

2017 DIRECTORY of Polish American Culture in Texas

**Event
Calendar
& Photos**

**Everything
Polish
in Texas!**



**POLISH AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF
TEXAS**

www.PolishAmericanCouncilofTexas.org

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See our contact information on the back cover.



Fr. Wiesław Iwaniec, Pastor of Immaculate Conception of the BVM Church in Panna Maria, leading the parade during our PACT Annual Meeting events on Nov. 19, 2016.



OUR LEADERSHIP

Founder and Chairman Emeritus
Most Rev. John W. Yanta, D.D., Bishop
Emeritus, Diocese of Amarillo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maureen Brown
Jolanta Dryden-Mazewski
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John Wojtasczyk
Colton Cunov
Dr. Piotr Przybylski

OFFICERS 2017

President - Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz
Vice President - Elaine Mazurek Stephens
2nd Vice President - Dr. Piotr Przybylski
Secretary - Susie Kotara
Treasurer - John Wojtasczyk
Youth Vice President - Colton Cunov

2017~18 MEMBER EVENTS

2017

1st Sunday of each month - **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Film Festival Series

Mar. 1 – Texas A&M University Internship/Study Abroad to Poland Applications due

Mar. 25 – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Bigos Cook-Off

Mar. 29 – **IRVING**, Univ. of Dallas Lecture Series w/ Krzysztof Zanussi

Apr. 2 - **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Bigos Cook-Off

Apr. – Deadlines for PACT, PNA Scholarship and Fr. Leo. Moczygemba Fdtn. Scholarships

Apr. 9 – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Easter egg painting

Apr. 15 – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Easter Food Blessing – Święconka

Apr. 21 – **HOUSTON**, Polish Bridge Club

Apr. 23 - **SAN ANTONIO**, Divine Mercy Sunday, Seraphic Sisters



L-R Colton Cunov, Dr. Piotr Przybylski, James Mazurkiewicz in front of Immaculate Conception of the BVM Church, during the PACT Annual Meeting in Panna Mara in 2016.

Apr. 23 - **ST. HEDWIG**, Annunciation of the BVM Church, Annual Parish Festival

May 6 – **DALLAS**, St. Peter the Apostle Church, The Magic Piano concert, music of Chopin (Dallas Opera)

May 6 – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Piano/violin concert

May 7 – **DALLAS**, St. Peter the Apostle Church, Polish food and drink Picnic

May 7 - **BANDERA**, St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Parish Festival

May 5-7 - **HOUSTON**, Our Lady of Czestochowa

Catholic Church, May Festival

May 13 - **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society Picnic

May 21 - **SAN ANTONIO**, Our Lady of Sorrows, Spring Festival

May 28 – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Children's Day

June/July – **AUSTIN**, Austin Polish Society, Family Potluck

Jun. 9-11 - **SAN ANTONIO**, Fr. Leo. Moczygemba Fdtn. Polish Booth at the Texas Folklife Festival

Jun. 23-24 - **BREMOND**, Bremond Chamber of Commerce, Polish Festival Days

Aug. 6 - **KOSCIUSKO**, St. Ann Catholic Church, Annual Picnic

Sep. – **HOUSTON**, Our Lady of Czestochowa Catholic Church, Dozynki

Sep or Oct. **HOUSTON**, Slavic Heritage Festival

Sep. 1-3 – **PANHANDLE**, Rapstine Family Reunion

Sep. 3 – **CHAPPELL HILL**, St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 80th Annual Parish Mass & Homecoming Bazaar

Sep. 10 - **YORKTOWN**, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Parish Festival & Craft Fair

2017~18 MEMBER EVENTS



Children at the Annual Meeting in Panna Maria, Nov. 2016.

