

The History of the Polish Panorama



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Our *Polish Mission* logo was inspired by the title page from Volume 1 of the *Polish Declaration of Admiration and Friendship for the United States of America*, designed by Edmund John. The image was further enhanced through the talents of Administrative Assistant and Graphic Designer for the *Polish Mission*, JJ Przewozniak.

THE HISTORY OF THE POLISH PANORAMA

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The *Polish Mission* of Orchard Lake Schools, founded in 1885 by Polish immigrants, is to preserve and promote Polish and Polish-American culture, tradition, and history for present and future generations. The *Polish Mission* organizes programs, courses, and events that highlight Polish and Polish-American culture and accomplishments. The *Polish Mission* ensures a repository for artifacts, archival materials, works of art and publications.

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Black Madonna of Częstochowa

A 1969 gift to the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake from

Cardinal Karol Józef Wojtyła

The Black Madonna has held a prominent place in the hearts of Poles throughout history and remains central to the *Panorama* procession.

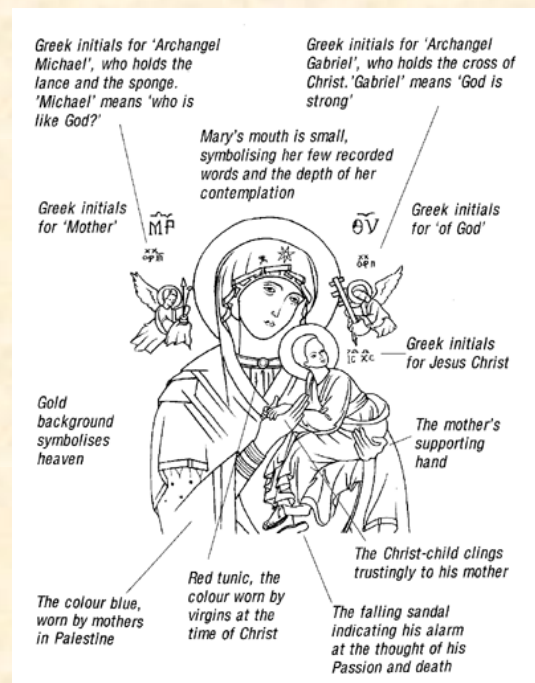


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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND of the POLISH PANORAMA



LEFT: Lauren Zemaitis Bartell (PARI), Dr. Hal Learman (PARI), Fran McCans (the *Henry Ford*), Cecile Wendt Jensen (PARI), and Mary Fahey (the *Henry Ford*) discuss management strategies for the *Panorama*. BELOW: Thomas and Marcia Youngquist pose with their family and the figure — *Września Students Strike* — whose restoration they sponsored. OPPOSITE: Workers at the *Henry Ford* — Fran Faile, Textile Conservator (left) assesses the hair of *Święta Jadwiga*; Fran McCans, Conservation Specialist (middle) prepares safe transport for the figures; and Abby Merritt, Conservation Intern (right) mixes paint to freshen the face of *Mieszko I*.

The Panorama Room has been the home for the Polonica Americana Research Institute (PARI) since 2009. As part of the *Polish Mission*, the directors are dedicated to the goal “to preserve and promote Polish and Polish-American culture, tradition, and history for present and future generations.”

With this mission statement as our guide, we identified the importance of renovating the unique pageant and updating the narration for the 21st century. The Polish Panorama has educated and entertained audiences, both young and old, for almost thirty years.

The first stage of fund raising began with the establishment of the *Guardian Angel* program for the 106 figures. For a donation of \$500.00 or more, a donor could choose a character from the diorama and become its patron. Some donors selected a figure in greater need of restoration; others decided on one or more that represented a historical leader whose music, literature, or religious life was inspirational.



Phase One of the giving campaign generated enough funding to bring the conservation team from the *Henry Ford* to the Orchard Lake Schools (OLS) campus to assess the *Panorama*. Mary Fahey, Head Conservator for the *Henry Ford*, evaluated a wide range of factors including the condition of fabrics, artifacts held by the figures, and the heat and humidity of the room housing the pageant. She shared the museum's guidelines for care and suggested a training program for our volunteers. Interns Alec Malstrom and Lauren Zemaitis Bartell began to identify and document each historic figure, a task completed by Beata Owczarski, our Rare Books librarian.

Phase Two generated great excitement with the return to campus of Zbigniew Baran, the architect who designed and executed the Polish Panorama. He agreed to oversee the renovation and gave his time and talent to repair the mechanism, as well as balance the figures which had become unwieldy. Volunteers who helped clean, repair, and repaint the installation included Richard Luszczyk, Chuck Pokriefka, and Frank Sardelli.

Phase Three took the giving campaign to the Internet. Donors from across the nation made digital contributions ranging from \$25.00 to over \$1,000.00, often in memory of their Polish ancestors. Our campaign offered gifts to supporters including *The History of the Polish Panorama*; and a DVD that included the photos of each figure and the retired narrations by Reverend Walter Ziemia in English and Reverend Zdzisław Peszkowski in Polish. Our conservation work is really never done. We continue to collect donations not only for repairs of the figures; but, also for lighting and automation updates of the *Panorama*.



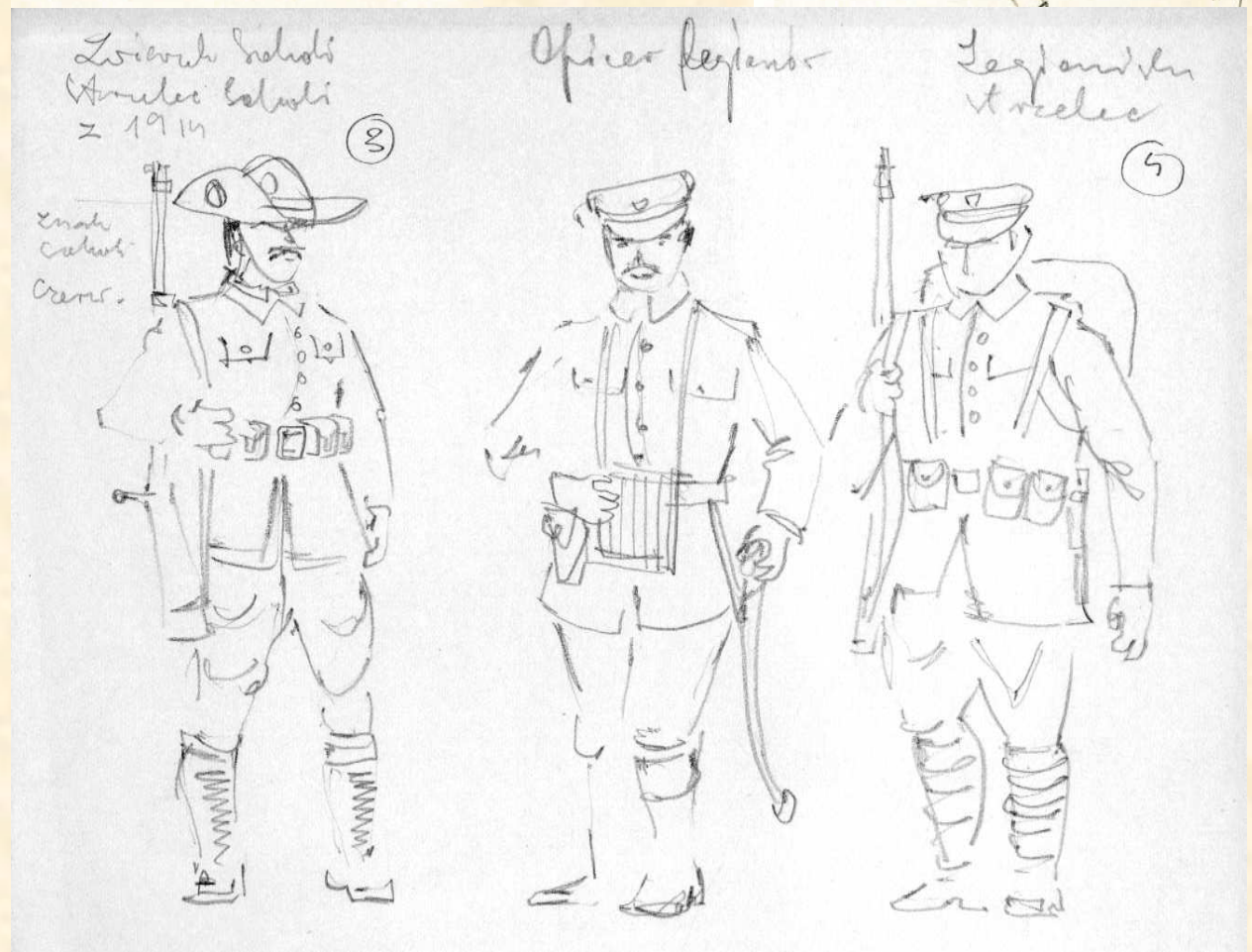
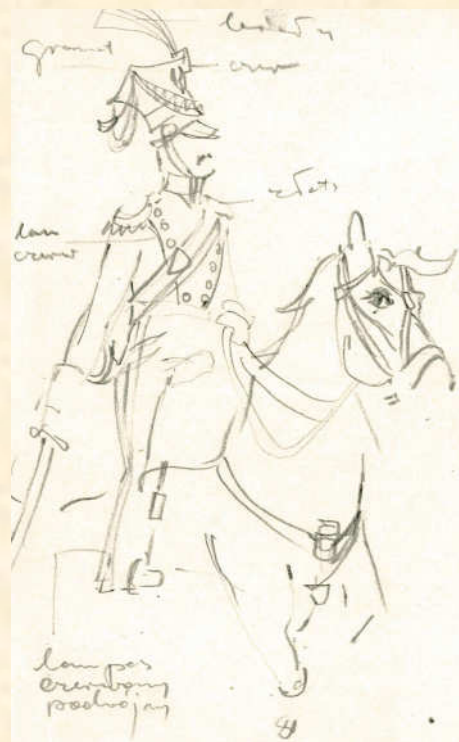
Zbigniew Baran

Zbigniew Baran was the lead Architect Designer, who at the request of Reverend Zdzisław Peszkowski, planned and executed the beloved *Panorama*. Efforts began on the multi-year project with the creation of 20 of the figures by Baran and his wife, Danuta, both architects by education.



