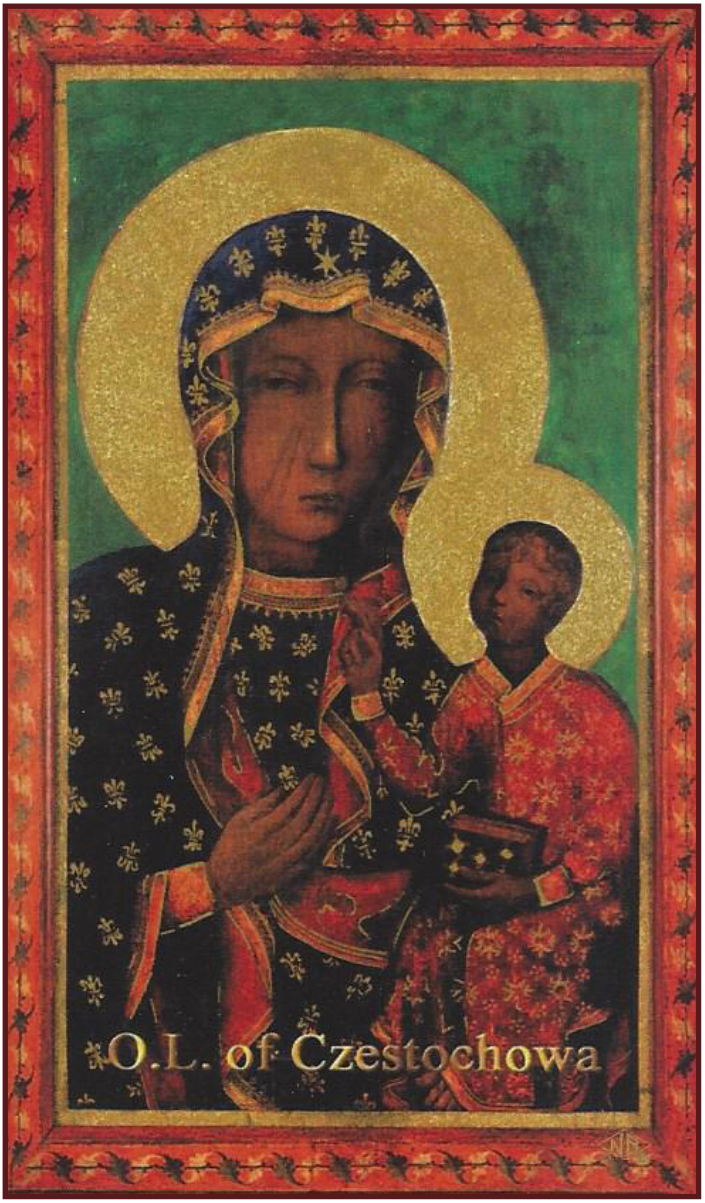


ST. AGATHA CHURCH
POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026



Under Thy Protection
Pod Twoją obronę

September 20, 2026

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Agatha Parish and Countrymen,

By the grace of God and within His inscrutable plans, we are experiencing our life's pilgrimage in a new environment and a new nation. Enjoying personal and religious freedom – and with respect for our own culture and the heritage of the Polish people, as guaranteed by the United States Constitution – we also embrace the duties, privileges, and responsibilities toward the American nation, of which we are becoming an important part.
Therefore, we gladly join in the celebration of the United States' 250th anniversary, looking back on the past with gratitude, appreciating the present, and entrusting the future to Almighty God.
May this celebration and our humble contribution to the life of this society inspire us to remain faithful to Christian principles, which help us to unceasingly praise God and to serve our brothers and sisters through our work.

Drodzy Parafianie i Przyjaciele Parafii św. Agaty, Rodacy,

Dzięki łasce Boga i w Jego niewysłowionych planach doświadczamy naszej życiowej pilegrzymki w nowym środowisku i nowej państwowości. W wolności osobistej i religijnej, z poszanowaniem wlasnej kultury i dziedzictwa Narodu Polskigo jakie daje nam Kosntytucja Stanów Zjednoczonych, przjmujemy też obowiąyki przawileje i odpowiedzialność za Naród Amerykański, ktorego stajemy się też ważną częścią.
Dlatego też chętnie włączamy się w celebfrację 250 lecia Stanów Zjednoczonych, z pełnym wdzięcznoćci wspomnienien przeszłości, doceniając teraźniejszość i zawierzając Bogu Wszechmogącemu przyszłość.
Niech więc ta nasza celebracja i skromny wkład w życie tego spoełczeństwa pobudzi nas do wierności chrześcijańskim zasadom, które pomagają nam w nieustannym wychwalaniu Boga oraz by poprzez pracę słuzyć naszym braciom i siostrom.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Rev. Stanislaw Poszwa, S.Chr.