Oct. – Polish Heritage Month

Oct. – **ST. HEDWIG**,
Annunciation of the BVM Church,
Polish American Priests Association Celebration

Oct. 8 - **PANNA MARIA**,
Immaculate Conception of the BVM, Annual Turkey Dinner

October 23 – **DALLAS**, St. Peter the Apostle Church,
Polish festival at Klyde Warren Park

Nov. - **AUSTIN**,
Austin Polish Society, Campfire/ Ognisko; and Polish Film Festival

Nov. 1-5 – **HOUSTON**,
Houston Polish Film Festival

Nov. 11 – **HOUSTON**, Our Lady of Czestochowa Catholic Church, Singing of Polish Patriotic Songs and Polish History Competition

Nov. 18 – **BREMONT**,
PACT Annual Members & Directors Meetings

Nov. 19 - **CHAPPELL HILL**,
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, 9th Annual Dozynki (Harvest Mass & Celebration)

Dec. 3 - **SAN ANTONIO**,
Father Leopold Moczygemba Foundation, Annual Gala

Dec. 9 – **YORK-TOWN**, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Catholic Daughters, Santa Cafe and Craft Fair.

Dec. 10 – **AUSTIN**,
Austin Polish Society, Christmas Party

Dec. – **HOUSTON**,
Polish Home, Polish National Alliance, Christmas Party

Dec. – **BREMONT**,
Bremont Chamber of Commerce, Kolędy

Dec. – **BREMONT**,
Bremont Chamber of Commerce,
Christmas Festival Parade of Lights

Dec. – **ST. HEDWIG**,
Annunciation of the BVM Church, Wigilia

Dec. 30 – **CHAPPELL HILL**,
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Kolędy (Christmas Caroling)

2018

Jan. – PACT Members - Pay PACT dues

Feb. – **HOUSTON**,
Ognisko (bonfire)

Feb. – **EL PASO** – registration opens for Polish language classes at UT El Paso

Mar 1 – **DEADLINE** for PACT Directory ads and events!

POLISH AMERICAN
COUNCIL OF
TEXAS

Please check member pages and websites for up-to-date info.

Submit YOUR Member events to
PACofTexas@yahoo.com

PACT Annual Meeting



PACT Members gather in front of church in Panna Maria, for the annual meeting.



Regions of PACT were represented in the parade.

**Join PACT
at our
Annual Meetings
for Members
& Directors
Nov. 18, 2017
Bremond, Texas**



Bishop John W. Yanta and two young ladies meet at the PACT Annual Meeting where he was presented (right) the PACT Award of Lifetime Achievement, by President, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz.



COVER PHOTO & MORE CONTRIBUTED BY MIGUEL RAMOS



In memory of my great-great-grandparents, John Kush and Josephine Opiala Kush.

They were Silurian Polish immigrants who settled in central San Antonio after their arrival in 1854.

I hope to honor them by serving as a Director for the Polish American Council of Texas and as a representative of the Panna Maria Heritage Center.

John was a stonecutter who built and lived with his family in this house which still exists in what is now Hemphill Place. I am blessed by this heritage which I will always treasure.

— Marlene Brown

Joseph
Czyk

Elenora Dugosh
Goodley

- PACT Vice President
- Poland, USA & International Ambassador for City and County of Banderas, Texas
- Father Leopold Marzygembka Foundation, Outstanding Service Award, October 8, 2005
- Banderas County Commissioners Court Distinguished Service Award, June 12, 2008
- Founder of the Banderas County Sister Partnership with Staszka Opolska, Poland, co-chair Banderas County Historical Commission



Mary Rapstine
Haynes
El Paso, Texas

Proud
to be a descendant
of the original
Rapstine Polish
settlers in
Panna Maria

*I'm a proud
descendant
of 1850 Polish
settlers, the
Kosub & Ploch
families.*

Genny Kraus

Mazurka Polish Dancer
PACT Member



**Proudly helping
Grimes County
and beyond with
genealogy and
translations!**

Michael Kurtin
13300 FM 362
Navasota, TX 77868
713-446-7813
mktexwh@yahoo.com

***In memory of Poles deported
to Siberia in 1940-41.***
Warsaw, September 17, 2009



Witold J. Lukaszewski, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, International
Politics, Sam Houston State University

936-271-0505
wjlukaszewski@gmail.com

Jolanta A. Mazewski-Dryden

*Director of Region II,
Polish National Alliance
President, Polish Program
League 2333 & Representation
Council 182
Polish Heritage and Hospitality
in Texas and Beyond*



Emigrated from Poland in the early 80's to Texas.
Has been actively involved in the Polish community
since she was five, performing with the Polish Eagle
Dance Group & holding a variety of positions in the
Polish National Alliance for over four decades.