Zbigniew's involvement in the project was a life defining experience for the Baran family that also included a daughter, Margaret. As a young man, Zbigniew had worked at a skansen in Rzeszów. He also made a number of military dioramas; and it was his work with dioramas that led him to Fr. Peszkowski, who had been searching for someone to bring his vision of the *Panorama* to a reality. The first stage of the project involved Zbigniew's visits to museums and galleries in the Kraków area where he sketched authentic uniforms and regalia appropriate for each figure. We have included images of some early sketches in this booklet which exemplify Baran's keen interest in military history.

He shared the sketches with a team of seamstresses, headed by a woman named Jadwiga. She was able to turn simple linen, cotton, and wool into a wardrobe fit for the historic figures. Once the figures were completed in Poland, they were carefully packed in wooden crates and sent to the campus in Orchard Lake. Baran eventually made his way to Michigan to start installation of the mechanics of the *Panorama*. It took several years to renovate the former dining hall area into a suitable theater. During his stay in Michigan, the turmoil of Martial Law in Poland pressed Zbigniew's decision to bring his family to the United States.





ABOVE: Students on a 2011 field trip from Our Lady of Refuge School in Orchard Lake, Michigan are mesmerized by the *Panorama*.

These next two pages present excerpts from *A Commemoration of 100 Years — The Orchard Lake Schools 1885-1985*, pages 28-29 (1988).

The Living Legacy of Poland

The Panorama dramatizes the history of Poland from beginnings shrouded in legend through such major events of our times as the election of Pope John Paul II and the rise of the Solidarity movement. Its characters are drawn from the struggles of writers, peasants, saints, statesman, soldiers, and artists to remain faithful to the ideals of Christianity and the Polish nation. Their story, extended by immigrants to America in the past century, is indispensable to understanding the impact of Poland upon the modern world.

The veneration of Mary, a principal theme of this Panorama, has long been an important part in Polish history. The hymn Bogurodzica (Mother of God), the earliest surviving text of literary Polish, was sung by the knights entering battle

with the Teutonic Order at Grunwald in 1410. Among the many expressions of Polish Catholic devotion to Mary, the one surrounding the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa has become foremost. Brought to the Pauline monastery at Czestochowa in 1382, it became inseparably associated with the Polish nation during the defense of the place [Poland] against the Swedes in 1655. Just over 50 years later, in 1717, the Polish Parliament declared Mary “Queen of Poland.” The political troubles of the nation in modern times – an era mostly of foreign domination and partition – have only strengthened Mary’s significance for Polish Catholics.

The Panorama

The characters of the Panorama, most of which are 30 inches high in authentic costume, follow each other on stage through an automated system. Individually and in tableau, their roles are described by a narrator – Reverend Walter Ziemia in English and Reverend Zdzisław Peszkowski in Polish. Special lighting effects and musical background enrich the performance. The inspiration for Orchard Lake’s Panorama is the moving diorama of Polish history presented at the Franciscan monastery of the Immaculate Conception, long associated with St. Maximillian Kolbe, near Warsaw, Poland.

The Sponsors

The Panorama officially opened on February 14, 1985, as a major event for the centenary celebrations of the Orchard Lake Schools. The principal benefactors of the project are Mr. and Mrs. Leo A. Obloy and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mazur. They were joined by Mr. and Mrs. William Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slavsky, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Knott, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Krajewski, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Padzieski. The figures and costumes were designed and executed in Poland under the direction of Mr. Zbigniew Baran, who was the Project Architect, and also supervised execution of the set and machinery in a remodeled room in the Activities Building. Mr. Richard Zambiski assisted as Project Architect. Reverend Zdzisław Peszkowski was the Project Director.
















Marek Żóltak


Polish born Marek Żóltak considers painting a passion. As far back as he can remember, Marek has always been drawing. While studying for his Masters Degree in Kraków,



Żóltak developed a keen interest in working with water colors and oils, the latter applied using a palette knife. These techniques have prevailed in his creativity for many years. Color and light are the essential parts of painting for him. In 1978, Żóltak completed a major commission for Orchard Lake Schools in Orchard Lake, Michigan. The theme of the 8 x 16 foot oil on canvas, which had been requested by the Archbishop of Philadelphia, John Cardinal Krol, was *Millennium of the Polish Church*.

Symbols and crests represented on the *Millennium of the Polish Church* mural

				
Poland 1295-1569	Oborniki	Lwów	Kraków	Warsaw
				
Pleszew	Pelplin	Łęczyca	Elbląg	Borne Sulimow
				
Bydgoszcz	Wąchock	Tarczyn	Strzelno	Skawina

				
Opole	Nekla	Cieszyn	Szczecin	Dobrzyca
				
Wilno	Toruń	Kielce	Poznań	Miechów
				
Częstochowa	Orzesze	Gdańsk	Łódź	Wrocław
				
Katowice	Rzeszów	Trzcianko-Zdrój	Dynów	Nowy Targ
				
Bochnia	Kalwaria Zebrzydowska	Zabrze	Przemyśl	Busko-Zdrój
				
Biecz	Nowy Wiśnicz	Tarnów	Jelenia Góra	Tomaszów Lubelski
				
	Jasień	Sulików	Poland c. 2013	



Cathedrals and Churches

1. Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Panna Maria, Texas
2. Military Cathedral (Katedra Polowa Wojska Polskiego) in Warsaw
3. Cathedral of Christ the King in Katowice-Śródmieście
4. Cathedral Basilica of St. James the Apostle in Szczecin
5. Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist in Przemyśl
6. Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Adalbert in Gniezno
7. St. Andrew Church and Bernardine Monastery in Lwów
8. Cathedral Basilica of St. Stanisław and St. Waclaw in Kraków
9. Jasna Góra Monastery in Częstochowa
10. St. Michael the Archangel in Dębno Podhalańskie

*Unless otherwise note, all of the cathedrals and churches are located in Poland.



Cathedrals and Churches

11. Najświętsza Maryja Panna Królowa Polski in Warsaw
12. Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Gdańsk
13. Cathedral of Lord's Resurrection and St. Thomas the Apostle in Zamość
14. St. Mary's Basilica in Kraków
15. St. Stanisław Cathedral in Wilno, Litwa (now Vilnius, Lithuania)
16. St. John's Archcathedral in Warsaw
17. Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Wrocław
18. Cathedral Basilica of the Holy Trinity, Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Bernard in Oliwa
19. Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Tarnów
20. Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake in Orchard Lake, Michigan



A behind the scenes look at the unique motorized track and figures gives one a sense of the ingenuity of this custom diorama. The costumes are historically authentic having required hundreds of hours to research and sew. It took nearly five years to complete the project.

EARLY POLAND

FEMALE PEASANT with Baby



The woman with her child represents Polans, one of the West Slavic tribes that inhabited the historic Greater Poland and Kujawy regions in the 9th century. The word Polans, rendered *Polanie* in Polish, derives from Old Slavonic and means *field* or *plain*.
(Conservator: Dana M. Barrett)

MALE PEASANT

Polans united several West Slavic tribes in the 9th century.

Led by the Piast dynasty, this unification developed into the Kingdom of Poland, whose name came from Polans. This figure is symbolic of that era. **(Conservators: Donna & Drew Algase — With love and gratitude, We honor our humble roots)**



ŚWIĘTY CYRIL, circa 827-869



Konstantyn, more widely known by his religious name Cyril, was a monk, diplomat, philosopher, evangelizer, teacher, and missionary. In 863, he was sent with his elder brother, Methodius, on a mission to Greater Moravia to serve Slav peoples of Central Europe. He developed the Cyrillic alphabet. Together, with Methodius, they translated the Sacred Scriptures and liturgical texts from Greek into the Old Slavonic language. The brothers, also known as *The Apostles of the Slavs*, are patrons of SS. Cyril and Methodius

Seminary at Orchard Lake, Michigan. **(Conservators: Cecile & James Jensen)**

ŚWIĘTY METHODIUS, circa 826-885



Methodius, whose baptismal name was probably Michał, was also a diplomat. He left his political career circa 840 and retired to a monastery in Bithynia; and was later joined by his younger brother, Cyril. As religious and cultural experts, they were included in a Byzantine delegation to the Khazars. While staying in the Crimea at Kherson, they recovered relics of St. Clement, Pope and Martyr, which they solemnly presented to Pope Hadrian II in Rome. Around the year 863, Cyril and Methodius arrived in Greater Moravia, where their missionary activity among the Slavs met with notable success despite obstacles encountered by neighboring Latin Churches. In his Apostolic Letter *Egregiae Virtutis* of 31 December 1980, Pope John Paul II proclaimed SS. Cyril and Methodius *Co-Patrons of Europe* and in so doing he traced the path of his predecessors: Pope Leo XIII, who with his Encyclical Epistle *Grande Munus* of 30 September 1880, extended the cult of the holy brothers, Cyril and Methodius from Salonika (ancient Thessalonica) to the whole Church; and Pope Paul VI, who with the Apostolic Letter *Pacis Nuntius* of 24 October 1964, proclaimed St. Benedict, Patron of Europe. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)**

PIAST KOŁODZIEJ with his son, ZIEMOWIT, 9th century



The earliest Polan ruler mentioned by name, Piast the Wheelwright, is the legendary founder of the first ruling dynasty in Poland, the Piasts. He is referenced in the *Polish Chronicle*, composed in Latin circa 1115 by Gallus Anonymous, the first historian to describe Poland. **(Conservator: Dana M. Barrett)**

PRINCESS DĄBRÓWKA (Dobrawa), circa 940-977



The Bohemian Princess Dąbrówka married Mieszko I, Duke of Polan, who was the first historical ruler of Poland from the Piast dynasty. She was the mother of Bolesław I Chrobry, the first King of Poland. Her marriage in 965 solidified an agreement between the Duke of Bohemia and Mieszko I. While the princess was a Christian and her spouse a pagan, Mieszko I's baptism in 966 brought Christianity to Poland. **(Conservator: Cynthia Lock, In Honor of the Zolnierczyk Family)**

MIESZKO I, circa 930-992

Mieszko I was the Duke of the Polans. His marriage in 965 to Princess Dąbrówka and his baptism in 966, brought Poland into the religious and cultural spheres of Western Christianity. **(Conservator: Richard F. Larkin)**



ŚWIĘTY WOJCIECH (St. Adalbert), circa 956-997



Bishop of Prague and missionary to Baltic Prussia, Wojciech was murdered by Prussians after a failed attempt to convert them to Christianity. His body was ransomed from the Prussians for its weight in gold by Bolesław I Chrobry and buried in Gniezno. On his mission to Prussia, Wojciech was accompanied by his brother, Radim Gaudentius, who in the year 1000 became the first Archbishop of Gniezno; and the first Primate of Poland. Św. Wojciech is the patron saint of Bohemia, Poland, Hungary, and Prussia.