3239 9th South Street
Saint Louis, Missouri 63118

Thankful Acknowledgements

PARISH COUNCIL

Sylwester Napiórkowski, President
Zbigniew Florek
Grażyna Swędrak Abou-Nemeh
Arkadiusz Gorka
Marek Waniołka

FINANCE COUNCIL

Sylwester Napiórkowski
Jody Pettis
Danuta Twardawa

EVENT ORGANIZERS' ASSISTANCE

Janusz & Halina Strojek
Mary Pettis

MUSIC PROGRAM

Joe Polach and St. Louis Express Music Ensemble

Letters…and Testimonials

Listy… i świadectwa

For my husband and I, America became the proverbial land of opportunity. My husband arrived in 1988 as a postdoctoral fellow, driven by a passion for molecular biology research. He fulfilled his dreams by working as a scientist at Clemson University in South Carolina, Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, and later at Monsanto and Bayer in St. Louis. Over the course of his career, he was granted 150 patents supporting more than 30 products and received numerous honors, including a Distinguished Scientist Award for contributions to agricultural biotechnology and, twice, the Otto Bayer Medal—the company's most prestigious award for developing innovative commercial products. I joined him in 1989, and the highlight of my professional life was working at the St. Louis County Library for 25 years. In 1998, we became U.S. citizens as part of a cultural and scientific pool. We built a life here: we own a home we love, our children earned college degrees, and we made many friends. Although we miss Polish culture and traditions, as well as our relatives in Poland, our roots in American soil have grown deep and strong. God bless our beloved homeland, Poland, and God bless America!

August 17, 2026 **Urszula and Stanislaw Flasinski**

We first arrived in the USA in 1978-1979. Shortly after defending his doctoral thesis, Wojciech Kaniewski – a scientist at the Institute of Plant Protection in Poznan-Poland – received an invitation for a one-year contract at Washington State University, funded by USDA grant. The objective of the contract was to conduct research on hop viruses. We had waited three years for this official trip to the USA. After months of effort, Maria Berezowska-Kaniewska demonstrated to the relevant authorities – citing her family's international background – that her own travel to the USA was motivated by

personal reasons. She received permission to work in the USA in her professional field as independent scientific-technical specialist, a role equivalent to the position she held in Poznan, Poland. In 1986, we both received an invitation to Washington State University for another one-year contract. The same year, a collaboration with Monsanto-St. Louis, began, leading to an offer for Wojciech Kaniewski to join the company professionally. Meanwhile, Maria Berezowska-Kaniewska began working in a scientific-technical role at the Department of Biology at Washington University in St. Louis. By hiring the firm Headhunters, Monsanto facilitated the necessary visa transitions – from J-1 to H-1 – followed by the receipt of US Green Cards and after five years the long-awaited US Citizenship. During his employment at Monsanto, Wojciech Kaniewski was named a Monsanto Fellow – a prestigious professional corporate title awarded to the company's most accomplished scientists and engineers; in Poznan-Poland he defended his habilitation thesis – resulting in his appointment as an Associate Professor of the Republic of Poland – and began working as an academic lecturer at his alma mater, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan-Poland.

August 27, 2026 **Wojciech Kaniewski,**
Maria Berezowska-Kaniewska

I was born in Shanghai, China in 1942. My parents were both devout Christians. We belonged to a very prominent Polish community. Due to the political situation of communism taking over China in 1949, we left Shanghai on March 3, 1949, like thousands of others. President Truman allowed us to come to the United States by way of the Philippines. We came to St. Louis after spending two years in the Philippines. The Polish community in St. Louis sponsored us. Citizenship was granted to both my parents and I in 1952. We are grateful for our U.S. Citizenship!

August 30, 2026 **Katherine Konakci (nee Narewski)**

In 1620, the Pilgrims arrived in America aboard the Mayflower, seeking religious freedom and the opportunity for a better life. Through faith, courage, and perseverance, they established the Plymouth colony, becoming part of the foundation of the future United States.

My own American story began many years later with a dream of becoming part of this great nation. In 1994, I came to the United States and settled in Massachusetts, where I lived as a student until 1997. After spending several years outside the United States, I returned in 2006 and settled in Missouri, which became my home. Through God's guidance and the help of many wonderful Americans, I was able to fulfill my dream and become a citizen of the United States in 2018.

Special thanks are due to Thomas Wagner and his Christian family. I met Tom in Poland while working as his interpreter. His kindness, support, and friendship had a tremendous impact on my life and future. I also remember with great gratitude the Caron and Kucinsky families of Massachusetts, who surrounded me with help, kindness, and support during an important period of my life. It was thanks to people like them that I was able to better understand America and its values and find my path to success. I gratefully remember all those whom God placed on my path. My story is proof that America remains a land of great opportunity, hope, and dreams fulfilled. I also look to the future with optimism and eagerly anticipate the continued progress and promising developments of this great country, which has given me and millions of others the opportunity to pursue and achieve our aspirations.

