trips, lectures, picnics, and other social events so that their members can come together and enjoy each others company.

KIK is not specifically a Parish organization because membership is open to all Polish immigrants. It does, however, meet at St. John Cantius on the last Sunday of the month, and Father Jan Palkowski is its Moderator.

The organization was started on February 17, 1990, when a small number of recent immigrants met at the Polish Veterans Home in Port Richmond and discussed the need for such an organization. Father Palkowski was among the 17 people who were there, and he suggested that the future meetings take place at St. John Cantius Parish Hall. With the permission of Msgr. Adam Bydlon, the Pastor then, the group met at the Hall on March 9, 1990. The first Officers were:

President: Halina Sokolowska
 Treasurer: Regina Klockowska
 Secretary: Piotr Chelchowski

Mr. Wladyslaw Ogrodnik suggested the name, Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej, and his suggestion was accepted by the members.

The present Officers are:

President: Piotr Chelchowski
 Vice-President: Jadwiga Rojek
 Treasurer: Regina Klockowska
 Secretary: Wladzia Kurzydla

THE PARENTS AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Parents and Teachers Association, also known as the Home and School Association,



Altar Society – 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Ann Witkowski, Leona Durczak, Kathleen Lisiewski, Bertha Stach, Genia Stach. 3rd Row: Emilia Bialecka, Diane Rooney, Phyllis Rooney, Stella Lada.



Home & School Assn. – Francis Duffy, Maria Sucharski, Mark Pasternak. (Missing – Carleen Siegle & Regina Smith.) Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Jan Palkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick.



Pictured above is the new tabernacle purchased by the parishioners.

did you know?

The saddest day of the 100 year history of St. John Cantius was 4-15-80 when someone stole the tabernacle from the church. Besides the loss of such a precious and holy article, the Parish was especially disturbed because the Most Blessed Sacrament was also taken. Reparation was made, and a new tabernacle was bought, but the crime has never been solved. Someone must have some information about this sacrilege. It would be a noble gesture to reveal the identity of the thieves.

was founded on March 10, 1966 with the purpose of establishing good relationships between the parents and teachers for the benefit of the students. They were to help in providing any necessities over and beyond the ordinary requirements of School. They were also to promote the welfare of children in home, school, church and community. Father Joseph Klosinski was the first Moderator.

The first Officers were:

President: Honey Kochanowicz
Vice-President: Alice Subick
Secretary: Lorraine Urbanek
Treasurer: Loretta Sucharski

With the help of Father Aquinas Helwig, a Library Committee was formed, and much work was done in the establishment of our School Library.

The Home and School Association continues its good work today, and has contributed much to the support of the School. This support is very necessary since expenses continue to rise every year.

The present Officers are:

President: Francis Duffy
Vice-President: Maria Sucharski
Recording Secretary: Carleen Siegle
Corresponding Secretary: Regina Smith
Treasurer: Mark Pasternak

POLISH BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION

Besides the societies that we established to strengthen the spiritual life of the parishioners, there were other organizations established to help them in their daily struggles in the new world. For example, the organization known today as the POLISH BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION was founded to provide financial help in the event of the death of a member or his wife.

The idea for such an organization was first thought of by three of our parishioners: Franciszek Jaskowiak, Julian Wessel and Franciszek Chwierothe. They went with their idea to Father Marian Kopytkiewicz who thought the idea was excellent and he called a parish meeting for all who were interested. On Sunday, December 3, 1899, the meeting was held in our Parish hall. The organization was first called STOWARZYSZENIE KASY POSMIERTNEJ NA WSCHODZIE

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

POLNOCNEJ AMERYKI. At its first convention, however, on October 1st and 2nd, 1900, it was decided to call it STOWARSZYSZENIE KASY POSMIERTNEJ POD OPIEKA SW. JANA KANTEGO. In later years it became known as the POLISH BENEFICIAL SOCIETY OF ST. JOHN KANTY, and now, simply POLISH BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION.

At the first meeting, thirty-nine men joined the Society. It was decided that a death benefit of \$600. be given in the event of a member's death and \$300. at the death of a member's wife. It was also decided that members would only be ac-

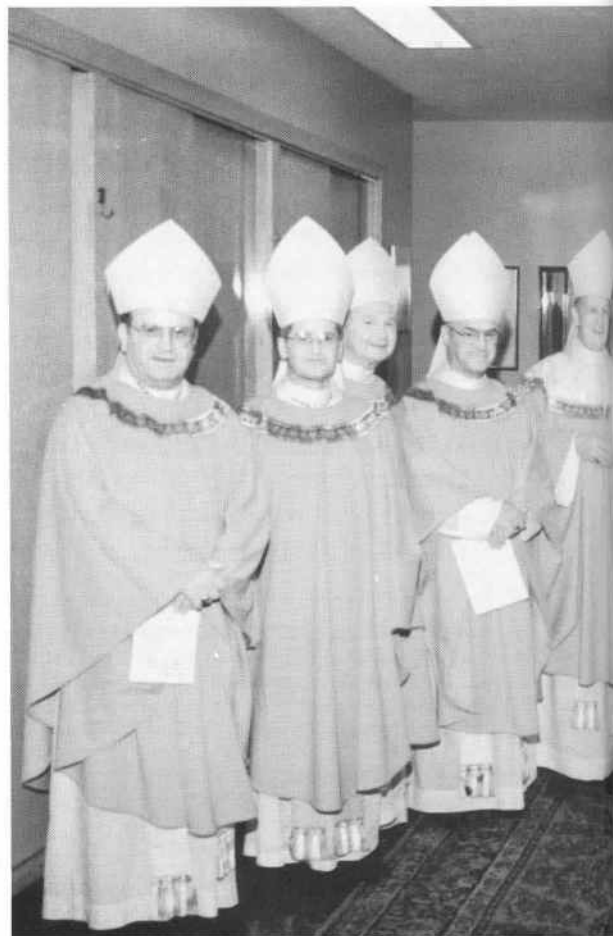
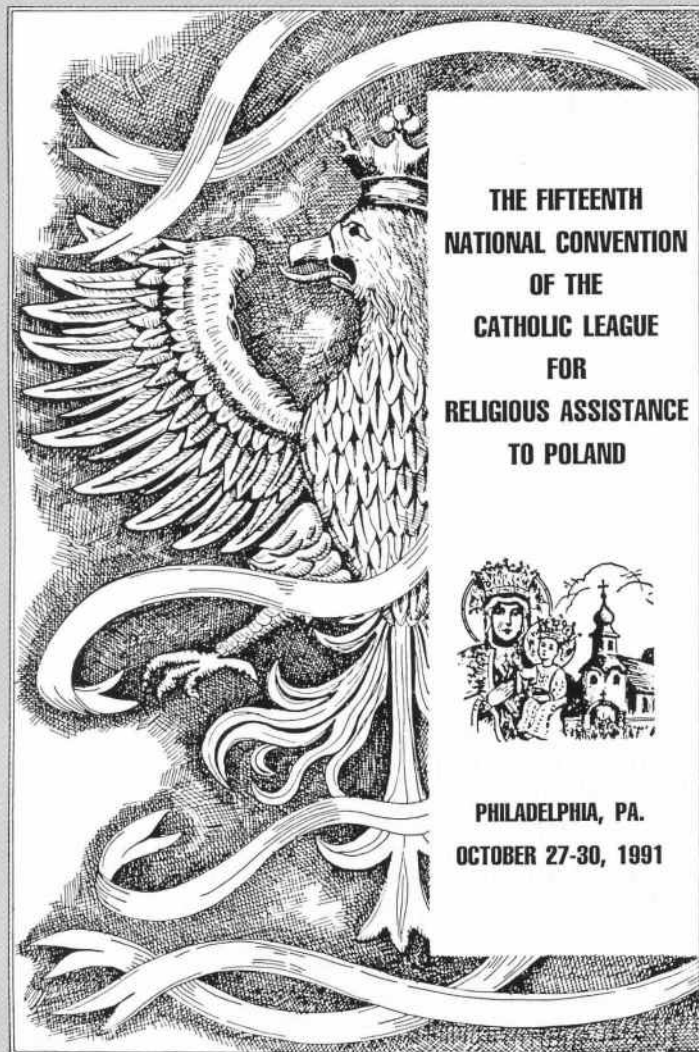
cepted from St. John Cantius and St. Laurentius Parishes.