(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)

BOLESŁAW I CHROBRY (Bolesław I the Brave), 967-1025

The first King of Poland and son of Mieszko I and Princess Dąbrowka, Bolesław I established Poland as a major European state. He led successful military campaigns and proved to be a capable administrator by building military outposts, castles, churches, monasteries, and bridges. He initiated the first Polish monetary system. In the year 1000, Bolesław I officially recognized the Church in Poland with the establishment of a Metropolitan See at Gniezno. **(Conservator: Jill O'Sullivan, In Honor of the Pawłowski & Zalewski Families)**



KAMEDUŁ (Camaldolese monk), 11th century

The first martyrs for the faith in Poland were two Camaldolese monks from Italy who came in 1002 at the request of King Boleslaus I Chrobry. In 1003, these two monks were martyred together with three other Slavic monks. This *Panorama* figure represents the Five Holy Martyrs. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr., In Memory of Charles & Dorothy Pokriefka, Sr.)**

ŚWIĘTY STANISŁAW SZCZEPANOWSKI (St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr), circa 1030-1079

Stanisław was born about 1030 in Szczepanowie which is located in the present Diocese of Tarnów. Upon completion of his studies in Paris, Stanisław was ordained a priest; and in 1072 he was appointed as one of the first native Bishops of Poland to the See of



Kraków, succeeding Bishop Lambert. As a zealous pastor concerned about the good of the faithful, he assisted the poor and annually visited the priests of his diocese. In 1079, Stanisław suffered a martyr's death, at the order of King Bolesław II the Bold, after confronting the King about his misconduct. **(Conservators: Hedy Gaskey & Family)**

POLISH KNIGHT, 11th/12th century

This knight represented in the *Panorama* is in typical armor of that era. A legend about the sleeping army of knights of King Boleslaus I Chrobry claims they are hidden under Giewont peak in the Tatra Mountains of southern Poland; and will arise in difficult times to protect the people. **(Conservators: Zbigniew & Danuta Baran)**



BLESSED BISHOP WINCENY KADŁUBEK, 1161-1223



Educated in Paris and Bologna, Wincenty Kadłubek became Bishop of Kraków; and was one of the first Poles to obtain a university degree. As a historian, he is best known for his work, *Chronicles of Poland*, a four-volume history of Poland written in Latin. He was beatified in 1764 by Pope Clement XIII. **(Conservators: Barbara & Eugene Bak)**

ŚWIĘTA JADWIGA ŚLASKA (St. Hedwig of Silesia), circa 1174-1243

The wife of Henry I the Bearded, Grand Duke of Poland, Jadwiga brought German settlers to Silesia. She founded a Cistercian monastery at Trzebnica where she lived after her husband's death. She was known for her ascetic life and charity towards the poor and ill. Jadwiga was canonized in 1267 by Pope Clement IV. She is often represented holding a model of the monastery she established. Św. Jadwiga is the patron saint of Poland, Silesia, and orphans. **(Conservators: Hedy Gaskey & Family)**



ŚWIĘTY JACEK (St. Hyacinth), circa 1183-1257



Jacek was born toward the end of the 12th century in the village of Kamień Śląski in the Opole region of Poland. After completion of studies in Paris and Bologna, he became a priest and a Canon of Kraków. Accompanying Bishop Iwon to Rome, Jacek came into contact with the future St. Dominic, who was canonized in 1234; and together with Czesław Odrowąża, who was beatified in 1713 by Pope Clement XI, they were received in the Dominican Order by Dominic in 1221. Returning to Kraków, Jacek established the first Dominican monastery in Poland. From Kraków, he undertook numerous missions to Rus, Prussia, and the border lands of Lithuania. Exhausted by his ministry, Jacek died in Kraków on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1257. He was beatified in 1527 by Pope Clement VII; and canonized in 1594 by Pope Clement VIII. Św. Jacek is the patron saint of Poland and Kraków. **(Conservators: Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan)**

LAJKONIK

The Lajkonik is symbolic for the City of Kraków in that it commemorates the Mongol invasion of Poland from 1240-1241. It resembles a bearded Tatar, one of the Mongol invaders, being dressed in a colorful Tatar costume with a pointed hat; and having a wooden horse around his waist. The Lajkonik opens the annual Lajkoniki Festival in Kraków which dates back some 700 years. **(Conservator: Halina Stępkowicz Ujda)**



ŚWIĘTA KINGA (St. Kunegunda of Poland), circa 1224-1292

Kinga was a Hungarian princess married to the Grand Duke of Poland, Bolesław V the Chaste. She was accompanied by salt miners during her move from Hungary



to her new home in Poland. After her husband's death, she sold her possessions and joined the Monastery of the Poor Clares. She is best known for the Legend of Kinga's Ring, which claims that before the Princess departed for Poland, she dropped her ring into the shaft of a salt mine that had been given as part of her dowry. Salt was a precious commodity in those days and it was Kinga's wish to increase the prosperity of her new homeland; so, she prayed fervently to St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare for their help. Later, Kinga's ring was found in a newly discovered salt mine in Poland. She is

the patron saint of Poland and Lithuania, the poor, and salt miners. **(Conservator: Tim Westfall, In Memory of Joseph Westfall)**

KAZIMIERZ WIELKI (Casimir III the Great), 1310-1370



Kazimierz was the last King of Poland from the Piast dynasty and the only Polish king bearing the title of *the Great* in Polish history. At the time Kazimierz was crowned King, Poland was in ruins from the devastation of war. However, upon his death, Poland had actually doubled in size through the addition of Ukraine and Halicz (Galicia); and the country was thriving. Kazimierz Wielki built many new castles, including Wawel Castle. He founded many cities, reformed the Polish army and Polish law, and supported international trade. In 1364, King Kazimierz founded the University of Kraków, the oldest Polish University which is known today as Uniwersytet Jagielloński (Jagiellonian University). **(Conservator: Sharon Boroski Deceuninck, In Honor of my Parents, Jennie (Chitren) & Mitchell Boroski, who taught me to love my Roots)**

JAGIELLONIAN DYNASTY

ŚWIĘTA JADWIGA (St. Hedwig of Poland), circa 1373-1399

In 1384, at the end of the Piast dynasty, Jadwiga was crowned Queen of Poland. Her official title was King rather than Queen, reflecting the fact that she was a sovereign in her own right. Two years later in Kraków, she married Jogaila, the Grand Duke of Lithuania. Their marriage began a long lasting union between Poland and Lithuania. Jadwiga was well-educated and interested in the arts, music, and science. One of her achievements was the restoration of the University of Kraków, which



was later renamed Uniwersytet Jagielloński (Jagiellonian University). Jadwiga was beatified in 1986; and canonized in 1997. Św. Jadwiga is the patron saint of Poland. **(Conservator: Cecilia Kołowski Larkin)**

WŁADYSŁAW II JAGIEŁŁO, circa 1351-1434

Jogaila, the Grand Duke of Lithuania, adopted Western Christianity and united Lithuania with Poland. In 1386 in Kraków, he was baptized as Władysław, married Jadwiga of Poland, and was crowned King of Poland as Władysław II Jagiełło. He was the first king of the Jagiellonian dynasty, which ruled Poland and Lithuania until 1572. **(Conservator: Dr. Edward Pawlowski)**



ŚWIĘTY JAN KANTY (St. John Cantius), 1390-1473



As a philosopher, theologian, priest, and professor of Sacred Scripture at the University of Kraków, Jan Kanty was a humble man known for his asceticism and charity towards the poor. He is often presented as a professor and theologian in a toga and biretta with a book in his hand. Św. Jan Kanty is the patron saint of Poland and Lithuania, Jagiellonian University, as well as university professors and students. **(Conservator: Reverend Stanley Ulman)**

WŁADYSŁAW WARNEŃCZYK (Władysław III of Varna), 1424-1444



Władysław Warneńczyk was the King of Poland from 1434 and King of Hungary from 1440 until his death. He died in 1444 at twenty years of age in the Battle of Varna, which was part of the Christian crusade against the Ottoman Empire. During this battle, he served as commander of the Hungarian and Polish troops against the Ottoman army led by Sultan Murad II. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr., In Honor of the Pokrywka & Sprangowski Immigrants to the United States)**

ŚWIĘTY KAZIMIERZ JAGIELLOŃCZYK (St. Casimir Jagiellon), 1458-1484

Kazimierz was a royal prince of the Jagiellonian dynasty of Poland and Lithuania. From the age of nine, he and his brothers were taught Latin and German, law, history, rhetoric, and classical literature — all by the famous, Jan Długosz. Well-educated and of good moral character, Kazimierz was being prepared for a royal position. He is usually depicted as a young man in a long, red fur-lined robe wearing a red cap of the Grand Duke of Lithuania. He may sometimes be holding a lily, a symbol of innocence and purity;



or a cross, a rosary, or a book. He was canonized in 1521 by Pope Leo X. Św. Kazimierz is the patron saint of Lithuania, Poland, and of the young. **(Conservators: Polish Youngstown & Polish Arts Club of Youngstown, Ohio)**

ZYGMUNT I STARY (Sigismund I the Old), 1467-1548



Zygmunt I Stary served as King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania from 1506 to 1548. Zygmunt is best known for the *Prussian Homage*, which occurred when Polish wars against the Teutonic Knights ended in 1525; and Albert, Duke of Prussia, paid homage to him. In return, Zygmunt was given the domains of the Order, as the First Duke of Prussia. His reign initiated the Golden Age era of political and financial stability; and cultural life in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth flourished. Zygmunt I Stary was the father of Zygmunt II Augustus, the last king of the

Jagiellonian dynasty. **(Conservators: The Elaine Baker Family)**

MIKOŁAJ KOPERNIK (Nicolaus Copernicus), 1473-1543

Mikołaj Kopernik was an astronomer, a mathematician, a jurist with a doctorate in law, a physician, a Catholic cleric, a governor, a diplomat, and an economist. He is considered the founder of modern astronomy. His famous work, *On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres*, was a landmark in the history of science. His heliocentric vision of the universe became known as the *Copernican Revolution*. He was the first to assert that the Earth travels around the Sun (not that the Sun travels around the Earth, as it was previously believed). **(Conservator: Mary Ellen Tyszka)**