August 30, 2026 **Marek Waniołka**

As a priest of the Society of Christ, my superiors entrusted me with the mission to serve Polish immigrants living in the United States. Following five meaningful years ministering to communities across Michigan and Ohio, I was assigned by my religious superior and the Archbishop of San Francisco to serve as pastor of the Polish Roman Catholic Mission in San Francisco, California. At the time, our archdiocese was home to fourteen ethnic communities. Our bishop met with us regularly, inspiring us to lead by example and cultivate faithful citizenship in both the Church and the nation. Guided by this encouragement, I applied for U.S. citizenship and received that great honor on October 17, 1994. Becoming a citizen opened new doors for my ministry, enabling my superiors to assign me to parishes across Canada served by our North American Province. I remain deeply grateful for the gift of U.S. citizenship, which has enriched my priesthood and allowed me to walk alongside so many diverse faith communities across North America.

August 31, 2026 **Rev. Stanislaw Poszwa, S. Chr.**

Out of love for our only daughter, Agnieszka, Janusz and I followed her to the United States. Because of her family and her daughters, we felt that our mission was to stay and help them with forming their family and ours in St. Louis, Missouri. In 2023 and 2024, my husband and I became U. S. Citizens. We still fondly remember the reception given by our daughter, her daughters and friends celebrating our citizenship. We are grateful for being in the USA, but in our hearts, we still consider Poland our homeland and we treasure our Polish traditions and try to keep them alive. We are glad, that freedom of religion allows us to practice our faith and be very much involved in the spiritual, liturgical and social life of St. Agatha's community.

September 1, 2026 **Janusz and Halina Strojek**

Becoming part of American society was a gradual process. I learned not only the English language, but also the history, traditions, institutions, and ideals of my new country. And I came to understand something important: becoming an American did not require me to forget where I came from. Instead, it meant adding a new chapter to the story of who I was. Poland remained part of me. My memories, my family history, my faith, my education, and the values I had learned there all came with me. Becoming American did not erase my Polish identity. It expanded my sense of belonging. The process of becoming a citizen took five years. Five years may sound like a long time, but to me it was only one part of a much larger journey. During those years, I continued learning about America - its history, its government, its laws, and the responsibilities that come with citizenship. The process required patience and perseverance, much like starting a new life in another country. And then, finally, the day arrived. When I became a United States citizen, I thought about how far I had traveled. I remembered the twenty-six-year-old young man who had left Warsaw in 1979, not knowing exactly what the future would bring. I remembered the uncertainty of starting over. I remembered the challenge of learning a new language and adapting to a new culture. I remembered everything I had left behind. But I also thought about everything I had gained. America gave me opportunities to grow, to work, to learn, and to become part of a new community. It gave me the ability to make choices about my own life and to pursue a future that I had once only imagined. Most importantly, America gave me freedom. Not simply political freedom, although that freedom was one of the reasons I had come. It gave me the freedom to discover my abilities, to make my own choices, to take responsibility for my life, and to become the person I wanted to be. That may be the greatest blessing of all. Looking back now, I understand that

becoming an American citizen was much more than receiving a document or completing a five-year process. It was the culmination of a journey that had begun years earlier - in my childhood in Poland, in the conversations I heard at home, in the broadcasts of Radio Free Europe, in my education at Catholic University of Lublin, and in the growing realization that I wanted a different kind of future. It was a journey that took me from Warsaw to Vienna and eventually to America. It was a journey that required courage, sacrifice, patience, and faith. I am proud of where I came from, and I will always carry Poland in my heart. Poland is part of my identity, my memories, my family history, and the person I became before I ever arrived in America. Leaving Poland did not mean rejecting it. At the same time, I am deeply grateful to the United States - the country that welcomed me and gave me the freedom to discover who I could become. Forty-six years after I first set foot on American soil, I can look back on that young man who left Warsaw and understand that, although he did not know exactly where his journey would lead, he made a choice based on hope. He chose to leave the familiar for the unknown. He chose to take a risk. He chose to believe that somewhere beyond the borders of the country he knew, a different future might be possible. He was right. I came to America looking for freedom and opportunity. I found those things. But I found something even more meaningful: the freedom to become myself.

September 2, 2026 **Eric Ireneusz Przezdziecki**

For us, becoming U.S. citizens was about more than obtaining legal status or a second passport. When we first came to the United States, we were inspired by the opportunities this country offered and the ideals on which it was founded. For fourteen years, we lived and worked here on employment visas and later as permanent residents. We built careers, contributed to our community, and paid taxes, yet we could not vote. We cared about the future of the country, but we had no voice in choosing its leaders or shaping its direction. The decision became even more meaningful after our children were born in the United States. Our family had decided that America was where we wanted to build our future and raise our children. In today's deeply divided political environment, it felt especially important to have a voice in the decisions that will shape the country they inherit. We wanted the ability to participate in choosing leaders and policies that reflect the values, opportunities, and freedoms we hope our children will enjoy. Becoming citizens allowed us to participate fully in American democracy and help influence the future of the nation. As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, we are grateful for the privilege of citizenship and the right to vote. For us, voting is both a responsibility and a way to contribute to the future of a country that welcomed us. It is our opportunity to help shape the America that the next generation will inherit.