Active promoter of Polish culture, history, language
and arts via Polish displays throughout Texas. Involved
in festivals, consumer events, charitable balls, and ba-
sars, church events and private events. Does speaking
engagements and TV promos for the community.

Uses Polish Events and Happenings in Texas and Beyond
to promote Polish Cultural events, arts & culture,
language and career events. Owns a Consulting,
PR and Marketing Firm, Dryden Event Productions.
Check out: <https://www.facebook.com/PolishHoustonHappeningsInTexas/>
Contact jola@drydeneventproductions.com



*Happy to be part of the
PACT as it fosters
continued interest in the
wonderful Polish Heritage.*

— Sue McCarthy

**Pamela
Mitchell
Bremond, TX**

MOCZYGEMBA,
Virgil and Elaine

**PROUD
TO BE
SILESIAN
POLISH**

**Eric
Opiela**

**Robert
Pawelek**

**Dr. Waldemar
Priebe**

Kamila Rodford

**Translator/Interpreter
Legal, Medical, Immigration
and Personal Documents**

**Polish/Spanish
French/Russian**

Notary Public
kamilowska@yahoo.com
602.703.1210
832-616-0426



Best Wishes from

***Mary Ann
Kotara Schürmer***

**of
Panna Maria, Texas
and Redwing, Colorado**

Elaine Mazurek Stephens



Descendant
of Thomas
Mazurek,
one of the
original
Polish
settlers in
Bandera,
Texas.

Also descended from surnames
Gruszka, Haiduk, and Jureczki

1st Vice President, Membership
& Directory Chairman,
Polish American Council of Texas
Marketing Assistant, Father Leopold
Moczygemba Foundation
La Vernia, Texas

Zbigniew Wojciechowski

Honorary Consul
of Republic of Poland

Congratulations!

To the recipient of the
2017 PACT Essay
Scholarship Award

PATRICK ZAJAC

Seven Lakes High School
Katy, Texas

*Patrick will be attending
Texas A&M University*

Gratulacje, Patrick!

***Enter the
Polish
American
Council of
Texas
Essay Contest
and win a
\$500
Scholarship!***

**Founder & Chairman Emeritus
of the Polish American Council of Texas**

Most Rev. John W. Yanta, Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Amarillo

**Divine Providence:
Looking Back to See God's
Loving Plan Unfolding**

"I attended the 1971 Youth Summer Study Program of the Kosciuszko Foundation, New York City, at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

"In 1972, I attended the Summer Study Program of the University of Kansas at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. Like the previous year, I spent several weekends with Dr. Andrzej Bruzek visiting the Silesian parishes, their cemeteries, and ancestral villages looking for my relatives and ancestors.



"These two summer courses gave me the self-confidence to organize and do the following: In the early summer of 1973, by God's design, I led the first-ever group of Texas Silesian Polish back to the "Old Country" to visit Poland and especially a 4-day visit with ancestral relatives in the villages of our Silesian ancestors. Now, thanks to the presence of several priests from Poland locally, especially Monsignor Frank Kurzej, trips to Poland and to our Silesian villages are available annually and have produced much fruit. These have established a prophetic "bridge" between Silesian Poland and Texas. Thank you, Lord, for the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Polish saints, and deceased ancestors!

P.O. Box 28125 — San Antonio, Texas 78228

**Gabe & Bertha
Dworaczyk
Korzekwa**

In Memory Of

**Hagaa Dworaczyk
and
Pelagia (Wistrek)
Dworaczyk**

**Benedict Korzekwa
and
Hattie (Hoffmann)
Korzekwa**

**Sam &
Susie
Kotara**

**Actively involved
in promoting
the development
of the
Panna Maria
Heritage Center.**

**George
&
Betty
Kowalik**

**Dr. Leon
&
Mrs. Alina
Ordon
Kundrotas**

**Descendant of
Wielkopolska that
settled in Chappell Hill,
TX in the late 1880s.**

Dr. Jim & Kathy Mazurkiewicz

Regents Fellow

Professor & Leadership Program Director

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Department of Agricultural Leadership,

Education and Communication

Texas A&M University

2nd Vice President & PACT Board Member

Agriculture and Life Sciences Bldg.