STANISŁAW HOZJUSZ (Stanislaus Hosius), 1504-1579



Stanisław Hozjusz was a Cardinal, theologian, diplomat, and administrator during the reigns of both the last king of the Jagiellonian dynasty, King Zygmunt II Augustus; and Stefan Batory, the elected king of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. After studying law in Italy, Hozjusz was appointed Bishop of Chełmno, and later, Prince-Bishop of Warmia. He was a papal legate to the Holy Roman Emperor's Imperial Court in Vienna, Austria; and since 1566, a papal legate to Poland. Stanisław Hozjusz was a leading figure of the Counter-Reformation in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth; and he was most instrumental in upholding Roman Catholicism in the region of Warmia. In 1564, Stanisław Hozjusz invited the Jesuits to Poland and he established Collegium Hosianum, their first school. **(Conservator: Beata Owczarski)**

POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH

STEFAN BATORY (Stephen Báthory), 1533-1586

Stefan Batory was a Hungarian noble, Prince of Transylvania, and King of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from 1576-1586. He is considered by many historians as the greatest elected King of Poland. He tried to strengthen the position of the king against powerful magnates. He improved the organization and military equipment of the Polish army. Batory introduced a new, semi-professional infantry known in Polish as *piechota wybraniecka* (chosen infantry), comprised of peasants from royal lands. **(Conservator: Mary Flanagan nee Lubienski)**



PIOTR SKARGA, 1536-1612

A Jesuit and leading figure of the Catholic Counter-Reformation in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Piotr Skarga became most famous as a court preacher to King Zygmunt III Waza. He criticized the conduct of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth nobility and magnates of that time and advocated strengthening of the monarch's power. **(Conservators: Barbara & Eugene Bak)**



ŚWIĘTY STANISŁAW KOSTKA, circa 1550-1568



Stanisław Kostka had religious visions at a young age. While in Rome in 1567, the young Stanisław joined the Jesuit order. He died in Rome the following year. Św. Stanisław Kostka is credited with helping achieve Polish victories during the Battle of Chocim in 1621 against an invading Ottoman Imperial Army; and the Battle of Berestechko in 1651, fought during the Khmelnytsky Uprising between Ukrainian Cossacks and their Crimean Tatar allies. Kostka was beatified in 1602; and canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726.

Św. Stanisław Kostka is the patron saint of Poland and of youth. **(Conservator: Rosemary Konwerski, In Memory of Arthur & Marjie Penn)**

ŚWIĘTY ANDRZEJ BOBOLA (St. Andrew Bobola), 1591-1657

Bobola was a Jesuit missionary, talented preacher, and ultimately a martyr who became known as an *Apostle of Lithuania*. He was captured, tortured, and killed during the Cossack rebellion of 1648, which was known as the



Khmelnysky Uprising. Bobola was beatified in 1853; and canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1938. Św. Andrzej Bobola is the patron saint of Poland. **(Conservator: Kathy Kustron, In honor of Margaret & Edward Kustron)**

STEFAN CZARNIECKI, circa 1599-1665



A legendary Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth general and nobleman, Czarniecki rose from a simple noble family to the rank of hetman to become a wealthy magnate. He was regarded as one of the most capable Polish commanders of all time. Czarniecki fought in the Khmelnytsky Uprising, the Russo-Polish War, and the Polish-Swedish war referred to as The Deluge. His use of guerrilla warfare against the Swedes helped achieve a Polish victory and he is commemorated in Poland's National Anthem. Czarniecki's legend became popularized during the partitions of Poland in the 19th century, when Polish romantic writers portrayed him as a symbol of patriotism. **(Conservator: George & Karen Sobieraj)**

AUGUSTYN KORDECKI, 1603-1673

Augustyn Kordecki served as Prior of the Monastery of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa, Poland. In 1655, during the Swedish invasion and occupation of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth known as the Swedish Deluge, Kordecki led the defense of the monastery against Swedish troops. **(Conservator: Jeffrey Lutz)**



JAN II KAZIMIERZ WAZA (John II Casimir Vasa), 1609-1672

Jan Kazimierz served as King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania, as well as titular King of Sweden. He was the third and last monarch on the Polish throne from the House of Waza. His reign was dominated by the following wars: the Khmelnytsky Uprising of 1648; the Russo-Polish War (1654-1667); and the war with Sweden, The Deluge (1655-1660). Because of the great suffering endured by the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Jan Kazimierz solemnly pronounced his vow to consecrate the country to the protection of Mary, Mother of God; and he proclaimed Her the Patron and Queen of the lands in his kingdom. This proclamation took place in the cathedral of Lwów on 1 April 1656. **(Conservators: In Honor of Volunteers — Richard Luszczyk, Bernadette Drobot, & Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)**



WINGED HUSSAR, 16th-18th century



Winged hussars are a type of cavalry that originated in Hungary during the 15th century. The Polish heavy hussars were the leading, exclusive branch of cavalry of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, which were noted for their large wings made of wooden frames and feathers. Winged hussars were very important in many battles during the 17th century. Among them is the Battle of Vienna in 1683 fought by Christendom armies, led by Jan III Sobieski against the Empire of the Ottoman Turks. **(Conservator: Dr. Hal Learman)**

POLISH GLASSBLOWER, Jamestown, Virginia, circa 1608



The first Polish immigrants to the New World were among the eight Dutchmen (Germans) and Poles sent to Jamestown, Virginia by The London Company which was in charge of supplying new American colonies with skilled workers to produce glass, pitch, tar, and soap ash. These first Polish immigrants to the New World were respected for their quality of work, skilled labor, and military experience. **(Conservators: Friends of Polish Art)**

JAN III SOBIESKI, 1629-1696

One of the most notable elected kings of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Sobieski was popular among his subjects. As a great military commander, he is most famous for the victory achieved over Turkish forces of the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Vienna in 1683 when he led Polish, Austrian, and German troops against the invading Turks under Kara Mustafa. He is hailed as the savior of European Christendom. Sobieski is also famous for his correspondence with his beloved wife, Queen Maria Kazimiera d'Arquien. His letters may be credited with popularizing the King's way of addressing the Queen by employing the diminutive form of her first name, *Marysieńka*. She, too, is widely remembered and often referred to in Poland by that name. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)**



18TH CENTURY TURMOIL

STANISŁAW KONARSKI, 1700-1773



An educator, writer, Piarist monk, and precursor of the Enlightenment in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Konarski was an outstanding reformer of the educational system in the 18th century Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. He was the founder of Collegium Nobilium in Warsaw in 1740; and the author of textbooks and educational programs for schools. Konarski was a political publicist known for his writings on reformation of the Polish parliamentary system. **(Conservator: Dr. Helen Suchara)**

KAZIMIERZ PUŁAWSKI (Casimir Pulaski), 1745-1779

The *Father of the American Cavalry*, Puławski was a Polish soldier and military commander who immigrated in 1777 to the United States where he became Brigadier General of the Continental Army during the American Revolution. He died in the Battle of Savannah in 1779. **(Conservators: Richard & Peggy Luszczyk)**



TADEUSZ KOŚCIUSZKO (Thaddeus Kosciuszko), 1746-1817

A Polish-Lithuanian general and military leader, Kościuszko fought in the American Revolutionary War (1775-1781) as a Colonel in the Continental Army. In recognition of his dedicated service, Kościuszko was given the rank of Brigadier General in 1783 by the Continental Congress and made a naturalized citizen of

the United States. After returning to Poland in 1794, he led the Kościuszko Uprising as Supreme Commander of the Polish National Armed Forces against Imperial Russia and the Kingdom of Prussia. Kościuszko is a national hero in Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, and the United States. **(Conservator: Helena Zmurkiewicz)**

HUGO KOŁŁĄTAJ, 1750-1812



Kołłątaj was a political activist and writer, educational organizer and reformer, philosopher, and priest. He was also one of the most prominent figures of the Enlightenment in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. As a reformer, he served on the Commission of National Education (1773-1794) and was a co-author of the Constitution of 3 May 1791, and other legal acts. After the second partition of Poland in 1793, Hugo Kołłątaj participated in the government of the Kościuszko Uprising of 1794 and he co-authored its legal pronouncements. **(Conservator: Dr. Jane Romatowski, In memory of Joseph J. Pecherski)**

WOJCIECH BARTOSZ GŁOWACKI, 1758-1794

Bartosz was a Polish peasant and the most famous member of the scythe-wielding *kosynierzy* (peasant volunteer infantry) during the 1794 Kościuszko Uprising. After the battle of Raławice, Kościuszko made Bartosz an army officer because of his bravery. His name was changed by adding the surname Głowacki. He was released from servitude and given land ownership. Wojciech Bartosz, a symbol of the Kosciuszko Uprising and Polish valor, became one of Poland's national heroes. **(Conservator: J. William Gorski)**



JÓZEF PONIATOWSKI, 1763-1813

Prince Poniatowski was a general, minister of war, and Marshal of France. After the second partition of Poland in 1793, Poniatowski participated in the Kościuszko Uprising of 1794. In 1806, he joined Napoleon's army. When the Duchy of Warsaw was established in 1807, Poniatowski became its Minister of War and Head of the Army. Later, he participated in Napoleon's Russian campaign of 1811 and German campaign of 1813, during which he met his demise. **(Conservators: Sulik Family, In Memory of Edward & Janina Sulik)**



19TH CENTURY

EMILIA PLATER, 1806-1831



Countess Emilia Plater was a Polish-Lithuanian revolutionary. She joined the November Uprising of 1830 against Imperial Russia and was promoted to the rank of Captain, the highest military rank awarded to a woman at that time. Her legend as a revolutionary hero was popularized by Adam Mickiewicz in a poem, *The Colonel's Death*. Plater is a national hero of Poland, Lithuania, and Belarus. **(Conservators: Richard & Peggy Luszczyk)**

ADAM MICKIEWICZ, 1798-1855



A renowned Polish-Lithuanian romantic poet, publicist, and patriotic activist of partitioned Poland, Mickiewicz is regarded as the national poet of Poland, Lithuania, and Belarus. After spending five years in exile in central Russia, he left his homeland in 1829; and in 1832, he settled in Paris where he became professor of Slavic literature at the Collège de France. Mickiewicz is known primarily as the author of the poetic drama, *Dziady* (1823-1832); and the national epic poem, *Pan Tadeusz* (1834). Mickiewicz's literary work was highly prized not only during his lifetime; but, also, today his work is significant in Polish literature. **(Conservators: American Council for Polish Culture)**

TADEUSZ from *PAN TADEUSZ*

Tadeusz Soplica is the hero of Mickiewicz's national epic poem, *Pan Tadeusz* (*Sir Thaddeus, or the Last Lithuanian Foray: A Nobleman's Tale from the Years of 1811 and 1812 in Twelve Books of Verse*), which paints the lost world of the poet's Polish-Lithuanian noble culture. The time frame of the poem is set during Napoleon's campaign in Eastern Europe, when Emperor Napoleon created the Duchy of Warsaw.