September 3, 2026 **Agnieszka and Sylwester Napiorkowski**

Our immigration to the United States was one of the most important journeys our family has ever made. Leaving behind the place we knew as home was difficult, but we were motivated by hope for a stable, and more successful future. Our story began in 1995 when I joined the New Jersey Institute of Technology as a postdoctoral assistant professor in the chemical engineering department. The research and teaching that I conducted at NJIT was funded by the EPA, DOD, and DOE. In May 1996, I was granted the “green card” status under the Exceptional Abilities Category. However, my wife Grazyna and the children, Catherine and Tarek would only join me in 1998 long after I left the Institute and joined Roquette America. The arrival of the family was a historic event full of joy and happiness, that after 3 years of separation, me being in the US and Grazyna and the kids in Belgium, we were finally together. The initial challenges faced by the family were primarily adjustments to the language, customs, schools, neighborhoods, and daily routines. Despite all these challenges, our American friends, colleagues, neighbors were all supportive and ready to help and extend their friendship and kindness whenever needed

In 2001, I obtained my American citizenship in Springfield, Illinois Land of Lincoln, in the same hall where Abraham Lincoln served as a member of the Illinois Assembly. What an honor.

Grazyna obtained her citizenship in 2005 at Thomas F. Eagleton United States Courthouse in St Louis, Missouri. Catherine in Newark, New Jersey in 2006 and Tarek in Chicago in 2007. Our story is not only about moving from one country to another. It is about courage, perseverance, and the belief that a better future is possible. We carry our homeland in our memories and traditions while continuing to build our lives in the United States. Immigration has shaped who we are, and our journey reminds us that new beginnings can lead to meaningful opportunities and lasting hope. Finally, after more than 30 years of being citizens of this country, and thanks to our Lord’s grace and his divine

providence, our daughter is a professor of history, and our son is a naturopathy doctor, and my wife is a retired artist and self as a retired R&D executive. All within their capacities and ingenuity contributed to the progress and prosperity of this. We are very thankful for what this great country has offered us. Our lives have changed irreversibly for the better and we are forever grateful.

September 3, 2026 **The Abou-Nemeh Family**



250 USA ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Lumen Christi! Deo Gratias!
Light of Christ! Thanks be to God!
Światło Chrystusa! Bogu niech będą dzięki!

WELCOME
Rev. Stanisław Poszwa, S.Chr.
Parochial Administrator

NATIONAL ANTHEMS
Michał Juściński "*Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła*"
"The Star-Spangled Banner"

GRACE

DINNER

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
Rev. Stanisław Poszwa, S.Chr.

MEDIA PRESENTATION:
In honor of distinguished Polish Americans of St. Louis

COMMENTS BY GUESTS

ADDRESS
Mr. Sylwester Napiorkowski
President of The Parish Council

MUSIC and ENTERTAIMENT
By Joe Polach and St. Louis Express

COFFEE and CAKE at 7:00 PM

DOOR PRIZES AND DANCE TILL 8:00 PM

BENEDICTION

Hymn państwowy Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej „Mazurek Dąbrowskiego”

Słowa: Józef Wybicki, 1797 r.

Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła,
Kiedy my żyjemy.
Co nam obca przemoc wzięła,
Szablą odbierzemy.

Marsz, marsz Dąbrowski,
Z ziemi włoskiej do Polski.
Za twoim przewodem
Złączym się z narodem.

Przejdziem Wisłę,
przejdziem Wartę,
Będziem Polakami.
Dał nam przykład Bonaparte,
Jak zwyciężać mamy.

Marsz, marsz ...

The Star-Spangled Banner National anthem

Say, can you see
By the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed
At the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars
Through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched
Were so gallantly, yeah, streaming?

And the rockets' red glare
The bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

Songwriters: David Martin Frank / Francis Scott Key / John Stafford Smith

Famous Catholics who left an enormous imprint on the history of St. Louis and Missouri

Archbishop Karol Wojtyła (1920-2005)
St. Pope John Paul II
with his pastoral visits to St. Louis, 1968, 1999 spiritual teaching and memories.

Jan Ignace Paderewski (1860-1941)
Famous Polish pianist and Statesmen and his wife Helena, numerous concerts and meetings with local officials, and representatives of St. Louis Polonia.

Helena Modrzejewska (Modjeska) (1840-1909)
Famous Polish Shakespearian Actress numerous performances in St. Louis and charitable donations.

Ralph Modjeski (Modrzejewski), (1861-1940)
Civil Engineer. Chief engineer of McKinley Bridge, 1913.

Jan Styka (1858-1925)
Polish artist and painter - The Crucifixion painting was originally brought by him to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904.

Jan Henryk de Rosen (1891-1982)
A Polish painter, artist and patriot. Some of his works: mosaics at St. Louis Cathedral Basilica 1962-1963.

Stan Musial (1920-2013)
"Stan the Man", an American professional baseball player.

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING

Barbara Grzybowski

In memory of her husband
Professor Stanisław Grzybowski, Ph. D., Dr Hab. (1933 – 2018),
Polish and US Citizen and his contribution to the Energy Department
and The State of Mississippi

Hanna Tokarczyk

In memory of her husband Józef Tokarczyk (!950 – 2006), Entrepreneur
in transport industry loved driving the beautiful highways of the
United States.