600 John Kinnebrew Blvd., 8th. 518

College Station, TX 77843-2137

979-845-1554

j-mazurkiewicz@tamu.edu

http://toll.tamu.edu

**Jane
Nicholson
& Family**

Piotr Przybylski, PhD

Current 2nd Vice President of PACT

Born and raised in Kraków, Poland



***Happy husband
and father of
Adam, Isabela
and Christopher***

Education:

**M.S. in Geology
(AGH and Freiberg)**

**PhD in Geophysics
(Purdue)**

**Geologist
(British Petroleum, Houston)**



**•Actively involved in
Polish communities**

**•Member of Knights of
Columbus (Council 4550)
at Our Lady of
Czestochowa Church,
Houston**

**Mark
& Zhanna
Sikorski**

**Eddie
& Debbie
Skrobarcek**

**John & Denise
SKROBARCZYK**

*5th generation descendants
of immigrants
Josef & Joanna Skrobarczyk
who arrived in Panna Maria
in 1855*



**John (Treasurer for PACT) &
Christie Wojtasczyk**

*Descendants of
Morawiecz, Schlesia, Pawlik,
Hagel, Migura, Bednorz,
Brzezina, Skrobarczyk,
Grabon, Kowalik, Respondak,
Czerner, & Ibroan*

The
Church
was
founded
in 1855.

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church



*Parish center named after
St. John Paul II*

**Pastor, Fr. Bill (Boleslaw)
Zadara, SDS**

FM 1346, P.O. Box 100
Saint Hedwig, TX 78152
210-667-1232
FAX: 210-667-9088
annunciat@att.net
www.sdscc.com



Feast Day Celebration

April 23
beginning with
Mass at 9:30 am



PHOTO COURTESY: Thankyou, Jesus
Search also www.Polish-Texas.com

Austin Polish Society

*Celebrating Polish Heritage,
Culture, Language, and Arts*



AustinPolishSociety.org

*Presenting Polish films,
poster art, and artists
since 2006*



AustinPolishFilm.com

Cultural and Artistic events

**Support for the Polish Studies
Endowment at the University
of Texas at Austin**

Polish Language Classes
Call Magda Boudal, 512-586-1104

**Monthly Polish Films
at the Public Library**

Polish Books Collection

Cooking Classes

Traditional Holiday Events

Social Events

JOIN us!
We are on Facebook and Twitter

Bremond Chamber of Commerce

Presents

June 23-24, 2017

Bremond Chamber of Commerce



Polish Capital of Texas
Bremond  **Est. 1869**

ABOUT BREMOND... We are a small farming community nestled right in the "Heart of Texas" off of Hwy 6 and Hwy 14 in Robertson County. Our quiet, country streets have witnessed a history rich in Polish heritage, cotton ginning, coal mining, and championship football. Friendly people with small town values offer visitors a sense of coming home with a smile, and warm welcome or "Witamy!"



Josef Bartula Family
Original Polish Settlers



www.BremondTexas.org

BANDERA COUNTY SISTER PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATION

The Mission of the Bandera County Sister Partnership (BCSPA) is to advance peace through lasting relationships and international understanding, friendships, and diplomatic relations.

We take the United States of America, Texas, and Bandera County with us when we go abroad. Our goal is to spread peace and goodwill through sister partnerships with international cities, counties, schools, citizens, and diplomatic exchanges; to promote Bandera as the USA's best western cowboy culture vacation attraction helping to expand economic development in the city and county of Bandera.

The BCSPA promotes tourism, culture, and the cowboy traditions of Bandera County, Texas since first established in 2004.



The world is opening their arms and ready to embrace Bandera County and the City of Bandera.

"The Cowboy Capital of the World."

www.banderactyusa-sopoland.org



Father Leopold Moczygemba Foundation



In the early 1800s, Father Leopold Moczygemba, from Pieniaz, Silesia, a region in Europe, now southwest Poland, came to settle Texas. To help his suffering Silesian and families in Poland the new priest encouraged them to move to Texas, settling in Pecos Mier. Their descendants continue to call South Texas home.