Our *Panorama* figure of Tadeusz is dressed in a military uniform of an army officer of the Duchy of Warsaw. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)**

ZOSIA from *PAN TADEUSZ*

Pan Tadeusz recounts the story of two feuding noble families and the love between two young people from each, Tadeusz and Zosia. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr.)**

JULIUSZ SŁOWACKI, 1809-1849



One of the great romantic poets of partitioned Poland, Słowacki was involved in the 1830 November Uprising; and afterwards, he immigrated to France and Switzerland. Juliusz Słowacki is best known for his poems and dramas. His most popular works include two dramas, *Kordian* and *Balladyna*; and the poem, *Beniowski*. **(Conservator: Dr. Dorothy E. Lemecha)**

FRYDERYK CHOPIN, 1810-1849

A Polish composer, virtuoso pianist, and music teacher of French-Polish parentage, Chopin is one of the great masters of European Romantic music. He invented the instrumental ballade and made major innovations to the piano sonata, mazurka, waltz, nocturne, polonaise, etude, impromptu, and prelude. **(Conservator: Mary Kołowski Holt)**



ZYGMUNT KRASIŃSKI, 1812-1859



Another great national romantic poet, Krasiński is traditionally ranked with Mickiewicz and Słowacki as one of Poland's three national literary bards — the trio of great Romantic poets who influenced national consciousness during the partitions. His best known poetic dramas, *Nie-Boska komedia* (*The Non-Divine Comedy*) and *Irydion*, made Krasiński the outstanding representative of Polish romantic tragedy. **(In Memory of Jerzy Maciuszko, Professor of Slavic Languages — Alliance College)**

JÓZEF IGNACY KRASZEWSKI, 1812-1887

Kraszewski was a Polish writer, poet, historian, journalist, and social activist. He wrote more than 200 novels, 150 novellas, and numerous short stories and art reviews. He is best known for his epic series on Polish History in which patriotic and romantic elements coexist with realism; and consequently, his works were widely read and translated during and after his lifetime. **(Conservator: Teresa Regina Kołowska)**



STANISŁAW MONIUSZKO, 1819-1872



The father of Polish National Opera, Moniuszko was a composer, conductor, and teacher. His music is grounded in Polish musical folklore by way of folk dances such as Kujawiak and Krakowiak; and in dances of the upper class such as Polonaise and Mazurka. **(Conservator: Jacqueline Jadwiga Kolowski)**

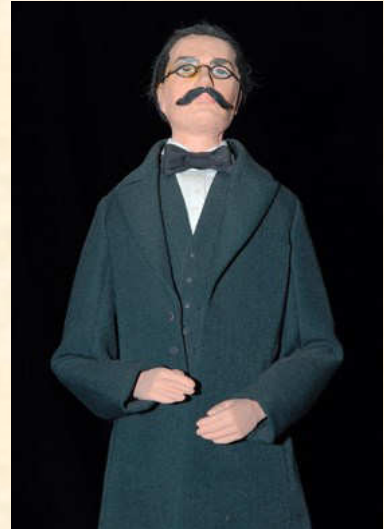
CYPRIAN KAMIL NORWID, 1821-1883

A Polish poet, sculptor, painter, and graphic artist whose work was not appreciated during his lifetime, Norwid was not recognized until the early 20th century. He left partitioned Poland in 1842 and later settled in Paris. From 1852-1854, Norwid traveled in the United States. Rediscovered during *Młoda Polska* (Young Poland), a modernist period in Polish culture in the late 19th and early 20th century, Norwid is considered a precursor of Modernism. He is best known in Poland for his symbolic poems and is considered one of the most original Polish poets and thinkers. **(Conservators: The Chumiecki Family)**



ROMUALD TRAUGUTT, 1826-1864

A Polish general and war hero, Traugutt began his career as an officer in the Russian Imperial Army and participated in the Crimean War. In 1863, he became a leader of rebel forces during the January Uprising against Imperial Russia. After the uprising, he was hanged by the Russian regime. **(Conservator: Joan Lamport, In Memory of the Gwizdon & Rostek Families)**



PARTITIONED POLAND in MOURNING



For over 120 years, Poland was partitioned by the neighboring nations of Russia, Austria, and Prussia. The 1863 January Uprising was followed by severe reprisals against insurgents. The Russian government took over all church estates and funds; and abolished monasteries and convents. Russian became the official language of the country. All traces of the former Polish autonomy were removed; and the kingdom was divided into ten provinces, each with an appointed Russian military administrator. As a symbol of mourning for their lost homeland, women wore black ribbons and black jewelry. This *Panorama* figure, whose design was influenced by the series titled *Polonia*, by Polish artist Artur Grottger, well represents this sentiment. **(Conservator: Dr. George Morgan)**

ŚWIĘTY ZYGMUNT SZCZĘSNY FELIŃSKI, 1822-1895

Zygmunt Szczęsny Feliński was the Archbishop of Warsaw and founder of the Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary. He tried to prevent the 1863 January Uprising; but, after its commencement, he supported its cause. After the fall of the uprising, he spent 20 years in exile in



Russia. Feliński was beatified in 2002 by Pope John Paul II; and canonized in 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI. **(Conservator: Bishop Andrew Wypych)**

ŚWIĘTY RAFAŁ KALINOWSKI, 1835-1907



Kalinowski was a Discalced Carmelite friar, a teacher, an engineer, and a prisoner of war. He was also an officer in the Russian Imperial Army, an associate professor of mathematics, and an engineer participating in the design of the Trans-Siberian railway. He resigned from the Russian Army in 1863 and became Minister of War during the January Uprising. Kalinowski was arrested and condemned to death; but his sentence was changed to 10 years in a Siberian labor camp. He returned to Warsaw in 1874. In 1877, he joined the Carmel of Linz.

He founded multiple Catholic organizations around Poland and the Ukraine, among which was a monastery in Wadowice, Poland where he was also Prior. Kalinowski was beatified in 1983 and canonized in 1991 by Pope John Paul II. **(Conservators: Eugenia & Tadeusz Gorecki)**

MARIA KONOPNICKA, 1842-1910

Writing under the pseudonym of Jan Sawa, Konopnicka was a poet, novelist, writer of children's literature, translator, journalist, and critic. Her poetry reflects realism, freshness, and spontaneity. Maria Konopnicka's literary works express the ideals of democracy and patriotism. **(Conservator: Henrietta Nowakowski)**



ŚWIĘTY BRAT ALBERT CHMIELOWSKI (St. Brother Albert), 1845-1916



Adam Hilary Bernard Chmielowski participated in the January Uprising of 1863 in which he lost his leg. Forced to emigrate, he studied engineering in Belgium; and art in France and Germany. After returning to his homeland in 1874, he became a popular artist in Kraków. Later, Chmielowski joined the Third Order of St. Francis and became known as Brother Albert. In 1888, he founded the Order of Albertine Brothers, the Servants of the Poor. In 1891, together with Blessed Bernardina, he founded a congregation of religious women. The Albertine Brothers and Sisters collect and distribute food and provide shelter for the poor and homeless. Chmielowski was beatified in 1983 followed by his canonization in 1989 by Pope John Paul II. **(Conservator: Dr. C. J. Koscinski, In Memory of Leta & Rachele Koscinski)**

HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ, 1846-1916

Sienkiewicz was a Polish writer, journalist, and social activist, who in 1905 received the Nobel Peace Prize for his outstanding contribution as an epic writer. He authored the epic historical trilogy based in 17th century Poland: *With Fire and Sword*; *The Deluge*; and *Pan Wołodyjowski*. Sienkiewicz is best known for *Quo Vadis*, which has been adapted to film numerous times. **(Conservator: Barbara Lemecha)**



MARIA TERESA LEDÓCHOWSKA, 1863-1922

A Polish Roman Catholic nun and African missionary, Ledóchowska founded the Sodality of St. Peter Claver for

the African Missions and the Liberation of Slaves, which later became a full-fledged religious order. Ledóchowska acquired her *Błogostawiona* (Blessed) title having been beatified in 1975. **(Conservator: Theresa Dillehay, In Memory of Natalia Blady)**

PODLASIE — Podlasian Couple

Throughout its early history as part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Podlasie was inhabited by various tribes of different ethnic roots — Polish, Belarusian, Ukrainian, and Lithuanian. As part of the confluence of cultures, Podlasie was inhabited by members of the Russian Orthodox Church, who remained in union with Rome. During the partitions of Poland in the 19th and early 20th centuries, they suffered religious persecution from the Russian Imperial administration. **(Conservator: Dr. Hal Learman, In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Eugenia & Tadeusz Gorecki)**



WRZEŚNIA STUDENTS STRIKE, 1901



A strike occurred in the city of Września by young Polish students during partitioned Poland in response to government prohibition of the use of the Polish language in schools. In May of 1901, students in the Września schools spoke Polish in protest to the increased Germanization spreading throughout the country; consequently, they were severely beaten. The strike spread to neighboring cities, eventually ending in 1904. **(Conservators: Marcia & Thomas Youngquist)**

IMMIGRATION to the UNITED STATES

FR. LEOPOLD MOCZYGEMBA, 1824-1891

Born in Płużnica Wielka in Upper Silesia, Fr. Moczygemba was a Polish Franciscan missionary. In 1854, he founded the first permanent Polish-American settlement in the United States at Panna Maria, Texas. He helped establish the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. Together with Fr. Józef Dąbrowski, Moczygemba was one of the 1885 founders of the first Polish-American Seminary, SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, in Detroit, Michigan. **(Conservators: PNA, Chicago)**



TEXAS SETTLER with CROSS

In 1854, the first group of some 100 Polish families came to the United States from villages of the Upper Silesian area of Poland. They sold their land and made the long journey to Texas. They arrived by boat in Galveston; and then traveled by ox-cart to a place they named Panna Maria (Virgin Mary), the first permanent Polish settlement in the United States. The settlers brought with them a large cross from their former house of worship to place in their new church. **(In Honor of Volunteers — Dana Barrett, Sharon Deceunick, and Michelle Chumiecki)**



PANNA MARIA — Mother with Child

The earliest Polish settlers suffered through many hardships; but they always wanted to ensure that their children were properly educated. These early settlers of Panna Maria built St. Joseph School, the first Polish private school in the United States. **(Conservator: Beata Owczarski)**