Sister Joan Klaas, CPPS

In memory of generations of faithful immigrants
and religious sisters of St. Agatha's Parish.

Maria and Romuald Rybialek

In memory of family members, friends and compatriots who found
eternal resting place on American soil.

A Word of Thanks

Our heartfelt thanks go out to all our participants and guests who made today's celebration so special. We offer a special word of appreciation to our Parish Council, Parish Finance Council, and the dedicated staff at Andre's Banquet Hall at Sunset Hills for their generous support and hard work.

In Recognition of Our Ancestors' Sacrifices and Out of Respect for Our Polish and American Heritage.

Z uznaniem dla pracy, ofiar, poświęcenia naszych przodków oraz ich szacunku dla polskiego i amerykańskiego dziedzictwa.

Andrzejewski, Leon (-1917) Soldier I Great War. Killed in action in France

Bartkoski (Bartkowski), Stanley L. (1874 - 1925) A prominent Polish farmer near Bricefield, Missouri

Barzynski, John (1848-1886) Editor, publisher, teacher. On March 29, 1872, became editor and publisher of Polish weekly paper *Pielgrzym* in Union Missouri.

Bazan, Andrew Peter (1867 - 1953) Civic leader, St. Joseeph, Missouri

Belka, Joseph J. (1889-1961) Photographer, St. Louis, 1915-1920

Benys, (Karol) Charles, S. J. (1810 - 1868) Missionary Priest from Galicia Province of the Society of Jesus. Assistant at St. Joseph, St. Louis

Bernal, Dr Leon J. (1889 - 1975) From St. Casimir Parish. Polish dentist to practice in the City of St. Louis. Graduated from the St. Louis University School of Dentistry in 1910.

Biernacki, Rev. Jacob S. (1941 – 2016) Ordained for the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit, Jasna Góra, Poland, came to the US in 1970. After becoming a US citizen, was incardinated into the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau in 1981 and served a few pastoral assignments.

Biskupek, Rev. Aloysious, SVD (1884 - 1955) Writer and author, Chaplain at Mount Grace Convent and Chaplain of Perpetual Adoration, St. Louis

Blandowski, Constantine (1821 - May 25, 1861) Captain of Union Army. Mortally wounded near St. Louis.

Brandys, Rev. Leon, OFM (1857 - 1887) Born in Pawłowice in Poland. Franciscan priest. Pastor of St. Stanislaus and then in Radom, Illinois

Brezany, Dr. Eugeniusz (1871-1939) – Family doctor

Brezany, Dr. Eugene Edmund "breezy", DDS (1905-2000) – Dentist. Director of Dental Health Maintenance Organization

Buben, Boleslaw William (1889 – 1968) Photographer

Burdzy, Michael A. (1906 -1986) Civic Lider for many years president of Pulaski Bank in St. Louis

Bukowski, (John) Jan (1891 - 1950) Polish Photographer, St. Louis, South City

Cebulla, Rev. Sebastian, OFM (1838 - 1922) Pastor of St. Stanislaus in St. Louis. A Polish-born Catholic Franciscan pioneer missionary who dedicated his life to serving immigrant communities starting in Minnesota, Nebraska, Missouri and Illinois.

Ciborowski, Stanislaus (1886-1944) Civic Leader. In 1939, decorated with the Golden Cross of Merit by the Polish Government for his services rendered to Poland

Czopnik, Rev. Leonard, (1878 – 1917) Parish priest and Pastor of Our Lady of Częstochowa, St. Louis

Deregowski, Boleslaw (1864 -1936) Civic leader, active in Polish organizations

Donius, Walter August (1931 -2015) Influential leader in the Missouri financial sector years, president of Pulaski Bank in St. Louis

Dombroski, Albert Marian "Duke" (1862 - 1935) Born in Poland, founder of general store in Bricefield, instrumental in building the St Peters and Paul's Church. One of the esteemed and highly respected citizens of that community

Dombroski, John Vincent (1869 - 1951) He was instrumental in raising the funds for St Peters and Paul's Church in (Bricefield) Pulaskifield.

Ellis, Michael B. (Eliasz) (1892 -1937) US Army sergeant, decorated with Medal of Honor

Filipiak, Rev. Edward Stanislaus (1900 -1979) Pastor of St. Joseph Parish (Shrine)

Gdynia, Jan (1858 - 1922**)** Civic leader. Polish National Alliance member from 1894.

