



# POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

## MICHIGAN DIVISION

11333 Joseph Campau | Hamtramck, MI 48212 | (313) 365-9400 | E-mail: office@pacmi.org



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## Spring 2021 Quarterly Newsletter



Dear PAC Members and Friends,

We hope this edition of our Newsletter finds you in good health even though uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic continues. We fervently hope and pray that a sound recovery is on the horizon.

Due to continued State restrictions related to Covid 19, the PAC-MI Executive

Board was compelled to cancel the March Annual Membership and Election Meeting. After communication with our Election Chair Judge John Chmura, we decided to postpone elections until March 2022. We have requested all PAC-MI officers and directors to stay on in their elected positions until that time.

*Wesołego Alleluja*



*In this blessed season of Easter we extend best wishes that we each may be filled with God's promise of love and hope bestowed on us by Christ's death and resurrection.*

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*Życzymy wszystkim Błogosławionych Świąt Wielkanocnych Przepętnionych wiarą, nadzieją i miłością*

*Niech Zmartwychwstanie Pańskie które niesie odrodzenie duchowe napełni nas wszystkich nadzieją oraz nieustanną Łaską Bożą.*

*We cordially invite all Polish organizations, Veterans and Polish Scouts, to attend the*

*Remembrance Mass*

*for victims of the*

*1940 Katyn Massacre and 2010 Smoleńsk tragedy*

*Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 6:00 pm*

*St. Faustina Catholic Church*

*14025 E. 12 Mile Rd, Warren, MI*

*Fr. Bogdan Miłosz, Pastor*

*S. Z. P.*

*Z bólem serca żegnamy wieloletnich członków Kongresu oraz zacnych członków Polonii.*

*Ludwik Żabicki*

*Romuald Łopacki*

*Barbara Sturmer*

*Składamy kondolencje i gorące wyrazy współczucia rodzinie i przyjaciółom.*

*Cześć Ich Świetlanej Pamięci!*



## PAC-MI President's Memo

Dear Friends,

We are coming out of a very challenging year and looking to new and happier days ahead. We anticipate that very soon we will be able to meet and work together, in person, once again.

The Michigan Division of Polish American Congress continues to stay active. Our office is open for services 3 days a week. We continue with: informative weekly radio broadcasts on Polish Varieties Radio (Saturday mornings on WNZZ 690AM); committee and board meetings; regular communications with our organizations and the national PAC; monthly masses for PAC and Polonia at the Chapel of St. Ladislaus in Hamtramck; the Scholarship program for college students (see PAC-MI website as applications are due April 1, 2021). Currently we are solidifying plans to sponsor upcoming patriotic events as the Katyn-Smolensk Remembrance Mass on April 10 and the Polish Constitution Day celebration in May.

The State of Michigan restrictions for larger gatherings led us to cancel the March Annual Meeting and postpone elections to March 2022. With continued easing of restrictions, we hope to be able to hold a general membership quarterly meeting in June.

In order that we continue in good standing with the national PAC and maintain our division voice, **we remind all members to send in their 2021 annual division dues. The cost is \$55 for individual membership which allows you to attend, vote at meetings, and run for office.** A 2021 dues reminder soon will be sent to our organizations.

As always, we invite you to join in our activities and any work you can offer to promote our mission. We are a volunteer, non-profit organization, acting as the voice of Polonia, dedicated to promoting our Polish heritage, and committed to protecting Polonia and Poland's good name. Feel free to contact us with your ideas. We welcome any input. Please make note of our address, office telephone number, and website address to stay informed.

As we prepare for Easter, let us reflect on all the difficulties we face with renewed strength and determination, and may this lead us to better appreciate the true joy and hope promised by Christ's Resurrection.

May each of you experience a genuine **Wesołego Alleluja!**

Sincerely,  
Ann Bankowski, President



### Time to Apply for a PAC MI Scholarship

The Polish American Congress Scholarship Committee is urging Polish American students to apply for a scholarship. Since its inception PAC MI Scholarship Fund has awarded nearly 300 students with scholarship grants.

To apply, a student must be a resident of Michigan, have at least sophomore status, submit the completed application with required verification of current grade point average, Polish involvement and financial need.