Of course, since then the Polish Beneficial Association has become one of the largest insurance and fraternal organizations in the country. They are also very active in civic, charitable, patriotic and religious activities. We are proud to say that they began their successful history right here at St. John Cantius.

Today the PBA is competently directed by Mr. Ted Drejerski, President, Mrs. Anna Teska, Administrative Secretary and Mrs. Stephanie Rymalowicz, President of the Women's Division.

Ushers - 1st Row: Rev. Dennis Witalec, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Rev. Andrew McCormick, Rev. Jan Palkowski. 2nd Row: Stanley Chmielewski, Edwin Gorski, Edward Walczak, Michael Ozimkiewicz, Raymond Bandosz, Joseph Glowacki, Sigismund Wenclawiak, Robert Stabene, Norman Czerwinski, Edward Turlinski, Walter Pelczar. 3rd Row: Walter Zarenkiewicz, Joseph Lada, Henry Drejewski, Theodore Zembrzuski, Bernard Decowski, Joseph Nichols, Henry Zych. 4th Row: Stephen Dombkoski, John Witkowski, Walter Patruskey, Anthony Marsella, Theodore Czyzewski, Walter Czarnik, Thomas Butkiewicz.





Our eighth grade students, with their teacher, Mrs. Barbara Zawacka, during the Mass.

Mark Gabrys with his Babci, Doris Gabrys, deliver gifts at the Offertory.

Ruth Yakas greets Cardinal Bevilacqua.



A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



Monday, October 28, 1991. Mass at the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul. 15th National Convention of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland. Bishop Edward Kmiec, Bishop Edward Grosz, Bishop Alfred Markiewicz, Bishop Stanislaus Brzana, Archbishop Adam Maida, Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua, Bishop Alfred Abramowicz, Msgr. Bernard Witkowski, Bishop Thad Jakubowski, Bishop Martin Lohmuller, Msgr. Anthony Jaworowski. John Cardinal Krol is seated in front.

August 6, 1990 – Cardinal Krol attends the Liga Katolicka meeting at St. John Cantius. Seated: Msgr. Anthony Jaworowski, John Cardinal Krol, Msgr. Edward Musial and Fr. Stanley Dobkiewicz. Standing: Fr. Anthony Ziemba, Fr. Bernard Witkowski, Fr. Robert Paisley, Fr. Julian Banaszak, O.S.P., Fr. Marshall Kloda, Mr. Francis Frysiek, Fr. Andrew McCormick and Fr. Jan Palkowski.



St. John Cantius Altar Boys gather around John Cardinal Krol after Mass. (Kevin Godfrey, Scott Healey, James Madden, Christopher Rawley, Harry Enggasser, Kevin Rawley and Mark Novak.)



Vestments and religious articles collected by the women of the parish for Liga.

PATRONS

ANNIVERSARY GIFTS

Anonymous

**In Memory of Andrzej & Tekla
Chmielewski**

By Thomas A. Chmielewski

Rita S. Frankowski

Holy Family Sodality

Holy Rosary Society

**In Memory of Our Parents, Wallace &
Josephine Kempczynski**

By Lorraine & John Kempczynski

**In Loving Memory of My Husband,
Wallace Kotarski**

**and In Memory of Our Loving Daughter,
Eunice Kotarski Tomlin**

By Wife and Mother

Alfred Buddy Kraczyk

**In Memory of Kuklewicz & Stabinski
Families**

By Jane Kuklewicz

In Memory of Stephanie & Walter Nitka

By Children

Polish Beneficial Association

Sacred Heart Society

The Slabinski Family

Mr. & Mrs. Albert M. Tantala

St. John Cantius Jr. and Sr. C.Y.O.