PANNA MARIA — Settler with Bell & Plow

These first Polish settlers of Panna Maria, Texas brought with them all the necessities for survival in the new land including plows and other farm implements, bedding, and kitchen utensils. They also brought a cross and a bell for their new church. **(Conservators: Cecile & James Jensen)**

FR. JÓZEF DĄBROWSKI, 1842-1903

Dąbrowski was a Roman Catholic priest, a missionary, an educator, and an 1885 founder and first rector of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Detroit, Michigan. He was born in 1842 in partitioned Poland's village of Żółtańce. After participating in the January Insurrection of 1863, Dąbrowski was forced to flee Poland. He went first to Dresden, Germany; then to Switzerland for two years; and finally to Rome, Italy where he entered the charter class of the Polish College founded by Pope Pius IX. Dąbrowski completed philosophical and theological studies at the Gregorian University; and in August of 1869, he was ordained a priest in Rome. He arrived in the United States on December 31, 1869 to work among Polish immigrants in rural Wisconsin. During



a twelve year time period as a parish priest, he built two churches, a mission chapel, a parochial school, a convent, and a rectory. In 1874, Fr. Dąbrowski brought the Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice (the Felician Sisters) from Poland to staff the parochial school in Polonia, Wisconsin. In the Wisconsin wilderness, Dąbrowski preached to the Chippewa, Winnebago, and Menominee Indians, baptizing several hundred. He also taught his new flock the ways of European agriculture. Dąbrowski's Polish-Chippewa dictionary was designed to facilitate the mission; and for a brief period, until they returned to their former ways, Native Americans also joined the Felician community. In 1882, for reasons of health and with the approval of Bishop Caspar Borgess, Dąbrowski transferred his activities to Detroit, Michigan where he became pastor of St. Albertus. He continued to guide the expansion of the Felician community and its network of schools and publications. As rector of the Polish seminary (1885-1903), he was instrumental in providing Polish parishes with priests and parochial schools with teachers. **(Conservators: Cecile & James Jensen)**

FELICIAN SISTERS (Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice)

Founded in Poland in 1855, the Felician Sisters was the first female religious community from Poland that came to the United States to serve the growing number of Polish immigrants between the 1880's and the end of World War I. Officially known as the Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice, their founder was Sophia Camille Truskowska. Their history in America began with the arrival in 1874 of five Felician Sisters in the rural Midwest, having been asked by Father Józef Dąbrowski to teach in his parish school in Polonia, Wisconsin. It was there in 1876 that a Felician novitiate was established. The motherhouse and novitiate was moved from Polonia to a more central location in Detroit, Michigan in 1882. For more than 150 years, the Felician Sisters have pursued the vision of their founder, Blessed Maria Angela Truskowska, to be "*sister and servant to all.*" **(Conservators: Marcia & Thomas Youngquist, In Memory of Marvin & Mary Kolassa Smoker (Smółka))**



MOTHER MARY THERESA DUDZIK, 1860-1918

Born Józia Dudzik, this 1881 Polish immigrant came with her family to Chicago, Illinois. In 1894, Józia invited members of the Third Order of St. Francis to join her in a life of prayer and service to the poor, aged, orphaned, and disabled. The religious order was originally called the Franciscan Sisters of Blessed Kunegunda and was later renamed the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago. Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik was declared Venerable in 1994, the first of three degrees of recognition towards sainthood. **(Conservator: Dr. C. J. Koscinski, In Memory of The Koscinski Women — Sophie, Helen, Emily, Teresa, Patricia, Leta, and Rachele)**



REGIONAL DRESS

ŻYWIEC — Regional Costume



This spectacular costume comes from the region of Żywiec and the Beskid Mountains in southern Poland. It has four to five skirts layered over each other. The long outer skirt, as well as the corset, could be made with blue, green, or red velvet; and the outer skirt is covered with a white lace tulle apron. Also, a large scarf is worn over the shoulders by young women. The outfit has a large, creased collar made of white lace tulle. A wide ribbon is tied in front of the collar in a big bow. A red coral necklace or *korale* often completes the apparel. **(Conservators: Ava & Claire Pawlosky)**

GÓRALE — Regional Costume

In Poland, the Górale live in the Podhale region of the Tatra and Beskid Mountains. Górale literally translates to *highlander*. This costume is the best known and the one most often represented for this southern Poland region. Most characteristic of this costume are tight white wool pants cut open at the bottom; and a white wool jacket, both decorated with elaborate needlework designs known as *parzenice*. A sleeveless sheepskin vest may be worn over the shirt. A black wool cap is decorated with a string of small, white shells; and sometimes with feathers. The outfit is additionally accessorized with a wide, embossed leather belt decorated with a number of metal buckles. The traditional leather shoes have distinctive ornamental markings. **(Conservators: Joseph & Betty Arnold Guziak, In Memory of Florian & Marie Ciscon Guziak)**



GÓRALKA — Regional Costume



The women's costume from the Tatra Highlands region of Podhale has a white blouse finished with white embroidery. The vest, embellished with floral designs, is laced in the front with a red ribbon tied in a bow. Floral designs are key to the skirt made of thin wool fabric. One's head could be covered with a matching scarf. Another matching scarf may be worn around the shoulders. A close-fitting *korale* or necklace of red beads, tied in the back with a long ribbon hanging down, accents the outfit. Traditional leather shoes, known as *kierpce*, are embossed with distinctive ornaments, and

complete the attire. **(Conservator: Anonymous)**

KRAKOWIAK — Regional Costume



The Krakowiak regional costume is the most recognized in Poland. Linen trousers in white and red or white and blue stripes are tucked into black boots. The knee-length vest could be either black or dark blue; and then richly decorated in the front with floral embroidery, brass buttons, and red or green fringes. A wide leather belt, cut out with an ornamental design and backed with red fabric, is worn over the vest. The brass studded belt has attached strings of round ornamental metal pieces that make noise during a dance. A wide-collared *sukmana* or overcoat may be

worn which could be brown, white, grey, or dark blue. The *sukmana*, as well as the characteristic four corner red cap known as *rogatywka*, was worn during the 1794 Kościuszko Uprising by Kościuszko and his peasant army. The cap has peacock feathers fastened with a decorative pin and long colorful ribbons. **(Conservator: Rosemary Konwerski, In Memory of Joseph & Mary (Michalak) Konwerski)**

KRAKOWIANKA — Regional Costume

The costume worn traditionally by women in the area of Kraków is best known for its long skirt with large, bold floral designs on a green, blue, red, or white background. A long white cotton or tulle apron, beautifully embroidered at the bottom, is worn over the skirt. A white blouse with satin embroidery is worn under a velvet corset that is richly embroidered and decorated with beads and sequins in front and back. Additionally, the front of the corset is decorated with silk or metallic fringes. Flowers are worn in the hair into



which long ribbons are braided. A necklace of very large red coral beads is the favorite jewelry accessory. The black leather heeled shoes have red laces. **(Conservator: Dana M. Barrett)**



KASZUBY — Regional Costume

The most characteristic element of the Kaszuby regional costume worn by men is its overcoat or *sukmana*. It could be black, brown, or dark blue and have a red lining. The *sukmana* on this *Panorama* figure has wide red cuffs with red lapels. Under it, a vest is worn over a white linen shirt tied in front, under the collar, with a red ribbon. White or colored trousers are tucked into black boots. The head is covered with a black wool hat in summer; and a fur hat in winter.

(Conservator: Reverend Stanley Ulman, In Memory of Marlene Valentine)

KASZUBIANKA — Regional Costume

The costume worn traditionally by Kaszuby women has a skirt, that for a young woman, is of a lovely blue color; for older women it is a dark brown or blue color. An apron is a necessary part of the outfit; and for holidays would be blue-green or green in color. A plain velvet corset is worn over a white linen or cotton blouse. The head is covered with a flower wreath, a headscarf, or a small, starched embroidered bonnet, which for a festive occasion, would be fastened with a wide ribbon of floral design tied under the chin with a big decorative bow. In the 18th century, gold thread was often used to decorate the caps of women, as seen on this *Panorama* figure. The jewelry would consist of a necklace or *korale* of amber beads. The black leather heeled shoes would be fastened with a strap. **(Conservators: Cecile & James Jensen)**



KURPIE — Regional Costume



Kurpie is an ethnic group inhabiting the lowlands of Mazovia. It is a region in the middle of Poland, tucked away between two ancient forests, the Green Wilderness Forest and the White Wilderness Forest. The better known apparel is the Kurpie outfit of the Green Wilderness Forest. Kurpie men from this region wear long brown coats having color lapels with the same color cuffs. The coats are tied around the waist with a red sash. They wear white linen shirts and white trousers which are fastened at the bottom with straps from the Kurpie shoes. The name Kurpie comes from the name of shoes, which are made out of linden tree bark. Dark hats have a band made with fabric matching the cuffs and lapels. **(Conservators: Polish National Alliance Council 54 — Honoring 100 years of Service to Polonia — 1913-2013)**

KURPIANKA — Regional Costume

The most characteristic element of the regional costumes worn by young Kurpie women is the unique tall, black velvet hat decorated with embroidery, fabric flowers, feathers, and ribbons attached at its right side. A dark vest with some trim is worn over a white linen blouse. An amber necklace is always worn with this costume. A green skirt is covered with a white apron made, in part, of lace. Black laced, leather heeled shoes are worn on festive occasions. **(In Memory of Frank & Frances (Zalenski) Drobot)**



ŁOWICZ — Regional Costume



The men's costumes of Łowicz bear a resemblance to the uniforms of the Swiss Papal Guard in Rome through the influence of the archbishops of Gniezno. Bold orange and green striped trousers are tucked into black boots. A white linen shirt with embroidered collar and cuffs adds to the look. The hip-long, black sleeveless vest has brass buttons. A long wool sash is wrapped two times around the waist and is tied in front over a vest. A hat made of thick black wool and decorated with colored bands and a brooch made with shiny glass beads completes the ensemble.