To download the scholarship application, please visit:  
[www.pacmi.org](http://www.pacmi.org)

Or, you can pick up an application at the PAC office, 11333 Jos Campau, Hamtramck, MI 48212

**Deadline April 1st, 2021**

*1 Marca obchodziliśmy Narodowy Dzień upamiętnienia  
Żołnierzy Wyklętych  
Cześć i Chwała Ich Pamięci!*

*Dziękujemy P. Rogowskiemu za Patriotyczny felieton na  
sobotniej Pogadance i za oddany hołd Niezłomnym Bohaterom.*

*W kwietniu obchodzimy rocznicę zbrodni katyńskiej jak i  
rocznicę tragedii smoleńskiej. Jak każdego roku Kongres Poloni  
Amerykańskiej na stan Michigan oddaje hołd ofiarom i modli  
się za tych, którzy zginęli dla ojczyzny.*

*W tym roku Msza Święta jest planowana na  
Sobotę, 10 kwietnia o 6:00 pm w kościele św. Faustyny  
14025 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren. MI*





## Polish Parliament Declares 2021 The Year of Cardinal Wyszyński

The Polish parliament has declared 2021 the Year of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, in honor of the churchman who helped to preserve and strengthen Christianity under communist rule.

Resolutions of both houses of parliament -- the Sejm (lower house) and the Senate (upper house) -- hailed the achievements of the cardinal who led the Polish Church at the height of communist oppression and is expected to be beatified soon. The resolutions were adopted by overwhelming majorities.

The Sejm's resolution said: *"In his priestly activity, the Primate of the Millennium paid attention to man's inherent dignity, the source of all his rights."*

Wyszyński is known as the "Primate of the Millennium" because as Primate of Poland he oversaw a nine-year program of preparation culminating in a nationwide celebration of the millennium of Poland's baptism in 1966.

The Sejm's resolution also praised the cardinal for his robust defense of the Church's independence under communism. It alluded to his 1953 letter to Poland's communist leader Bolesław Bierut in which he refused to subordinate the Church to the authorities, declaring "Non possumus!" (We cannot). Wyszyński was imprisoned later that year.

"As a man of deep faith and love for the Church and the Fatherland, he sought agreement with the authorities. However, when the actions of the authorities of the Polish People's Republic threatened the rights of the Church and the faithful, they heard the resolute 'Non possumus!' The Primate of Poland was imprisoned. He became a symbol of an unwavering attitude of opposition to evil," said the resolution, dated Nov. 27 and passed by 387 votes to 48, with 16 abstentions. In its resolution, the Senate described Wyszyński as "one of the greatest Poles of the 20th century."

"It is impossible to accurately describe the merits and the role that Primate Stefan Wyszyński played in those years for Poland and the Church. He and John Paul II were together the great teachers of the nation and supported Poles in the most difficult moments in our homeland's history," said the resolution, dated Dec. 2 and passed by 77 votes to three, with two abstentions.

It continued: "He watched over the fate of the Polish Church in the

darkest years of Stalinism with exceptional care. For his steadfast attitude towards the communist authorities, for his opposition to the destruction of social and ecclesial life -- expressed by the famous phrase 'Non possumus!' -- he was imprisoned for several years."

This year marks the 120th anniversary of Wyszyński's birth and the 40th anniversary of his death.

Before the Second World War, he engaged in social and educational work with Christian trade unions and organized the Catholic Union of Young Workers.

During the war, he became a member of the Home Army, Poland's underground resistance movement, serving as chaplain of a hospital for insurgents in Łaski, near Warsaw.

In 1946, Pope Pius XII named him bishop of Lublin and, two years later, as archbishop of Gniezno and Warsaw.

Wyszyński served as Primate of Poland until his death in Warsaw on May 28, 1981, months after the founding of the trade union Solidarity, which would lead to the collapse of Polish communism in 1989.

His beatification cause opened in 1989. On Oct. 3, 2019, the Vatican announced the approval of a miracle attributed to the cardinal's intercession.

The miracle involved the healing of a 19-year-old woman from thyroid cancer in 1989. After the young woman received the incurable diagnosis, a group of Polish nuns began praying for her healing through the cardinal's intercession.