SPONSORS

Anonymous

Holy Name Society

St. John Cantius

Golden Age Club

BENEFACTORS

In Memory of Anna Barnyock

By Charles & Joan Dougherty

In Memory of Mildred Kumosinska Brzyski

By Stanley Brzyski

In Memory of Thomas & Sophie Bydlon

By Rev. Msgr. Adam J. Bydlon

Krystyna M. Gladysz – Wydawnictwo "Promyk"

In Memory of Casimer Janiszewski, Leon Czarnecki & Katherine Czarnecka

By Alfreda Janiszewski

Klub Inteligencji Katolickiej

Hon. Gerard A. & Elspeth A. Kosinski

Raymond & Mary Krystofolski

In Memory of Adam J. Kwiatkowski

By Wife, Alfreda H. Kwiatkowski &

Daughter, Alfreda E. Kwiatkowski

Drs. Maciej & Joan Lambert

Lason, Mace & Weick Families

By Cecilia Weick

Tekla & Regina Matela

Rev. Andrew McCormick

Miller Realty Co. – Mr. & Mrs. Thaddeus Przybylowski

J.S. Paluch Co., Inc.

In Memory of Patruskey & Dumala Families

By Walter J. & Marie F. Patruskey

Polonia Federal Savings and Loan Assn.

In Memory of Walter & Anna Porwisz

By Sally & Stanley Kumor

In Memory of Michael & Catherine Rasinski

By Adam & Bernice Rasinski

Bertha Sikora

In Memory of Wallace F. Sliwinski, M.D.

By Wife & Son

Third Federal Savings – Carl F. Gregory, President

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Trzaska, Sr.

By Mr. & Mrs. Frank Barbetta

Rev. Dennis Witalec

DIAMOND SPONSORS

In Memory of Alfons & Stella Borowski

By Ted & Teresa Borowski

In Memory of John Chrzanowski

By Helen Chrzanowski

Leon & Lillian Cybulski

In Memory of Philip Dimberio

By Jean Dimberio

In Memory of Edward W. Dombrowski

By Wife, Jean & Son, Edziu

Mrs. Sophie Dybalski

John & Eleanor Fahs

In Memory of Parents, Rose & John

Franecke, Sister, Mildred &

Brothers, Edward & Felix

By Helen Franecke McAllister &

Dolores Franecke

In Memory of Walter Gasiewski

Family & Michael & Anna Masny

Family

By Jean Gasiewski

In Memory of William F. Gendek

By Wife, Adele

Andrew & Delphine Hawthorne

In Memory of Edward J. Jakubowski

By Wife & Children

In Memory of Joseph & John

Koszarek

By Agnes Koszarek

In Memory of Roman, Aniela &

Edwin Krypel

By Daughter & Sister

In Memory of Deceased Members of
Kwiatkowski & Piotrowicz
Families

*By Alfreda H. Kwiatkowski & Alfreda
E. Kwiatkowski*

In Memory of The Legacki &
Wenclawiak Families

*By Hedwig & Joseph Wenclawiak
Wallace M. Nowacki, Jr., Pres. –
Pulaski Savings Bank*

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry
Orysiek

*By Leonard & Sheila Orysiek
"Zlo dobrem zwyciezaj" – Rev. Jan
Palkowski*

Martha & Walter Pelczar

In Memory of Michael & Stella Pelczar
By Daughters

Mrs. Joan Pianka & Family
Mary Prajzner

In Memory of Husband, Edmund
Rogowski & Daughter, Joann
Rogowski

By Mrs. Irene Rogowski

In Memory of Helen & John
Rykaczewski

*By Leona Durczak
Eve Skibiszewski*

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Frank
Smialowski

*By Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Nowicki
Mr. & Mrs. Henry A. Sokolowski & Fam.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sosnowski*

In Memory of Sz wajkowski &
Krzewinski Families

*By Mrs. Dorothy G. Krzewinski
Raymond, Catherine & Donna
Tomczak*

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene J. Urbanek
In Memory of Dr. Edward J. Wiza

By Martha Wiza

In Memory of Maria & Pawel
Zarenkiewicz

*By Helen Zarenkiewicz
Elizabeth Green Zielinski*

GOLD SPONSORS

American Legion Post 821

Anonymous

Apollo Caterers, Inc.

In Memory of John & Helen Bartnikowski

*By Raymond & Cecelia Bartnikowski
Raymond & Cecelia Bartnikowski*

In Memory of Parents, Walter & Agnes Brach

*By Bridesburg Roofing Co. – Stanley Brach
Bridesburg Chiropractic Center - Dr. J.R. &
Jeff McQuaite*

Bridesburg Unija Polek Dancing Children.
Counselor, Mary Mackiewicz

In Memory of Brozowski Family

By Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dorety

Chateau Caterers

Coppola's Bridesburg Hardware

In Memory of Joseph, Mary & Joseph, Jr.

Cybulski

By Leon & Lillian Cybulski

In Memory of John & Richard D'Orazio

By John D'Orazio & Sons, Inc.

Josephine Disbot & Son, John

The Dombkoski Family. Frank & Fay, Steve,
Terry & Children

Dugan, Carver, Cutter & Kosinski

In Memory of Stanislaus, Maryann, Frances,

Marion & Victoria Durzynski

By Edward J. Walicki

Eastern Optical - Mr. & Mrs. James

DiDomenico

Edgemont Caterers

Fran-Lee Caterers

In Memory of Felix Franecki

By Josephine Franecki

In Memory of Deceased Members of Garstka

& Rykaczewski Families

By Theresa A. Garstka

In Memory of Joseph & Mary Garstka

By Theresa A. Garstka

Leon & Hedwig Gosciniak

Mary L. Grabowski

Rev. Francis A. Gwiazda, Pastor St.

Laurentius Church

In Memory of Stanley & Henry Gwiazda

By Son & Brother, Frank

Mr. & Mrs. Valentine Han

Ideal Florists

In Memory of A.L. Jakubowicz

By Wife & Son

In Memory of Joseph Janczewski Family

By Czeslawa Janczewski

Casey & Gloria Jankiewicz

In Memory of Stanislaus T. Jarecki

By Helena W. Jarecki

In Memory of Joseph W. Kaszupski

By Helen Kaszupski &

Hedwig Kawski

Mr. & Mrs. James J. Keen & Richard

Councilman James Kenney

In Memory of Louis W. Kolodziejewski

By Casimir Kolodziejewski

In Memory of Andrzej, Tekla & Walter

Kopacz & Anthony, Walter & Kazimiera

Mikolajczyk

By Mrs. Mary Kopacz

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kosinski, Sr.