Geppert, Anthony Francis (1925 – 1999) Radio broadcaster, *Polska Godzina Radiowa* St. Louis, Polish community leader

Gnielinski, Rev. Rafael Francis Xavier (1845 - 1912) Priest notably associated with the Archdiocese of St. Louis and St. Casimir Polish Church

Godlewski, William A. (1870 - 1956) Member of Board of Education, St. Louis. Civic leader

Golabowski, Joseph Theodore (1907-1974) Architect, among many St. Hedwig Church in St. Louis

Gorczyca, Stephen (1897-1950) Prop Grocery Store and Meat Market

Gorzel, Rev. Victor, J. (1902 -1979) Pastor of St. Stanislaus Church

Grodzki, Valentine (1846 - 1903) and Antonia (1846 - 1932) one of the first Polish families who settled in St. Louis

Grodzki, Frank Borgeus (1877- 1948) Judge, lawyer. Organized the Polish Falcons in St. Louis. Considered Father of Baseball in Polish National Alliance. Lectured to the various Polish colonies in USA and Canada. Honored by Polish Government in 1924 and 1927.

Groszewski, Julian (1898- 1949) distinguished leader of the Polish Community in St. Louis then in Chicago, connected with PRCUA

Grześkowiak, Wojciech (1888 -1951) One of the biggest shoe factories and stores – family business in St. Louis

Idzikowski, (John) Jan (1861 -1932) Proprietor of the Polish Bakery Store on Cass Ave, St. Louis

Imbierowicz, Jan (1874 - 1948) Born in Poland, Civic leader.

Jakubowski, Rev. Msgr Joseph, (1912 - 2005) Priest of the Diocese Kansas City -St. Joseph, Missouri

Jankowicz, Marek (1946 - 2022) Local Polish TV Cracovia programs producer and host. Organizer of the Polish Library at St. Agatha.

Jankowski, Rev. Marcellus (1931-2006) Before incardination to Kansas City -St. Joseph, Missouri. ministered to parishes in Chicago and Detroit. As a Major and Chaplain in the United States Army ministered to our troops on the battlefields of Vietnam

Jastrzemski, L. Barney (-1918) Soldier, WWI. Killed in France. Buried by parents in 1922 in St. Louis

Jaworski, Rev. Jerome Walter (1910 - 1979) Born to a Polish family in Pennsylvania. Ordained on May 3, 1941, at Kansas City, he had served as pastor at several area parishes in the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri.

Kaminski, Anthony Piotr (1942-2024) Longtime producer and host The Polish Polka Radio Program and Polka Plus. Was awarded the Gold Cross of Merit from the Republic of Poland.

Kasperski, Walery Jerome (1888-1956) Civic Leader. Scout leader for Council 30 P.N.A.

Kedzierski, Zygmunt Józef (1936 - 2025) Member of *Solidarność* movement in Poland. Settled in St. Louis

Kiecal, Stanislaus (1886 - 1910) Sportsman, Boxing Hall of Fame

Kilanowicz, Mother Maria (1882 -1945) Salomea Provincial and Superior General of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Help. Principal of the Polish School at St. Stanislaus Church and teacher in many Polish parishes in Illinois

Koscialowski, Napoleon (1812-1859) Captain. In 1846, the Third Missouri Infantry joined. Thanks to his efforts, a street in St. Louis was named in honor of Kościuszko.

Koniuszewski, Ladislaus (1834-1904) Before the civil war, Major Koniuszewski was a captain in the old St. Louis Grays. He brought peace and order to the country around St. Louis.

Kowala, Valentine (1882 -) Civic leader. He came to US in 1900. Since 1902 member of Polish Roman Catholic Union in America. Organized St. Hedwig Society. Elected vice-president of P.R.C.U. for the state of Missouri, in 1909

Kozłowski, Władysław head of the newly established Vice-Consulate of the Republic of Poland in St. Louis in late 1922. In 1923, opened office St. Nicholas Bldg., Grand Blvd & Park Ave.

Krause, Bernice (1942-2021) Civic leader. She was very active in many Polish organizations.

Krzywonos, Rev. Wenceslaus (1852 - 1910) Pastor of Polish community, St. Joseph, Missouri

Krzyzanowski, Rev. Adalbert (1902 - 1961) Ordained in 1929 served parishes across Kansas and Missouri

Kwiatkowski, (Sister) Lenore 'Agnes', CPPS (1918-1998) Teacher among many at the Polish School at Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Parish, St. Louis.

Lelli, Marcin S., (1868 – 1903) Teacher, organist, great patriot served at St. Stanislaus in St. Louis. He also acted as Notary Public, Travel Agency, and Money Transfer

Lesniewski, Frank (1876 - 1962) Electric Shoe Repair Shop

Litak, Rev. Czeslaw (1950 - 2014) Priest of Diocese Tarnów. Pastor at St. Agatha 2005 - 2012.

Lupicki, Joseph (1896 - 1957) President of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Stan's, St. Louis.

Luszcz, Brother Bronislaus, O.S.F. (1893 - 1960) Franciscan Missionary Brother builder the famous Black Madonna Shrine and Grottos, Eureka, Missouri

Magott, Rev. Romuald (1829 - 1915) Priest for Polish settlers in Pearce City, Missouri

Majka, Vincenttia B. (nee Wondolowski) (1917 – 2013) National director of the Polish American Congress

Marchlewski, August (1864 - 1926) One of the initiators of St. Hedwig's Parish

Marchlewski, Józef J. (1882 - 1946) Central Undertaking and Funeral Director

Mathaushek, Rev. Alexander, S.J., (1830 - 1907) Pioneer of Polish Roman Catholic Pastoral Care in Missouri. Organized St. Stanislaus Koska Community in St. Louis.