The Foundation hosts annual performances from Poland, annual trips to Poland and a large annual Gala presents various awards and essay contest scholarships, sponsors the Polish booth at the Texas Folklife Festival and maintains two websites, resulting in the building of bridges and relationships between Poland and Texas.



The 2015 Gala included Thomas in traditional Silesian dress.

ANNUAL GALA

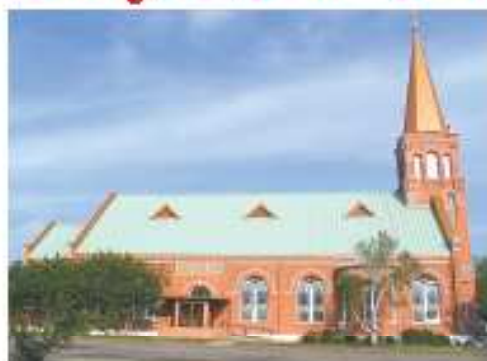
December 3, 2017

www.FLMFoundation.org
www.silesiantexans.com



Our Polish booth at the Texas Folklife Festival

Holy Cross Catholic Church



Rev. Roger Hawes
1214 ZORN ROAD
YORKTOWN, TX 78164
361-564-2893
HOLYCROSSYORKTOWN.NET

Mass: Sat. 5 pm;
Sun. 9:30 am

PARISH FESTIVAL - 2ND SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

*"We are proud of our Holy Cross Catholic Church Cemetery
and our ancestors whose memories we honor there."*

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church

Mass:
Sat. 5 pm,
Sun. 9 am

— Panna Maria —

Founded:
1854



13879 N. Farm Rd. 81
Panna Maria, Texas 78144
830-780-2748



Annual
Homecoming
and Turkey
Dinner
2nd Sunday
in October

PHOTOS COURTESY: Thank you, Josephine!
also www.Panna-Maria.com



OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA PARISH

Serving Polish Community under the spiritual guidance of Society of Christ Fathers



Church Services

Saturday, 6:00 PM in Polish

Sunday, 9:00 AM in English

Sunday, 11:00 AM in Polish

Our school was established at the Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Parish in 1982. We accept children 4 to 11 years old. We provide classes of Polish language, literature and history, geography and religion; also dance and singing.

Classes at the Polish Church

1731 Blalock Road

every Saturday

from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

www.azkolapolishahouston.com

If you are interested in Catholic faith, which flows forth from a 1000-year of the Polish culture, traditions and customs please visit our church.

phone: 713-973-1081 • e-mail: proboscen@parafiahouston.com • website: www.parafiahouston.com

Mailing Address: 1712 Oak Tree Drive, Houston, Texas 77080



Our Lady of Sorrows

Pastor Rev. Thaddeus Tabak, SDS

**Polish Catholic
Mission
of San Antonio**
*An outreach
program*

Mass on the first
Saturday of the
month, 7 pm
www.pmk-sa.com

Spring Festival 3rd Sunday of May

3107 N. St. Mary's St., San Antonio
210-732-6295

www.ourladyofsorrows-sa.org

**Masses:
Saturdays
6 pm, English
Sundays**

8:30 am, Spanish
10 am, English
11:30 am, English
1 pm, Polish



At the PACT Annual Meeting, the parade included many members and friends.



PACT Annual Meeting

Mass was held at Immaculate Conception of the BVM in Panna Maria, the first Polish settlement in the USA where their first Mass was held in 1854.



President Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz receives a donation from PACT Director, Yolanta Mazewski-Dryden, for the PACT Scholarship program.



Bertha Korzekwa and Elaine Moczygamba, members of the Father Leopold Moczygamba Foundation, served cake after lunch at the PACT Annual Meeting.

PACT President Mazurkiewicz receives high honor from Polish President

Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, President of the Polish American Council of Texas and Regents Fellow and Director of the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland in June of 2016.

Mazurkiewicz was presented the highest honor given to a non-citizen by Poland President Andrzej Duda during a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw. The award recognized his leadership for building international agricultural cooperation between Poland and the U.S., and efforts to promote the Polish economy and partnership development domestically.