In Memory of Antoni & Stanislaw Kosinski

By Mr. & Mrs. John Devlin

Joan L. Krajewski, Councilwoman, 6th District

Wallace & Anna Krajewski

In Memory of Anthony Kudzmas

By Wife

In Memory of Charles & Sophie Kujawa

By Mildred Kujawa

Joseph Lachowicz & Son

In Memory of Deceased Members

Landwajtowicz Family

By Regina & Florence

In Memory of Marian T. Lapinski

By Wife, Bronislawa

Mary Mackiewicz

Josephine Magdziak & Family

Mary McFadden

Dolores & Richard Michalak

Raymond & Theresa Michalak

In Memory of Frank Mruk

By Wife, Adele

In Memory of John & Julia Olenski & Son, John

By John Olenski

The Paszk Family

Dorothy Pavelko

In Memory of Mary Pezak

By Husband, John

Frank Piech & Family

Polish American Citizens Club (Harmonia)

Congratulations! Polish American Congress

Eastern Pennsylvania District

Polonia Beneficial Assoc. - Officers & Directors

Jean Pracki

Pete & Helen Pripeton

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rooney & Family

Rose Funeral Home

In Memory of Wladyslaw & Stanislaw Ruchniewski

By Alexandra Subick & Family

Rev. Ladislaus J. Ryczek

Mary J. Ryczek

In Memory of Edward Ryczek

By Rev. Ladislaus Ryczek & Mary J. Ryczek

Honorable Jonathan A. Saidel

St. Adalbert Church

St. Hedwig Church, Philadelphia, PA
 St. John Cantius School Class – 1929
 St. Josaphat Parish
 St. Stanislaus Church
 St. Stanislaus Kostka R.C. Church
 Coatesville, PA
 Senator Hank Salvatore
 Charles & Helen Sander
 In Memory of Francis & James Schwab
By Mr. & Mrs. George Schwab
 In Loving Memory of Parents, Anthony &
 Anna Skorupa; Brother, Walter; Sister,
 Mildred Drozd
By Stella Skorupa
 In Memory of Skierkowski & Smegal Family
By Mrs. Josephine Skierkowski
 In Memory of John Stanish
By Genevieve Stanish & Daughters
 In Memory of Frank Staszak
By Wife, Stella
 In Memory of Michael G. Subick
By Alexandra Subick & Family
 Walter E. Sucharski Funeral Home – Loretta
 Sucharski & Family
 Zeney & Roselle Sucharski
 In Memory of Cezary & Stanislaw Szawlewicz
By Leon & Lillian Cybulski
 In Memory of Paul, Henry & Aloysius
 Szawlewicz
By Leon & Lillian Cybulski

In Memory of Karol & Eleanor Tomkowicz
By Adele Tomkowicz
 Union of Polish Women in America
 United Societies of St. Ladislaus Parish
 Joseph & Helen Urbanek
 Walczak Funeral Home
 In Memory of Ignatius, Sophie, Louis &
 Louise Walicki
By Edward J. Walicki
 In Memory of Parents, Josef & Stanislaw
 Warminski
By Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sosnowski
 Washington Savings Association
 Stanley Wendolowski
 Mildred Wesolowski
 In Memory of Andrew & Marya Wizimirski
By Regina & Joseph Nichols
 Loretta Wrzesinski
 In Memory of Anthony & Julia Wysokinski
By Mr. & Mrs. Richard Chajenski
 In Memory of John, Sr. David Loretta &
 David Zabawa
By Irene Zabawa
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Zielinski
 Frances Ziolkowski
 Alice Marcinkowska Zondek
 Mr. & Mrs. Adam Zultanski
 "Congratulations and Sto Lat!"
By Students of St. John Cantius School"

SILVER SPONSORS

Helen Alabrudzinski
 Mr. & Mrs. Frank J. Alice
 In Memory of Vincent Andruczyk, Jr.
By Regina Andruczyk
 In Memory of Thaddeus Andrzejewski
By Daisy Andrzejewski
 In Memory of Sr. Anna, C.S.F.N., Sr. Marian,

C.S.F.N. and Sr. Venard
By John & Ann Stahl
 In Memory of Konstanty & Helen Banka
By Mrs. Clara Gillard
 In Memory of Joseph & Victoria Baran
By Daughter
 Stephanie Bartkowski

Anonymous

Clara Aponik

In Memory of Joseph Aponik

By Clara Aponik

In Memory of Jadwiga & Sylvester Aumuller

By Joseph & Jeannette Ochar

In Memory of Sylvester & Adam Aumuller

By Joseph & Jeannette Ochar

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Bandosz

In Memory of John Michael Bartnikowski

By Mr. & Mrs. J. Bartnikowski

In Memory of Frederick Barut

By Wife & Family

Joan Bendler & Family

Emilia Bialecka

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Biedrzycki

Pearl Biedrzycka

Mrs. Anne Binczewski

Rev. Camillus W. Blaszcak

Mary Bogucki & Family

In Memory of Leon & Louise Bonikowski

By Dolores Bonikowski

In Memory of Borejko & Wisniewski

Families

By Mr. & Mrs. John Krepol

Ray & Sophie Borowski

Theresa Boyko

In Memory of My Husband, John F.

Brodzinski

By Mrs. Florence Brodzinski

In Memory of Raymond & Jennie Budney

By Richard & Jeanne Budney

In Memory of Wallace Butterworth

By Parents

Wallace & Laura Butterworth

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Chmielewski

In Memory of Stanislaw & Albina

Chmielewski

By Anne & John Witkowski

In Memory of Larry Chwastyk

By Veronica Chwastyk

In Memory of Czeslaw & Pelagia Chwierothe

By Joseph J. Chwierothe

In Memory of Frank & Catherine Chwierothe

By Mary Matczak

Cecilia Cichonska

Emily E. Ciurlej

Curran & Stone Families

In Memory of Frances Czajkowski

By Mr. & Mrs. Charles Czajkowski

In Memory of Benjamin C. Czarkowski

By Florence Czarkowski

Casimer & Dorothy Czarkowski & Family

In Memory of Stanley & Laura Czarkowski

By Casimer & Dorothy Czarkowski & Family

In Memory of Bronislawa & John Czarkowski

By Florence Czarkowski

Edward & Josephine Daniel

Dennis Daniel

Gerry Daniel

Maryanne Daniel

In Memory of Our Brother, Charles J. Daniels

By M.A. Hackford

In Memory of The Deceased Members of the

Darabasz & Devlin Families

By Joseph & Carol Darabasz

In Memory of John Darabasz

By Wife, Josephine

DiSandro Family

In Memory of Dominic J. DiSanto

By Helen T. DiSanto & Family

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. James L. Dillon, Sr.

