

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church, Chappell Hill, Texas

By Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz

Sept. 6, 2020

St. Stanislaus Catholic Church 83rd Annual Homecoming Festival and Dożynki Mass in Chappell Hill, Texas, Sunday, September 6, 2020. This parish was established in 1889 by Polish immigrants. Preparation for the "Dożynki Offertory" began with harvest baskets of wheat, vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Also, we



had "Dożynk Bread" baked by my mother, Paulina Kopeć Mazurkiewicz, wreath basket with a crucifix of Jesus Christ and a picture of the Black Madonna. This Sunday also marks the 131st Anniversary of the establishment of St. Stanislaus (sw. Stanisława") Catholic Church. The first Polish parish established in Washington County Texas was St. Mary's in Brenham, Texas in 1870. The Polish population in Washington County grew to over 2,000 people requiring a second parish. Prior to the establishment of these two parishes, the people in this area were serviced by traveling priests on horseback called "Saddle Bag Priests". They came from St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Frelsburg, Texas established in 1844. The first documented Polish baptism in Chappell Hill, Texas was Martin Piwonka on June 23, 1854 by Father Victor V. Gury and Martin was born on May 1, 1854.

The day before: Preparation for the "Dożynki Offertory" with a harvest of wheat, vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Tomorrow we will add the "Dożynk Bread" baked by my mother, Paulina Kopeć Mazurkiewicz to the offertory.

Sunday, September 6, 2020 St. Stanislaus Catholic parish hosted the 83rd Homecoming Festival and "Dożynk" Mass in Chappell Hill, Texas. This also marks the 131st Anniversary of the establishment of St. Stanislaus (sw. Stanisława") Catholic Church.