(In Memory of Andrew Drobot & Antonina (Tumedajewicz) Drobot)

ŁOWICZANKA — Regional Costume

Łowicz is a part of Mazovia, a region in central Poland. The most characteristic features of the regional costume of a woman from Łowicz are her pleated skirt and apron, both made from thick, heavy wool with wide vertical stripes of bold orange, green, dark red, violet, and shades of blue. The skirt is short in length to just below the knee. The apron would be shorter than the skirt; both being finished at the bottom with a band of floral designs. The costume has a white embroidered blouse, a vest made of black velvet with beautiful beadwork, and a red coral necklace. The head is covered with a scarf tied in different ways. The shoes are black leather, tied with red shoelaces. Since the skirts are relatively short, women would wear knitted pantyhose in white, red, or multicolor with floral designs. **(Conservator: Rosemary Konwerski, In Memory of John & Josephine (Noga) Szafran)**



RZESZÓW — Regional Costume



Blue is the dominant color of men's traditional clothing from the Rzeszów region. The hip-long sleeveless blue vest is backed with red fabric and decorated with small red pompons fastened alongside the buttons. The vest is worn over a white linen shirt that may be tied with a red ribbon under the collar. The shirt is worn over the waist of the blue trousers which are tucked into black boots. A brown overcoat of knee-length is collarless and has red cuffs. In front, on both sides of the closure from the waist up and around the neck, the overcoat is decorated with gold and red embroidery. The embossed leather belt has a brass buckle and large, decorative brass buttons. The belt is worn either over a shirt or over the coat. The hat would be made of black wool or straw; and decorated with an embroidered ribbon band. **(Conservator: Aloysius Gongol, In Memory of Frances Tokarska Gongol)**

RZESZOWIANKA — Regional Costume

The most characteristic element of the Rzeszów regional woman's costume is the beautifully decorated white apron finished with white satin embroidery. The apron is worn over a long brown skirt. The embroidery on the apron would match the decoration on the white shirt collar and headscarf. A velvet, laced corset or jacket is decorated with silver sequins in front, running along the closure and the lower part of the sleeves; and in the back, making a v-shape. A necklace of red coral beads is the favorite jewelry. Black leather heeled shoes tied with red laces would complete the apparel.



(Conservator: Virginia Makkonen, In Memory of the Barszczowski & Pietrucha Families)

WARMIANKA — Regional Costume

Warmia is a region in northeastern Poland. It fell under Prussian rule during the partitions of Poland. The woman's skirt and close fitting vest of this attire are generally maroon in color. The most decorative part of the outfit is a bonnet that is starched and embroidered with metallic gold color thread. It is fastened with wide, off-white pleated ribbon tied in a large bow under the chin. A second large bow with long ends of the same fabric is tied in the back of the bonnet. **(Conservator: Jill O'Sullivan, In Memory of the Sądowski, Sontowski, Sandusky Families)**



WORLD WAR I

JÓZEF HALLER, 1873-1960



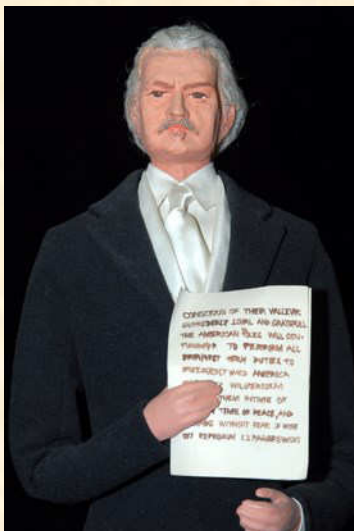
A political and social activist, General Haller served during World War I as commander in France of the Blue Army, named for the color of its French uniforms. The Blue Army, also known as Haller's Army, included 23,000 troops that were Polish-Americans. After World War I, the army was transferred to Poland, where it took part in the Polish-Ukrainian War. During the Polish-Bolshevik War, the Blue Army played a critical role in Poland's successful defense against Soviet forces. **(Conservators: Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan)**

WOODROW WILSON, 1856-1924

Political leader and educator, Wilson was elected the 28th President of the United States serving from 1913-1921. The United States entered World War I in 1917 with Wilson maintaining that “the world must be made safe for democracy.” In a speech delivered to the Congress of the United States in January, 1918, he outlined what was to become known as his *Fourteen Points* in which he suggested the creation of an independent Poland with access to the sea. **(In Honor of Volunteers — Genia Gorecki, Phillip Chumiecki, Marge Johnston, & Joan Lamport)**



IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI, 1860-1941



Polish born Paderewski was a pianist, composer, diplomat, politician, and Prime Minister of the Second Republic of Poland. He became the Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1919; and thus, represented Poland at the Paris Peace Conference. He was a signer of the Treaty of Versailles, which marked the end of World War I. **(Conservator: J. William Gorski)**



JÓZEF PIŁSUDSKI, 1867-1935

A statesman and revolutionist, Piłsudski was considered to be the founder of Polish independence after 123 years of partition; and remembered for fending off foreign

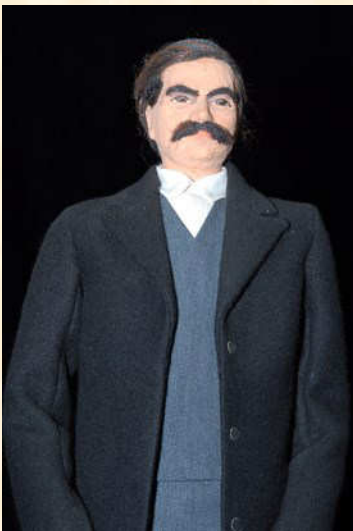
assaults. He served as Naczelnik Państwa (Chief of State) in Poland during the years 1918-1922; and de facto leader of the Second Polish Republic from 1926 until his death in 1935. **(Conservators: Helen & Thad Cooke, In Memory of Thad's Uncle who was a Barefoot Legionnaire with Piłsudski, who defeated the Bolshevik Communists at the Battle of Warsaw in 1919-1920)**

WW I — LWÓW EAGLETS, 1918-1919

Lwów Eaglets (Orlęta Lwowskie) is a name given to the young Polish teenage volunteers who defended the city of Lwów during the Polish-Ukrainian War (1918-1919) and fought valiantly for the Polish cause. **(Conservators: The Dalpe & Iminski Families, In Memory of Paul Dalpe)**



WINCENTY WITOS, 1874-1945



Witos was a born in a Polish peasant family and only finished four years of formal education. Nevertheless, he ultimately became a politician and the leader of the Piast party. He served as the Prime Minister of the Second Polish Republic. The Witos government was overthrown by the 1926 May coup d'état led by Józef Piłsudski. The role that Witos played in Polish history is controversial to this day. **(Conservator: Dr. Hal Learman, In Memory of Stanley & Lucille Hessling Learman)**

WORLD WAR II

WW II — HOME ARMY SOLDIER

This *Panorama* figure represents the men and women of the Home Army in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944 during World War II. The Home Army was the dominant Polish resistance during World War II in German occupied Poland numbering nearly 400,000 by late 1943. They remained loyal to the Polish Government in Exile serving as the army of the *Polish Underground State*.
(Conservators: Polish Home Army Veterans Circle)



WŁADYSŁAW SIKORSKI, 1881-1943

Sikorski was a political leader and General in the Polish Army, who played a duo role during World War II becoming the first Prime Minister of the Polish Government in Exile in London; and General Inspector of the Polish Armed Forces. **(Conservators: Eugene & Barbara Trela, In Memory of Walenty & MaryAnn Trela)**

WŁADYSŁAW ANDERS, 1892-1970

General Anders served as a World War II commander of the Polish Armed Forces in the East that were formed in 1941 in the Soviet Union. The army was evacuated to Persia and transferred to the Western Allies, where it became known as the Polish Army 2nd Corps. They went on to fight Nazi German forces in Italy; and in 1944,



the Polish Army 2nd Corps fought in the Battle of Monte Cassino. After World War II, General Anders remained in exile in London until his death. **(Conservators: Barbara & Eugene Bak)**

ŚWIĘTY MAXIMILLIAN KOLBE, 1894-1941

Maximillian Kolbe was born in Pabiance, which at the time was part of the Russian Partition. He joined the Order of Friars Minor Conventual in Lwów. As a Franciscan friar, Kolbe volunteered to die in the place of a stranger, Franciszek Gajowniczek, in Auschwitz's concentration camp during World War II. Kolbe was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1971. Pope John Paul II canonized Kolbe in 1982, declaring this humble religious man a martyr of charity. **(Conservators: Polish Home Army Veterans Circle)**



COMMUNIST ERA

STEFAN CARDINAL WYSZYŃSKI, 1901-1981



After serving as Bishop and Archbishop of Warsaw and Gniezno, Stefan Wyszyński was appointed Cardinal in 1953. He assumed the title of Primate of Poland and is often referred to as the *Primate of the Millennium*. He celebrated Poland's Millennium of Christianity in 1966 — the one thousandth anniversary of the baptism of Poland's first prince, Mieszko I. **(Conservator: Mary Flanagan nee Lubienski)**

JOHN CARDINAL KROL, 1910-1996



Born in Cleveland, Ohio, John Krol attended St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, Michigan. From there he entered St. Mary's Seminary in his hometown and was ordained a priest in 1937. In 1953, Monsignor Krol was consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland where he served from 1953-1961. He was the first Polish-American appointed to an Archdiocesan See, governing namely, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia from 1961-1988. Archbishop Krol participated in the Second Vatican Council from 1962-1965, serving as a permanent undersecretary. He was also a member of the central coordinating committee of the Council. Krol was elevated to Cardinal in 1967 by Pope Paul VI. He was a recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal in 1968. **(Conservator: Ben S. Stefanski Family, Cleveland, Ohio — 1974 Recipient of the Fidelitas Medal)**

ALOYSIUS MAZEWSKI, 1916-1988

A native of Chicago, Aloysius Mazewski became the 15th president of the Polish National Alliance (PNA), a Polish-American fraternal organization, where he served from 1967 until his death in 1988. As was generally the case for the PNA president, he also served as president of the Polish-American Congress (PAC) from 1968-1988. Under his leadership, both organizations became thriving institutions. He was known internationally for advocating Polish causes and human rights. Mazewski was a 1976 recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal. **(Conservator: Bishop Andrew Wypych)**



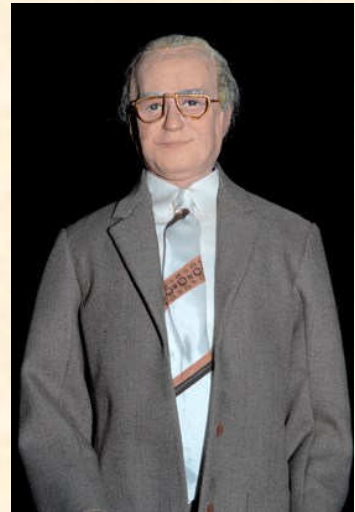
MAZOWSZANKA — Mazovian Woman



Mazowsze is a geographic and historic region of east-central Poland. It became part of Polans in the 10th century during the reign of Mieszko I, the first historical ruler of the Piast. This female Mazovian figure is dedicated to Helen Zielinski (1911-2007), a Polish-American activist who served as past President of the Polish Women's Alliance of America from 1971-1987; and vice-president of the Polish-American Congress. She co-authored a book on the history of the Polish Women's Alliance of America, the largest not-for-profit fraternal benefit society organized by women of Polish ancestry. **(Conservators: Cecilia Kołowski Larkin & Richard F. Larkin, In Memory of Regina & Kazimierz Kołowski)**