By Mr. & Mrs. James L. Dillon

In Memory of Alfred B. Dombrowski

By Vivian D. Braubitz

In Memory of Jennie Drejerski

By Mr. & Mrs. Albert Tantala

Walter Drejerski, Jr.

In Memory Walter Drejerski, Sr.

By Mr. & Mrs. Albert Tantala

Danuta Dronski

Daniel & Kathleen DuBeck & Family

Leona Durczak

Bernice Dymek

Irene Dzialowska

In Memory of Leonard J. Elnicki

By Karen A. Elnicki & Children

Jean Falicki

Ted & Claire Falicki

In Memory of Jan & Weronika Feler

By Son, Walter S. Feler

In Memory of Roy J. Feniewicz

By Melanie Feniewicz

Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Florkowski & Family

In Memory of John & Sophie Florkowski

By Bernard & Florence Florkowski

Gloria A. Frankowski
 In Memory of Joseph & Mary Frankowski
By Matthew & Mary Frankowski
 Edmund J. Furmanski
 In Memory of Helen Furmanski
By Edmund Furmanski
 Ludwik & Josephine M. Furmanski
 In Memory of Mary & John Gabryelski
By Florence Czarkowski
 Edward & Carol Gallagher
 In Memory of Stanley & Victoria Galza
By Mr. & Mrs. Jack H. Pinkerton
 Mr. & Mrs. William J. Garlick & Family
 Bob & Tish Gibbon & Children
 In Memory of Mrs. Jennie Ruoff
By Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Gibbon, Sr.
 Mrs. Clara Gillard
 In Memory of Thomas & Helen Glebocki
By Josephine Glebocki
 In Memory of John Glenkowski
By Anna Glenkowski
 In Memory of Helen Glowacka
By Joseph Glowacki
 In Memory of Jan & Walerja Gosciniak
By Leon & Hedwig
 Stephanie Grablewski
 In Memory of My Parents, Edward J. & Mary
 A. Grabowski
By Lorraine M. Keesey
 In Memory of John T. Grabowski
By Mary Grabowski
 Mark & Regina (Zielinski) Grimaldi
 Narcissan & Josephine Grous
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert Gruszka, D.D.S.
 Jessie Gutkowski
 Henry & Mary Hajdak
 In Memory of Ignacy & Stefania
 Harnatkiewicz
By Helen Harnatkiewicz
 Sally Banka & Jean Haurin
 Anndrea & Daniel Hawthorne
 Kevin, Bonnie & Brittany Hawthorne
 Shawn Hawthorne
 Russell & Kara (Zielinski) Hayes
 Home & School Association
 In Memory of Michael V. Huggard, Sr.
By Mary Huggard & Family
 In Memory of Jakielski Family
By Phillip F. Jakielski

Charles J. Jakubiak
 In Memory of Victoria & Edward Janczewski
By Mr. & Mrs. Richard Janczewski
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Janiszewski
 Rosemarie Janiszewski
 Ron & Diane Janka
 In Memory of Joseph & Veronica Jankiewicz
By Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Jankiewicz
 In Memory of The Jankowski & Slowik
 Families
By Anna Jankowski
 Maximilian & Bertha Janyszek
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward Jastrzebski
 In Memory of Walter & Stella Jeffers
By Cynthia & George Reiff
 The Jereb Family
 In Memory of John J. Kaczmarek
By Regina Kaczmarek
 Regina Kaczmarek & Family
 In Memory of Stanley & Marianne
 Kaczmarek
By Regina Kaczmarek
 Mrs. Josephine Kalinowski
 In Memory of Helen & Theodore Kaminski
By Daughter, Alice
 In Memory of Thaddeus & Josephine
 Kaminski
By Alexander & Anne Konieczny
 Maryann (Mosczyński) Marszalek - 1956
 In Memory of My Parents, Joseph & Mary
 Marzewski
By Sophie Radzinski
 Edward & Bertha Masny
 In Memory of Henry Matoryn
By Mrs. Jean Smolczynski
 In Memory of Karol & Ewa Matulewicz
By Ann Coughlin
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Mazur
 Mr. Edward Mazurkiewicz
 In Memory of Mrs. Victoria Mazurkiewicz
By Edward Mazurkiewicz
 Laura McCrystal
 In Memory of Thomas McGann
By Wife, Frances
 In Memory of Walter & Veronica Meller
By Daughter, Helen Zaremski
 Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Meshin
 Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Michalak
 Albert & Emma Michalski

The following sponsor listings are accidentally out of alphabetical order.

They are Silver Sponsors.