Matz, Sister Maria Hilaria, OSF (1873 - 1940) Superior Geneal or The Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Matz, Sister Ernestine, OSF (1875 -1959) Teacher at Polish parishes schools.

Mix, Rev. John, C. R. (1900 - 1988) Writer, professor and rector at St. John Cantius Seminary in St. Louis. Superior General of the Resurrectionist Fathers

.

Moczydlowski, Helen (1876 - 1953) Since 1925 publisher of Przewodnik Polski (Polish Guide)

Moczydlowski, Rev. Julian (1873 - 1959) The pastor of the Polish Catholic church at Leadwood, St. Francois County and Pulaskifield, Missouri.

Mogelnicki, Rev. Vincent J. (1914 -1994) Pastor of St. Casimir's and latter St. Stanislaus Parish

Mruz, Sister Carolyn, OSF (1930 – 2022) Techer, Formation Director, General Superior. Her passion for life was rooted in her Polish heritage and her vocation as a Franciscan Sister of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Musial, Stanley Stanislaw Franciszek (1920-2013) Famous St. Louis Cardinals baseball team member

Mysliwiec, Rev. John Stanislaus (1911 - 1974) as a student at SLU wrote thesis about history of the Catholic Poles of the city of St. Louis

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Nawrocki, Dr. Józef F. (1882-1552) Physician, family doctor, St. Louis, Missouri

Nowak, Rev. Victor C. (1908–1993) Vocation from St. Hedwig's Parish. He was a Catholic priest in St. Louis, Missouri.

Nowak, Theodore (1871-1947) Civic leader St. Louis

Ogrodnik, Robert Vincent (1938 - 2025) The Honorary Consul for the Republic of Poland in Missouri

Olszewski Michael, (1877- 1938) Art and stained-glass windows manufacturer, St. Louis

Orlick, Frank S. (1883 -1934) First Polish doctor dentist to practice in the City of St. Louis. Graduated from the St. Louis University School of Dentistry in 1905.

Orlick, John J. (1891-1958) Graduated from the St. Louis University School of Dentistry in 1914. First Lieutenant Reserve Officer, Dental Corp USA. Member of Knights of Columbus.

Patchowski, Rev. Joseph, S. J. known for his pastoral service, notably leading St. Joseph's Church in St. Louis (1848-1852) served first Polish pioneers and initiated early Catholic missions in Illinois.

Pawlowski, Rev. Msgr Joseph A. (1906 - 1983) Pastor of St. Casimir and St. Stanislaus Church

Piekutowski, Sister Mary Luke, OSF (1920 - 1993) She was a teacher and ministered to the sick and dying.

Piekutowski, Thaddeus Z. (1915 - 1985) Founder and owner Piekutowski's European Style Sausage in 1940 in St. Louis

Piezuch, Joseph (1824 - 1875) Father of 8 children, came from Great Poland to Owensville, Missouri, through Texas. Founded Our Lady Czestochowa Church on his farm in 1865.

Pudlowski, Rev. Msgr Francis (1886 –1944) a prominent Polish American Catholic priest in St. Louis, Missouri. He served as the long-time pastor of St. Casimir's Parish, a diocesan consultor, and a community leader.

Pudlowski, Rev. Felix, OFM (1890 – 1952) Born in St. Louis, Missionary priest in Arizona and California

Pudlowski, Rev. Theophilus T. (1875 - 1922) Born in Poland. Ordained in St. Louis, First pastor of St. Casimir

Pudlowski, Sister Mary Florian, SSJ (1907-1989) She served the Catholic Church and community in various capacities.

Ramatowski, John F., Staff Sergeant U.S. Army (1924 – 1945) Answered the call to arms in St. Louis and became a Hero in WW II. Buried in Basse-Normandie, France.

Ramatowski, Rev. Francis J „Frank" (1927 - 1985) Ordained February 28, 1953. "One day at a time."

Rajnert, Rev Edward (1852 – 1911) Pastor of Polish Community, Bricefield (today Pulaskifield), Missouri

Rutkowski, Rev. Francis ( ) Pioneer Polish priest, Polish Count. From 1847 to 1856 pastor at Weston, Platte County, Missouri

Ruzicka Franciszek (1856 -1905) Entrepreneur, producent of wagon wheels in St. Louis

Rychlicki, Jan Kanty John (1808 -1898) Pioneer Polish settler in St. Louis, City officer and Civic Leader

Rychlicka, Mary Josephine (1854 -1916) one of the two first women that graduated from college in St. Louis

Schwitalla, Rev. Alphonse, M., S.J. (1883 - 1965) Educator, professor, director and Regent of St. Louis School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Schwitalla, Sisters, SSND, Mary Loyola - Angela (1885 -1977), Mary Alphonsella - Clara (1891- 1972) Mary Gonzaga - Margaret (1877-1960) Teachers who had different assignments within their congregation

Sikorski, Sister Robert Joseph – Shirley May, CPPS (1933-1998) -Teacher

Sikorski, Sister Miriam Francis -Thelma, CPPS (1932 -1994) Primary school teacher. Served also at St. Agatha School

Skudrzyk, Joseph Jan (1935-2022) Fist President of the local Friends of John Paul II Foundation Inc., in 1987. Civic leader

Slodkiewicz, John (1871-1934) Civic leader

Smola, Franciszek (1880 -1909) born in Radwanówka near Lublin, Poland. Lead miner, died as the result of a rock falling accident in Leadwood, Missouri.