The beatification was due to take place on June 7, 2020, in Warsaw. But in late April, the ceremony was postponed to an indefinite date because of the coronavirus pandemic.

*"Człowiek ujawnia swoją osobowość w sposobie traktowania bliźnich."*

~Reprinted from the Catholic News Agency

Stefan Kard. Wyszyński

**Joanna Anna  
Mądrożkiewicz**

Smoleńska Rota  
Każda ła  
W kryształowym flakonie  
Każdy cios  
W skrzyni złotem obitej  
Każdy błąd  
W źródle czystym obmyty  
Każdy grzech  
W ciemną szatę spowity  
Każda myśl  
Jako orzeł na niebie  
Każdy czyn  
Pelen Ducha Świętego  
Każdy krzyk  
Na wolności pogrzebie  
Każdy krzyż  
Nową łaską dla Ciebie



March 1st we commemorate the 'Cursed Soldiers', those who did not lay down their weapons after the end of the war, but continued the struggle for a truly free and independent Poland.

As an anti-communist resistance movement they were active until the 1950's.



May is the month we commemorate Poland's May 3rd, 1791 Constitution, regarded as the first democratic in Europe and the second oldest modern constitution in the world. Every year we observe this important event. We are making plans to do so once again this year but, depending on State restrictions for gatherings, we will inform everyone of the commemorative event shortly.



**Masz pytanie, pomysł czy propozycję  
prosimy zadzwoń do nas  
313-365-9400**



**Have You thought of remembering  
us in your will?  
Your generosity will help us continue  
Our mission and preserve our legacy.**

**We invite you to check the Polish American  
Congress website:  
[www.pac1944.org](http://www.pac1944.org)  
to read what the National Office is doing as  
well as interesting news from other PAC  
Divisions.**

## **Dues Reminder**

It is important for all members  
and organizations to pay  
dues in a timely matter for  
2021.

Individual annual dues \$55.00



## **Remember**

**Polish Masses sponsored by PAC-MI  
Chapel of St. Ladislaus**

**Every third Sunday of the month-9:00am  
2730 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212**

**Come and Pray with Us For PAC and Polonia!**

## **CALLING ALL PAST AND PRESENT DETROIT TIGERS POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT PARTICIPANTS**

*Immediate News Release*

2020 was supposed to be the 50th Anniversary of the Detroit Tigers Polish American Night at Comerica Park. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, this popular event was cancelled. This is 2021 and so far, Tiger management and the committee have decided to have it on Friday, May 28.

The Detroit Tigers will play the New York Yankees at 7:10 p.m. Since this is a "special" anniversary for the 1st ethnic celebration held at a sporting event, it was decided to put together a book depicting its history.

I am appealing to past and present participants for any information or photos that you may have from 1971-2019. Please identify each photo with date and names and send all photos in jpeg. Information and photos should be sent to Wallace Ozog at [wozog@wowway.com](mailto:wozog@wowway.com). If you have any questions, you can contact him at 586-519-3775.

This is history pertaining to our Polish heritage which we should be proud of and which should be written for future generations. Thank you for your interest.

## **THE 50th ANNUAL DETROIT TIGERS POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT**

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America #1593, St. John Paul II Society will be coordinating the 50th Annual Detroit Tigers Polish American Night at Comerica Park. It will be held on Friday evening, May 28, 2021 when the New York Yankees will play the Detroit Tigers.

Because of the Pandemic, the normal on field program (dancers on the playing field, introduction of dignitaries and the ceremonial first pitch at home plate) may not be available this season. We are making plans for participants to dance in the various locations inside and outside the stadium. The number of Dance Groups that will participate during the 2021 season will determine locations. We will adhere to CDC guidelines at that time.

Mark your calendar for this event on Friday May 28, 2021. We hope that we will be able to present a formal program for these Pandemic Times. We will be flexible and cooperate with the Detroit Tigers staff on this annual event. Further information will be announced as it becomes available.

Persons or organizations planning to attend, please contact Christopher Ozog at [cjzog@gmail.com](mailto:cjzog@gmail.com) or Wally Ozog at [wozog@wowway.com](mailto:wozog@wowway.com)