- | | |
|--|--|
| In Memory of Albert Kanach | Stanley J. Lewandowski |
| By Alice Kanach | In Memory of James & Alice Lipski |
| In Memory of My Sister, Lillian Kanach | By Leonard J. Lipski |
| By Josephine McClintock | Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Lisiewski & Family |
| Helen & Christine Kaszupski | In Memory of Mary Lisowicz |
| Helen Kazmierczak | By Daughters |
| Joseph & Janice Kedziora & Family | In Memory of The Lisowski Family |
| In Memory of Walter & Stella Kempczynski | By Lorraine Lyons |
| By John R. Kempczynski | In Memory of Leon Londer |
| In Memory of Adam & Sophia Keplin | By Charlotte Londer |
| By Eve Bernice Keplin | In Memory of Franciszek & Franciszka Lopinski |
| Joseph & Kathryn Kider | By Helen Zaremski |
| Michael S. Kocinski & David J. Kocinski | In Memory of Frank Lorenc |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ronald J. Kocinski | By Helen Lorenc |
| Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Kogut | In Memory of Joseph & Tadeusz Ludwiczak |
| In Memory of Konstanty & Stefania Kolakowski | By Antonina Ludwiczak |
| By Sophie J. Plocharski | Mr. & Mrs. Edward Mach & Family |
| Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kolinka | Stanley & Jane Maciejewski |
| Alexander & Anne Konieczny | Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Mackiewicz |
| In Memory of Anna & John Konopka | In Memory of Leo H. Mackiewicz |
| By Daughter, Stella | By Leon M. Mackiewicz |
| In Memory of Louis Kosinski, Sr. & Gontarek Family | Michael J. & Leon M. Mackiewicz |
| By Rose Kosinski | In Memory of Leroy P. Macool & Family |
| Rose, Louis & Christina Kosinski | By Irene Macool |
| Wladyslawa & Kazimierz Kowalewski | Mr. & Mrs. Philip Madden, Jr. & Family |
| In Memory of Frank & Josephine Kowalski | August Maduzia |
| By Felix & Maryann Lipiecki | In Memory of Stephen A. & Henrietta C. Maduzia |
| In Memory of Kostanty, Maryana, Mary, John & Edward Krol | By Nancy Maduzia |
| By Mrs. Jean Smolczynski | In Memory of Edmund P. Magerr |
| Stephania Krzeminski | By Mrs. Kathryn Magerr |
| In Memory of Kupcinski Family | In Memory of Antoni & Agnieszka & Franciszek Maglowski |
| By Helen Nowakowski | By Josephine Maglowska |
| Charles & Laura Kwiatkowski | In Memory of Genevieve Maglowski & Edward & Helen Pawlikowski |
| Mr. & Mrs. John Lachowicz | By Josephine Maglowski |
| John & Wanda Lachowicz | In Memory of Leo Maglowski |
| Joseph & Stella Lada | By Helen Maglowski |
| Joseph F. & Joan A. Lange | Henry & Debbie Majka |
| Zofia Lazenski | In Memory of Mary Makowska |
| Mrs. Stella Lech | By Florence Trinkle |
| In Memory of Jan & Marya Lenart | In Memory of Joseph Malec, May, Frank & Elwin Bogucki & Kathryn & Edward Chmielewski |
| By Dzieci | By Evelyn B. Malec |
| In Memory of Franciszek & Zofia Lepkowski | Sonia Marchesano |
| By Melanie Feniewicz | In Memory of Karl & Marya Marek |
| In Memory of Marion & Laura Leszczynski | By Mr. & Mrs. Joseph V. Marek |
| By Phyllis Koc | |

The following young ladies entered religious life during the 100 years of St. John Cantius Parish.

SISTERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH

Sister M. Ewaryzta (Franciska Janusiak)
 Sister M. Miloslawa (Marja Zaporowska)
 Sister M. Justyna (Cecilia Petner)
 Sister M. Laudiosa (Tekla Rosinska)
 Sister M. Ammia (Julianna Pelczar)
 Sister M. Arnolda (Wiktoria Pomykala)
 Sister M. Serwa (Michalina Bukowska)
 Sister M. Roseletta (Clara Szamborska)
 Sister M. Plautylda (Stanislawa Pachucka)
 Sister M. Rozalinia (Marja Ruchalska)
 Sister M. Florence (Florence Staniszweska)
 Sister M. Anastasia (Stephania Michalak)
 Sister M. Pulcheria (Marja Rzepka)
 Sister M. Placide (Irene Karczewska)
 Sister Helen Marie (Helen Sliwinski)
 Sister M. Clemens (Helen Koszarek)
 Sister M. Marceline (Florence Rykaczewska)
 Sister M. Florence (Florence Krajewska)
 Sister M. Frances (Frances Kowalska)
 Sister M. Adolorata (Sr. M. Anna) (Anne Dombrowski)
 Sister M. Maryanna (Sr. Marian) (Mary Dombrowski)
 Sister M. Helen (Helen Pytela)
 Sister M. Jude (Dolores Niemiec)
 Sister M. Irene (Irene Kubacka)
 Sister M. Rita Katherine (Rita Sperka)
 Sister M. Bertilla (Florence Szawlewicz)
 Sister M. Theresa (Mary Jane Tygielski)
 Sister M. Regina (Marie Wieczczynski)
 Sister M. Lois (Dorothy Folz)
 Sister M. Marcella (Lorraine Binkowska)
 Sister M. Barbara Jean (Barbara Jean Wojnicki)
 Sister M. Valerie (Valeria Powidzka)
 Sister M. Paul (Genevieve Rozanska)
 Sister M. Eileen Theresa (Eileen Przybylowska)
 Sister M. Vera (Czeslawa Ochmanowicz)
 Sister M. Eunice (Irene Leszczynska)
 Sister M. Hamilia (Mary Dabrowska)
 Sister M. Honesta (Camilia Zebrowska)

FELICIAN SISTERS

Sister M. Amata (Marcjanna Wisniewska)
 Sister M. Celestyna (Helena Janczak)
 Sister M. Swietoslawa (Marya Gawlinska)
 Sister M. Junipiera (Marjanna Duszak)
 Sister M. Emeryta (Andraka)
 Sister M. Dorothy Marie (Ludwika Krzewinska)

BERNADINE SISTERS

Sister M. Isabella (Niemiec)
 Sister M. Sabina (Namiotka)
 Sister M. Kapistrana (Namiotka)
 Sister M. Vernard (Dombrowska)
 Sister M. Concetta (Sophie LaBenz)

MONASTERY OF POOR ST. CLARE

Sister Anthony of Jesus (Franciszka Koszarek)

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE ASSUMPTION

Sister Agnes (Agnes Masny)
 Sister Elizabeth (Elizabeth Sperka)

SERVANTS OF THE MOST BLESSED TRINITY

Sister Hyacinth (Theresa Stobenau)

SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Sister M. Mechtylda (Marya Filip)

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

Sister M. Bernice (Bernice Pelczar)