Sosna, Rev. Albert (1883 - 1939) ordained a priest in 1908 by the Bishop Lillis of Kansas City, Missouri and was Pastor at Sts. Peter & Paul, Bricefield (Pulaskifield), Missouri, 1908 – 1920

Spetz, Rev. Andrew, CR (1858 - 1918) Born to a Polish Family in Canada. First Resurrectionist Superior in St. Louis

Stagowski, Anthony, P. (1866 - 1947) Merchant. President of the Association of Businessmen and Industrialists in St. Louis, MO. In 1939 decorated by the Polish government with the golden Cross of Merit.

Stanowski, Rev. Urban (1855 - 1927) Pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, St. Louis (1887- 1927). Leader of Polonia St. Louis for many years.

Szamotulski, Rev. Miecislaus, A. (1878 - 1951) Born in Poland, ordained in St. Louis in 1914. Pastor of various parishes in Missouri and then of St. Adalbert's Polish parish in St. Louis. Artistic painter.

Szpotanski, John (1889-1939) Confectionary Store, Entrepreneur

Szydlowski, John, G. (1904 – 1980) Leader and active in the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America - the oldest Polish American fraternal organization in the United States

Szydlowski, Sister Mary Ann, D.C. (1932 - 2023) nursing degree from Saint Louis University

Szydlowski, Marianne E. (1931 - 2026) She was a respected member of the Polish American community, and longtime president of the Polish American Cultural Foundation.

Szymanski. Antoni (1822 -1900) Came from Gostyń, Poland to St. Louis in 1851. Founder of blacksmith shop, then business Hardware Store in Union in 1853.

Ucinski (Uściński), John (1879 -1952) Civic Leader

Tomaszewski, Lieutenant Franciszek Ksawery (1881 - 1976) Recruiting Officer for General Józef Haller's Polish Army in St. Louis during Great War

Tomaszewski, Sister Mary Eugene, OSF (1903 -1977) Teacher

Uriwal, Frank (1868 -1939) Civic leader. One of the organizers of the Polish Hall on Cass Ave, John D. Paulus Architect.

Wachowiak, dr Marion (1881-1953) Born in Środa, Poland. Physician and leader of Polish people in Missouri. Member of St. Louis Medical Society. Died in St. Joseph, Missouri

Walasin, Rev. Martin W. S.J. (1902 -1975) Professor. Engaged as assistant to Director of Physics Laboratories at St. Louis University.

Walasin, Sister Mary Anthony, SSND (1904 - 1994) Teacher

Wardenski, Stanley (1866 - 1955) Police Officer, Civic Leader, cofounder Pulaski Savings & Bank

Wendoloski, Rev. Theodore J. (1917 - 1994) Pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Church, Pulaskifield, Missouri

Wedzinski, Ignace (1828 – 1900) Journalist, Editor Writer. 1870-72 Editor of "Orzeł Biały" White Eagle, Krakow, Missouri

Winiarz, Rev. C Callistus, OFM Conv. (1905 - 1971) Pastor of St. Stanislaus B & M, St. Joseph, Missouri

Wisniewski, Rev. Stanislaus Joseph (1875 - 1960) Last Pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa, St. Louis

Zielinski, Rev. Simon J. (1875 -1926) Born in Poland, ordained to priesthood in St. Louis, 1902. Pastor of Polish Parishes in St. Louis, author of few books.

Zielinski, Rev. Anthony J. (1892 -1958) Born in Poland. Ordained in St. Louis in 1914. Pastor of St. Casimir, St. Louis. His father Jan (+1942) and brother Stanislaw (+1941) died in Nazi concentration camps near Lublin.

Zientarski, Rev. Walter Anthony (1923 - 1987) Was serving as an associate pastor and pastor in Diocese Kansas City - St. Joseph, Missouri.

Compiled by Rev. Stanislaw Poszwa, S. Chr. to be continued…

Przewodnik Polski, St. Louis and other newspapers…
Who's who… Rev. Francis Bolek, 1943
Who's who… Bolesław Wierzbianski, 1994
Archive of the compiler



God bless America

Let us pray in thanksgiving for all that we have accomplished and for the grace to do what remains to be done to bring about peace and justice in our own country and around the world.

Prayer for our Nation

God our Father, giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for your glory and dwell among your people.
Send your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.
Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing your will. Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death." Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

Source: BostonCatholic.org



St. Agatha pray for us.