Mazurkiewicz, who speaks conversational Polish, has organized several key visits the past six years between Texas and Poland, involving U.S. and Poland politicians, entrepreneurs, farmers and scientists to learn more about agricultural production and its economy in Texas and nationally. Participants included representatives in government, academia and industry, as well as elected officials, university administrators, professors, researchers, students, businessmen, women and farmers.

"I am most honored and humbled to receive the highest recognition a non-citizen can receive," Mazurkiewicz said. "It is with





(Republic of Poland photo)

Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, President of PACT and Regents Fellow and Director of the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, received the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland from Poland President Andrzej Duda during a ceremony June 14, 2016, in the Presidential Palace in Warsaw, Poland.

great pride to continue to further my Polish heritage through agricultural education, developing business relations as well as forming partnerships and friendships between the Republic of Poland and the Texas agricultural industry.” Dr. Mazurkiewicz’ Polish descent traces back to his great-grandparents, who came to the United States 130 years ago and settled in Chap-pell Hill. Mazurkiewicz continues the family farming operation raising beef cattle in addition to his work with AgriLife Extension.

Excerpts from a story by Blair Fannin in his article which appeared in Texas A&M AgriExtension Today in June 2016. <http://today.agrilife.org/2016/06/16/mazurkiewicz-receives-medal-of-merit-from-republic-of-poland/>; and PACT contributing writer, Elaine Mazurek Stephens.



PACT Annual Meeting

Members of Dance Group Wawel, from Houston, performed several traditional Polish dances, such as the Royal Polonaise, during which they invited guests to participate, including Bertha Korzekwa and Elaine Moczygamba in traditional Silesian attire.





Members of PACT get ready to participate in the parade at the Annual Meeting in historic Panna Maria, November 2016.

Polish American Priests Association

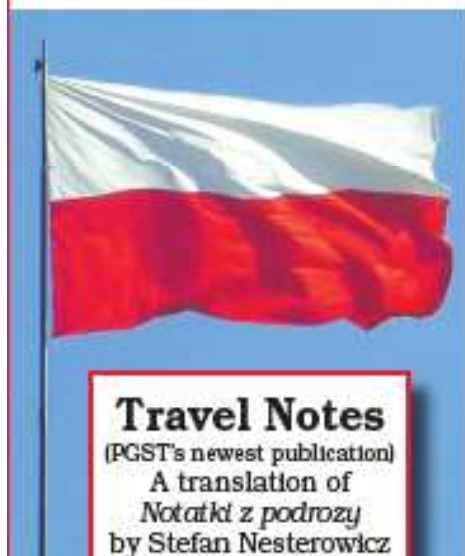


**Founder: Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta, D.D.
of the Amarillo Diocese**

Celebrating 25 years in Texas.

There are now 76 Polish Priests in P.A.P.A. serving in Texas.

Polish Genealogical Society of Texas



Travel Notes

(PGST's newest publication)

A translation of
Notatki z podróży
by Stefan Nesterowicz
(1910) is available
for purchase through
our website.

Our Goals:

- Introduce and unite Polish researchers
- Provide medium for sharing research
- Publish books for previously undocumented matters relating to Polish immigration to Texas
- Sponsor meetings and workshops on historical and genealogical topics helpful to researchers of Polish ancestry
- Provide speakers to educate others about Polish immigration to Texas and Polish culture
- PGST meets four times a year: February, May, September, and November at the Tracy Gee Community Center in Houston.



PO Box 820386, Houston, TX 77282

www.pgst.org

501(c)(3) Organization

POLISH HERITAGE CENTER at PANNA MARIA

FAITH, FAMILY, COMMUNITY



A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR SILESIAN POLISH IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS

The Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria Foundation was established by Bishop John W. Yonta, the first Bishop and descendant of the first Silesian Polish immigrants to Texas, to recognize and celebrate the first Polish settlement in the United States at Panna Maria, Texas in 1854. The Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria will relate the story of the Silesian Polish immigration to Texas, and the subsequent "Polish Renaissance" that began in the late 1960s, to rekindle a new generation's interest in Polish and Silesian heritage. The stories will serve as a mirror to reflect the history of our nation and will act as a lens to focus on the meaning of faith, family, and community. The Center will be built in Panna Maria, Texas, and will include the heritage of the Silesian Polish settlers and their descendants from the original Catholic Parishes including Panna Maria, Castschwara, Koschutan, Bendara, Inae, St. Hedwig, Falls City, Yorktown, San Antonio, Meyerville, Las Gallinas, McCook, and White Deer.