- In Memory of Parents, Antoni & Kazimiera
Mikolajczyk & Brother, Walter
By Charlotte Londer
- In Memory of Parents, Victoria & Nicholas Misko
By Mr. & Mrs. Fred Tomkowicz
- In Memory of Nicholas & Victoria Misko
By Leona Stankiewicz
- Mr. & Mrs. Andrzej Mizeraczyk, III
In Memory of Joanna & Ignacy Mizia
By Children
- Stanley & Mary Modrzejewski
Stephanie H. Morawski
Mr. & Mrs. Z. Morawski
In Memory of Anthony F. Mosko
By Elvera J. Mosko
- Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Myslinski
In Memory of Konstanty Netter
By Mrs. Sophie Netter
- In Memory of Piotr & Anna Niezgoda
By Daughters, Rose & Helen
- In Memory of Stephanie & James Nitka
By Daughter, Clare
- In Memory of Theodore Nowaczyk
By Frances Nowaczyk
- In Memory of Joseph & Helen Nowicki
By Children
- In Memory of Thomas & Frances Oczkowicz
By Elizabeth Green Zielinski
- Ed & Loretta Okulewicz
Anna Okupniak
In Memory of Anthony Olender
By Christopher Olender & Family
- Edmund Olszanowski & Loretta Barbalace
Families
In Memory of Estelle Olszewska & Family
By Estelle Olszewska
- In Memory of Stanislaw & Stanislaw Operacz
By Clara Operacz
- Mr. & Mrs. John Orysiek
In Memory of Leo & Ann T. Ostapowicz
By Phyllis Koc
- In Memory of Walter & Katharine Oziemkiewicz
By Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Hawthorne
- In Memory of Ralph Pacewicz & Family &
John Kowalkowski & Family
By Mr. & Mrs. John Kowalkowski
- In Memory of Lawrence J. Palicki
By Mrs. Jean Palicki
- In Memory of Walter Paradysz
By Josephine Maglowski
- Mark, Theresa, Brian & Meghan Pasternak
In Memory of Frank & Jean Pawlikowski
By Rita E. Dworecki
- Antoinette M. Pelczar
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Perrault & Family
Anthony Pianka
Henrietta Pianka
In Memory of Marianna Pianka
By Henrietta Pianka
- Thaddeus A. Pianka
In Memory of Stanley Pietrusinski
By Wife
- In Memory of Jan & Leokadja Piotrowski
By Alfred B. Piotrowski
- In Memory of Pelagia Piwnicka
By Henrietta Pianka
- Mr. & Mrs. Felix Pliszka
In Memory of Anthony & Tillie Plocharski
By Sophie J. Plocharski
- In Memory of Edward M. Plocharski
By Sophie J. Plocharski
- Polish American Citizens' League of
Pennsylvania
In Memory of Deceased Members of Group
#59 Polish Beneficial Association
Polish Beneficial Ass'n. - Group 24
Polish Beneficial Ass'n. - Group 87
Polish Beneficial Association - Group 100
Beverly Allen - Secretary
Members of Group 166 - Polish Beneficial
Association
Polish Beneficial Association United Groups
of Bridesburg & Frankford
Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia
Matthew & Helen Poniatowski
Mrs. Joyce Prescott & Children
In Memory of John & Antoinette Presner
By Vivian D. Braubitz
- In Memory of Leon Przybylowski
By Victoria Przybylowski
- Mr. & Mrs. W. Pytko
In Memory of Genevieve Quenzer
By Sisters, Rose & Helen
- In Memory of Wladyslaw & Czeslawa Rejniak
By Alexander Rejniak

- Helen Rogalski & Son, Francis
Edward & Valerie Rogozinski
In Memory of Grandparents, Mr. & Mrs.
 Vincent Rozanski, Sr.
 By Vincent S. Rozanski
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Rozanski
 By Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Rozanski & Family
In Memory of Joseph Rutkowski & Frances Kanas
 By Mr. & Mrs. John G. McWilliams
In Memory of Kazimiera & Teodor Rybacki
 By Agnes Keinath
In Memory of John Rychlewski
 By Stella Rychlewski
Mrs. Alice Ksiazewska Rudzinski
In Memory of Mrs. Julia Samocki & Mr.
 Jacob Samocki
 By Joan Samocki
In Memory of Arthur J. Santoro
 By Wife, Mary
In Memory of Anthony Segelski
 By The Segelski Family
In Memory of Marianna & Baltazar Sejda
 By Family
In Memory of Maryann & Benjamin Seklecki
 By Frank & Irene Strupczewski
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Sibila
In Memory of Joseph Siburkis
 By Wife, Clare
In Memory of Andrew & Sophie Sicinski
 By Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sicinski
In Memory of Walter Skoczylas
 By Josephine Skoczylas
In Memory of Edward, Leon & Josephine
 Smialowski & Melchior & Martha Wozniak
 By Mrs. Mary Smialowski
In Memory of Michael F. Smith
 By Parents, Frank & Lorraine Smith
Rev. A.J. Smuda, O.S.F.S.
In Memory of Stanley & Ted Stanislawski
 By Sophie Stanislawski
In Memory of Felix & Paulina Stankiewicz &
 Son, Felix
 By Leona Stankiewicz
Leona Stankiewicz
Mrs. Sophie Stankiewicz & Family
In Memory of Chester Strauss
 By Wife, Blanche & Children
In Memory of Elizebeth & Louis Strupczewski
 By Frank & Irene Strupczewski
In Memory of Franciszek & Apolina Sucharski
 By Clara Gronczewski
In Memory of Walter & Helen Sucharski
 By The Walter E. Sucharski Family
In Memory of Walter E. Sucharski
 By Loretta Sucharski & Family
Bronislawa Sulecka
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Sulecki
 *By Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Rozanski &
 Family*
In Memory of Grandparents, Mr. & Mrs.
 Stanley Sulecki
 By Vincent S. Rozanski
In Memory of Frank Suwala
 By Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sicinski
In Memory of Stanley & Anna Suwala
 By Regina Kaczmarek
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Szelc
 By Mrs. Laura Saskiewicz
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Szmigiel
 By Mr. & Mrs. John Slattey
In Memory of Anna & Edmund
 Szwajkowski
 By Hedwig & Leon
In Memory of Joseph & Mary Szydlowski
 By Olga Young
Albert M. Tantara, Jr.
Michael W. Tantara
Olga Tantara
In Memory of Peter Tantara
 By Mr. & Mrs. Albert Tantara
Peter John Tantara
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Tedesco & Son
Anna Sabina Teska – 1952
Rose & Matthew Tomkowicz
Catherine Trawka
In Memory of Ignatz Trinkle
 By Florence Trinkle
Z. Trocki & Family
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph B. Turanckas
 By Joseph David Turanckas
In Memory of Helen Turlinski
 By Leona Strobel & Family
In Memory of Paul & Mary Turlinski
 By Catherine Faracchio
Leon & Florence Tyszka
Union of Polish Women in America – Group 11
In Memory of Walter Ungehajer
 By Wife