LEO OBLOY, 1913-2000

A parishioner of St. Hugo Parish in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Leo Obloy founded Special Drill and Reamer Company in Madison Heights. He served as a Regent of the Orchard Lake Schools and a member of the Board of Trustees of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary. Obloy was a member of the Polish-American Engineering Society, past Chairman of Orchard Lake Schools Founders Day Golf Outing, honorary alumnus of Orchard Lake Schools (1966), and principal benefactor of the *Polish Panorama Project*. In 1985, Leo Obloy was the Centennial Recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal. **(Conservators: The Family of Leo & Bernice Obloy)**



MONSIGNOR ZDZISŁAW JASTRZĘBIEC PESZKOWSKI, 1918-2007

A native of Sanok, Poland, Peszkowski was born in 1918. He was one of the relatively few who survived the 1940 Katyn Forest Massacre in which over 20,000 Poles were killed. Peszkowski was a principal leader in the disclosure of those responsible for this tragic event in Polish history. A graduate of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan, he was ordained a priest in 1954 for the Diocese of Przemyśl, Poland. Later, as a recipient of papal honors, he was named a Prelate of Honor to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor.



Peszowski was a professor of Pastoral Polish at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary; and a teacher of Polish language and history at St. Mary's College from 1954-1989. Monsignor Peszkowski initiated and coordinated the weekly radio broadcast of the Mass in the Polish language. He served as international Chaplain of the Polish Scouting Movement. He posthumously received the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal in 2008. Monsignor Peszkowski conceived the *Polish Panorama Project* at Orchard Lake Schools, initiated the funding and construction for the project, and ultimately oversaw its completion. He died in his beloved Poland and his remains are interred at the Sanctuary of Divine Providence in Warsaw. **(Conservator: Reverend Stanley Ulman, In Memory of Monsignor**

Zdzisław Peszkowski)



EDMUND CARDINAL SZOKA, 1927-2014

Edmund Szoka was ordained a priest in 1954 in the Diocese of Marquette, Michigan. His list of achievements include: appointment to Bishop of Gaylord in 1971; promotion to Archbishop of Detroit in 1981; 1987 recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal; and elevation to cardinalate in 1988. Cardinal Szoka was appointed President of the Prefecture for Economic Affairs of the Holy See where he served from 1990-1997.

He served as President of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State from 2001-2006, after which he retired. **(Conservator: Rosemary Monica Konwerski)**

SAINT JOHN PAUL II, 1920-2005



Born Karol Józef Wojtyła in Wadowice, this native Son of Poland became the first non-Italian Pope since 1523. His Holiness had the second-longest reigning pontificate having served from 1978 until his death in 2005. He improved relations between the Roman Catholic Church and Judaism, Islam, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Anglican Communion. His beatification in 2011 marked the

third of four steps in the canonization process. He was elevated to sainthood on 27 April 2014. **(Conservators: Teresa Abick Family)**

JÓZEF CARDINAL GLEMP, 1929-2013

Józef Glemp was ordained to the priesthood in 1956. Two years later he was sent to Rome to study canon law. He was made Bishop of Warmia in 1979. Glemp was made Archbishop of Gniezno and Warsaw in 1981. In 1983, he was elevated to Cardinal. Glemp was honored as an Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal Recipient in 2010. **(Conservators: Barbara & Eugene Bak)**



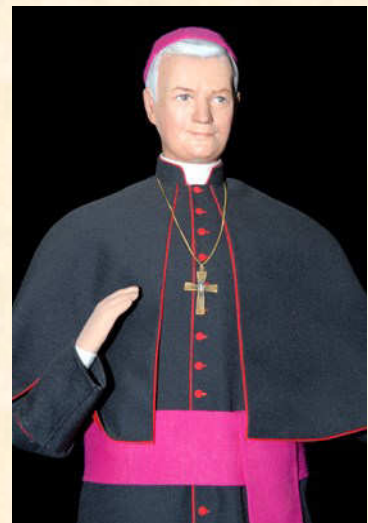
MONSIGNOR STANLEY E. MILEWSKI, 1929-2014



An alumnus of St. Mary's Preparatory from the class of 1947 and of St. Mary's College from the class of 1951, Stanley Milewski was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit in 1955. He served as: instructor of Religion, History, and Polish at St. Mary's Preparatory; Procurator-Treasurer of Orchard Lake Schools; Vice-Rector of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary; Athletic Director; and Chancellor of Orchard Lake Schools from 1977-2000. Monsignor was named to this Prelate of Honor to His Holiness on 26 March 1990. He served as President of the Detroit Archdiocesan Priests' Conference for Polish Affairs, Treasurer-Emeritus of the Polish-American Priests Association (PAPA), and National Vice-Chaplain for the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. He was a 2001 recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal. Pope Benedict XVI appointed Monsignor Milewski Protonotary Apostolic Supra Numerum on 4 December 2007. He was an Honorary Canon in the Dioceses of Płock and Łomża, Poland. **(Conservator: Charles A. Pokriefka, Jr., In Memory of Charles & Dorothy Pokriefka, Sr.)**

ADAM CARDINAL MAIDA, 1930-

After attending St. Mary's Preparatory and St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, Michigan, Adam Maida transferred to St. Vincent Seminary in Pennsylvania for studies in philosophy; and completed theological studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. Maida was ordained a priest in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1956. His religious duties and accomplishments include: appointment to Bishop of Green Bay, Wisconsin in 1983;



installation as Archbishop of Detroit in 1990; 1991 recipient of the Orchard Lake Schools Fidelitas Medal; and elevation to cardinalate in 1994. He retired as Archbishop of Detroit in 2009. **(Conservators: Dr. Stanley & Alice Majewski)**

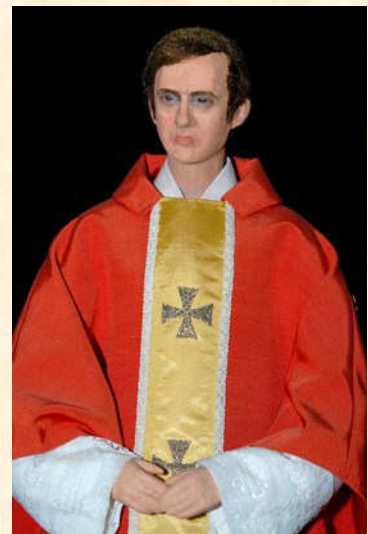
LECH WAŁĘSA, 1943-



A political leader and human rights activist, Lech Wałęsa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate in 1983. He co-founded the Solidarity Labor Movement, the first independent Soviet bloc trade union, in Gdańsk, Poland. Wałęsa served as President of Poland from 1990-1995. **(Conservators: Marylee & Wayne Gwizdala)**

BLESSED JERZY POPIEŁUSZKO, 1947-1984

Popiełuszko was a Roman Catholic priest of the Archdiocese of Warsaw and chaplain of the Solidarity Labor Union. He was assassinated by the Polish Communist internal intelligence agency. A martyr for the faith in the Roman Catholic Church, Popiełuszko was beatified on 6 June 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI. **(Conservator: Rosemary Konwerski, In Memory of Roman & Dorothy (Szafran) Konwerski)**



HONORABLE MENTIONS

The diorama is historically complete and does not allow for any additions because of capacity limitations. However, in response to our supporters of the *Polish Mission* who mentioned a number of figures that seem to be absent from the *Panorama*, we thought we would take advantage of our second printing to name seven people who have made significant contributions to Polish history.

WŁADYSŁAW REYMONT, 1867-1925

Trained to be a journeyman tailor, a theatre troupe; and acting was. Fortunately for us, he took up work being the award winning



the Polish born Reymont joined said not to be his forte. writing with his best known four-volume novel *Chłopi* (*The Peasants*), for which he ultimately won the 1924 Nobel Prize in Literature.

MARIA SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE, 1867-1934

Madame Curie was Polish born and was the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize; and the first person and only woman to receive it twice in multiple sciences, Physics and Chemistry. In 1898, Pierre and Maria Curie announced the discovery of two elements — polonium and radium — the latter of which was discovered to be key to the destruction of radium-exposed tumor cells faster than healthy cells.



ŚWIĘTA MARIA FAUSTYNA KOWALSKA, 1905-1938

Born in Głogowiec, Łęczyca, Łódź, Poland, Helena Kowalska joined a Polish convent in 1926 and took the religious name, Maria Faustyna. After Jesus appeared to her in 1931 as the *King of Divine Mercy*, she wrote in her diary notes that he told her to: *Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature "Jesus, I trust in You."* I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel; and then throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. Kowalska was canonized a saint on 30 April 2000.

IRENA SENDLER, 1910-2008

Polish born Irena Krzyżanowska married Mieczyslaw Sendler in 1931. She was a nurse and social worker who served in the Polish Underground during World War II; and was the leader of the children's section of Żegota, an underground resistance organization in German-occupied Warsaw. With the assistance of some two dozen other Żegota members, Sendler provided fake identity documents and arranged housing outside the Warsaw Ghetto for about 2,500 Jewish children; thus, saving the lives of those children during the Holocaust.



CZESŁAW MIŁOSZ, 1911-2004

Although born in Lithuania, Miłosz was a Polish poet, prose writer, translator, and diplomat. His 1953 nonfiction book, *The Captive Mind*, became a classic of anti-Stalinism. From 1961 to 1998 he was a professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Berkeley's University of California. In 1980, Miłosz was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

MATT URBAN, 1919-1995

Buffalo, New York born Matthew Urbanowicz was of Polish descent. To date, he is the most highly decorated soldier in U.S. military history having been awarded fourteen individual decorations for combat by the U.S. Army, five of which were for valor.



WISŁAWA SZYMBORSKA, 1923-2012



Wisława published her first poem in 1945. Her laurels rest on fewer than 350 poems. When asked why she had published so few poems, she responded, "I have a trash can in my home." Described as a *Mozart of Poetry*, Szymborska was recipient of the 1996 Nobel Prize in Literature "for poetry that with ironic precision allows the historical and biological context to come to light in fragments of human reality."

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