The mission of the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria is to retain for posterity the values, beliefs, and traditions of the first Silesian Polish settlers, and their descendants, and will inspire, engage, inform, and educate all visitors. The further goal is to keep Silesian Polish customs, beliefs, and values vibrant and relevant in today's constantly changing cultural environment. The 16,500-square-foot Heritage Center facility will be a destination for families, educational groups, scholars, researchers, and tourists and will include permanent and temporary exhibit space, a theater, an archive, a genealogy room and oral history collection area, a library and reading room, event space, and a gift shop and concession area.

For further information please contact us at P.O. Box 28125, San Antonio, Texas 78228, 210-263-7270.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF YOUR
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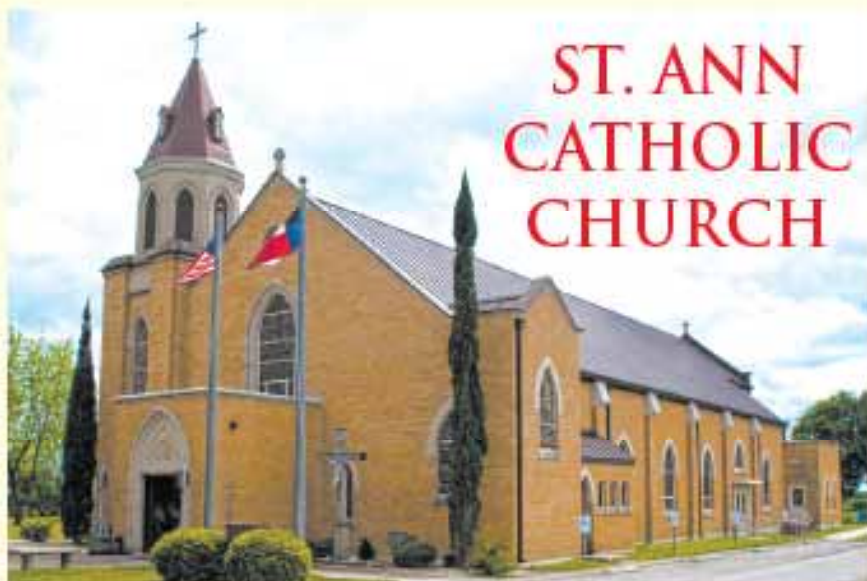
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ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH



COURTESY: Thank you James Smack aka www.Polish-Texas.com

Kosciusko or more properly spelled Kosciuszko was named for the Polish General Thaddeus Kosciuszko when it was established March 12, 1880 by sixty-five Polish families. In 1892 a Polish Catholic school was built. The first Church was built in 1898. The people gathered together and with \$2,000 built the first Church and named it St. Ann. The wooden church measured 80ft x 40ft.

ANNUAL PICNIC

1st Sunday in August

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Games •& More

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MASS:
SAT. 4:30 PM
SUN. 8:30 AM

A Parish for the Polish Immigrants and then the neighborhood

St. Michael Catholic Church

Third oldest parish in San Antonio, established in 1866!

Twelve years after Silesian Polish immigrants arrived in San Antonio, they received ecclesiastical permission to establish a parish. It was the year 1866 which was their way of also celebrating the 900th Anniversary of Polish Christianity and the beginning of the Polish nation. St. Michael was chosen for its name and it became the third oldest parish in historic San Antonio.



St. Michael Catholic Church, built in 1922



It began with the arrival of Father Vincent Barzynski of the Resurrectionist Order who was the earliest resident pastor. On November 8, 1866, the first Mass of the newly organized parish was celebrated in the San Fernando Cathedral. St. Michael's divine services were initially held in a rented one-story, rock building owned by Emanuel Rzeppa.

In 1867, Rev. Barzynski wrote to Father General Kajstewicz from San Antonio: "It is true that the population of my parish amounts to some 44 to 50 families ... the total number of people under my protection ... comes to about 250 ..." The first church was constructed in 1868, and five years later, St. Michael's School was opened.