Dr. Michelle M. Urbanek-Tannenbaum

In Memory of Bruno John Walczak

By Sophie Clara Walczak

In Memory of John Warminski

By Wife, Helen

In Memory of Parents, Julian & Anna Wasicki

By Alfreda Wozniak

Leonard & Anne Wiecezynski

In Memory of Adam Wilczynski

By Chester Wilczynski

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Winkler

Anna Wisniewska

John & Pat Wisniewski & Children

Robert V. Wisniewski Family

In Memory of Joseph Wojnarowicz

By Bertha Wojnarowicz

In Memory of Matthew Wolkowicz

By Wife, Charlotte

In Memory of Melchior & Martha Wozniak

By Daughter, Florence

In Memory of Wladyslaw & Julianna Wszolek

By Josephine J. Wszolek

In Memory of Melchior & Martha Wozniak

By Daughter, Florence

In Memory of Wladyslaw & Julianna

Wszolek

By Josephine J. Wszolek

Ruth Yukas

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Zabczynski

In Memory of Alex, Helen & Mary Zabielski

By John Zabielski

In Memory of Joseph & Tekla Zagorski

By Dolores Lemanowicz

In Memory of Edmond A. Zaremski & Frank

Kuczynski

By Helen Zaremski

In Memory of Thaddeus P. Zarenkiewicz

By Wife, Vicki

In Memory of Sarafin & Victoria Zarzecki

By Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stabene

In Memory of Paul Zawistoski

By Mrs. Alice Zawistoski

Al (Itsy) & Anne Zielinski

John & Rita Zielinski

Kristen M. Zielinski

In Memory of Maria T. Zielinski

By Alfred J. Zielinski

Mark & Carol Zielinski

Paul J. Zielinski

In Memory of Paul Green Zielinski

By Elizabeth Green Zielinski

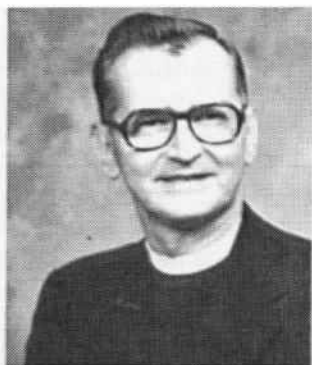
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Zultanski

Henry & Regina Zych & Family



IN MEMORIAM

While this anniversary book was being written, and before it was published, we lost three very close members of our Parish family. Father Stanley Matraszek, one of our Priest/sons, was killed in an automobile accident on June 26, 1992. Father Stanley was the Assistant at St. Clement's Parish. Father Aquinas Helwig, OFM, our weekend Assistant for 30 years died on December 28, 1992, after a short illness. And Antoinette "Tosia" Pelczar, one of our most faithful parishioners, died of cancer on January 31, 1993.



REVEREND
STANLEY E. MATRASZEK

Born: October 26, 1931

Ordained: May 15, 1958

Died: June 26, 1992



POSTSCRIPT

I hope that you have enjoyed reading this brief history of our parish. I hope that it brought back many happy memories and gave you added reasons to be proud of our Parish.

I realize that much more could have been written and many other events noted. After all, one hundred years is a long time. However, the restrictions of material and time necessitated more of an overview of the history of the Parish, rather than a detailed narrative. Perhaps someday someone will write a full-length history of the Parish.

In regard to the pictures that are featured in the book, I tried to include as many people and events as I could. Also, as I am sure you noticed, everyone is identified. It makes for much more interesting reading, especially in years to come. Some pictures were rejected by the publisher because he felt they would not reproduce properly. I also tried not to use pictures that were included in other anniversary books.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the preparation of this book, especially those who contributed pictures, articles or any artifacts that were used. I also want to thank those who supported the book. Your interest and participation are truly appreciated.

Since the publication of this book brings down the curtain on our 100th anniversary, I want to thank everyone who helped prepare and carry out the events of this anniversary year. A special thank you to all who attended our Anniversary Mass and Banquet. I think it was just a beautiful day, a fitting celebration for our one hundred years. Lastly, my sincere thanks to Fr. Andrew McCormick, Fr. Dennis Witalec, Fr. Jan Palkowski and Fr. John Wendrychowicz, my co-workers, for all they did to make this year a success.

We have successfully completed a hundred years of service to God and His Holy Mother, Our Beautiful Lady of Czestochowa. We have tried to be faithful to our Catholic Faith and our Polish heritage. We leave it to God to judge our efforts. All I ask of everyone of you is that you judge yourself as to your service and faithfulness to the Parish, and that you commit yourself to greater love of God as we begin the second one hundred years of St. John Cantius Parish.

May Our Lord be always with us, and may His Holy Mother keep us in her care.

Msgr. Bernard E. Witkowski

Photo Credits

George Holmes - All the Societies, Teams and varied pictures.

Gurcsik Studios - Class pictures and School candid shots.

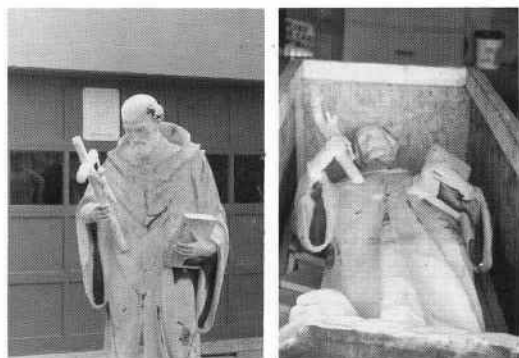
All other pictures are from the Parish archives or donated by parishioners.

ST. JOHN KANTY STATUE

The statue of St. John Kanty which now stands in our church stood above the main entrance of the famous St. John Kanty Prep in Erie, Pa. since September 2, 1912, until its arrival at our Parish on February 3, 1992.

The School had been closed since 1981 and the property was sold, but the statue remained above the door. Msgr. Bernard E. Witkowski, Class of 1953, thought often about bringing the statue to our Parish, and, finally, called Mr. Kenneth Lochbaum, the owner of the property, and asked if it would be possible. Mr. Lochbaum graciously agreed to give the statue to Monsignor, and through the generosity of the Alumni, the statue was removed and transported to Philadelphia.

The statue, made of Carrara Marble, was hand-carved in Milan, Italy. It weighs 1800 pounds, and stands six feet, seven inches tall.



Statue of St. John Kanty arrives on February 3, 1992.



St. Mary's - Orchard Lake, MI
BX 4603 .P52 S379x 1992
Saint John Cantius Church
Saint John Cantius Church cele

000

010101



0 1885 0030474 9