Father Vincent Barzynski was transferred to Chicago where a large number of Polish immigrants began to arrive. In 1874, he became the pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, the first Polish church in Chicago. He became the most influential dominant leader of Chicago's Polonia until his death in 1899.

The first native born Texas priest, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Thomas Moczygamba was

pastor of St. Michael's for 48 years - 1912 to 1960. His assistant, Msgr. Edward Dwomczyk succeeded him.

In 1922, the original church was torn down and a larger edifice of white brick was erected. The cornerstone of this majestic church was laid on July 4, 1922, followed by the dedication on October 25, 1922. The blessing of the beautiful stained glass windows took place on December 2, 1923.

The parish thrived with a grade school and even a high school. In 1947 St. Michael's was changed from a national parish to a territorial (neighborhood) parish in the Polish Quarter that was changing as many Polish residents had moved to the new suburban areas in a growing San Antonio.

This historic church was demolished in 1968 and the Polish Quarter vanished to make room for HemisFair 1968. The beautiful stained glass windows were put into Immaculate Heart of Mary Church located in the western part of downtown San Antonio. St. Michael's cemetery, located a couple of miles away from the Church, still exists but accepts no new burials.

The modern St. Michael Catholic Church is located at 418 Indiana St., San Antonio, Texas 78210. For information please call 210-263-7270.



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Sunday, May 7

Church grounds, 7th St. & Cypress St.

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1:30 pm (Spanish)

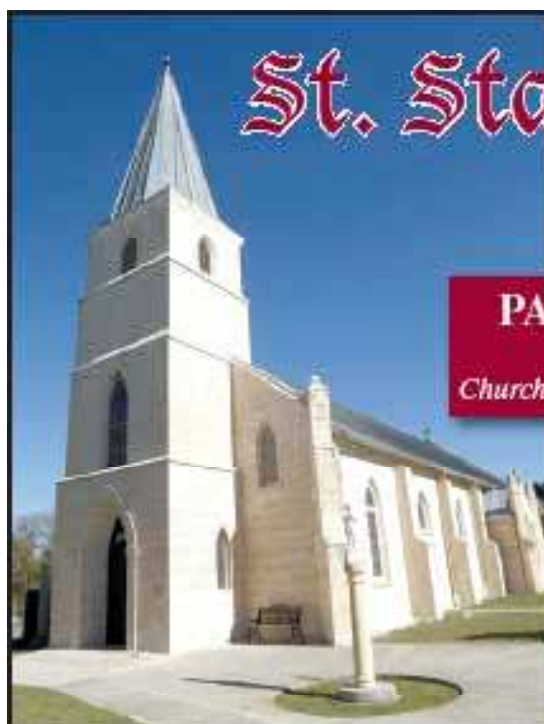
Pastor Rev. John P. Nolan

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St. Stanislaus Catholic Church



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EVENTS

Annual Homecoming Bazaar

September 3, 2017
*Food, Games, Live Auction,
Polish Music*

Dozynki (Harvest) Mass and Celebration

November 19, 2017
*Polish Traditions,
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Koledy (Christmas Caroling)

December 30, 2017
*Polish Traditions, Polish Food,
Polish Singing, Polish Music*

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In Polonia Restaurant you will enjoy such Polish favorites as pierogi, golabki (cabbage rolls) original Polish sausage, bigos (hunter stew) golonka (pork shank) & much more... To accompany your meal our bar is always stocked with a wide variety of assorted local and international alcoholic beverages and soft drinks.

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**Join online at
www.PolishAmericanCouncilofTexas.org**

POLISH AMERICAN COUNCIL OF TEXAS



MISSION STATEMENT

PACT is a non-profit organization established with the following mission: To further knowledge of Polish culture, traditions, history, language, arts, current affairs, and statewide events in Texas. To facilitate networking among Polish American groups in Texas.

WHO WE ARE

Our members include Polish American individuals, clubs, organizations, churches, professionals, societies, artists, genealogists, teachers, cultural events, businesses and more. We welcome you!

CONTACT US

Email: PACofTexas@yahoo.com

Web: PolishAmericanCouncilofTexas.org

Phone: 830-779-2636

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