



Chairman's Column

By: Aloys Notzon, PHC Chairman and President

On Saturday, August 3, the Polish Heritage Center was honored to host the second anniversary celebration of Bishop John W. Yanta's new life in the spirit. We are so appreciative of the parishioners of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Panna Maria who shared their Sunday Vigil Mass with us as we remembered and honored the Bishop.

The church was filled to overflowing, and before Mass I shared some memories about Bishop Yanta. After a wonderful liturgy with beautiful singing and an inspiring homily by Fr. Wieslaw Iwaniec, the congregation gathered around Bishop Yanta's grave next to the church for the blessing of his tombstone by Fr. Wieslaw.

Everyone then gathered at the Center for a lovely reception courtesy of PHC Executive Director Alice Poore and her staff and volunteers, along with special treats provided by Apolonia Catering from Austin.

Under an array of tents set up in front of the Center, the crowd was entertained by 25 Wawel Polish Dancers from Houston, all decked out in their Polish attire. It was inspirational to see the youth group perform, followed by the adult dancers, and then the delightful grandmothers' group. All were wonderful, and the crowd wildly applauded the grand finale where all the 25 dancers performed.

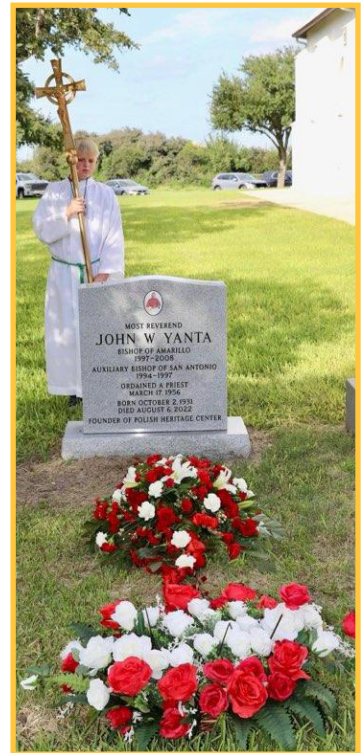
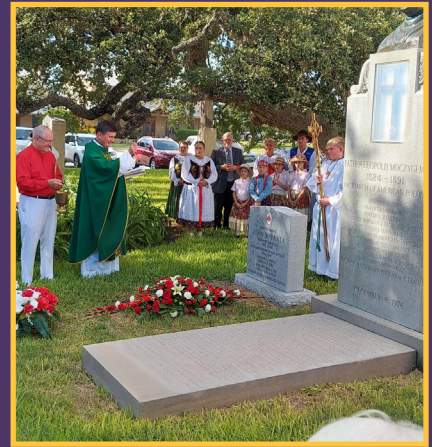
In attendance were numerous friends of Bishop Yanta, members of the Yanta family, donors, the Seraphic Sisters and a visiting professor from Poland. We also welcomed members of the Polish Air Force who are in training at Lackland and who came to visit the Center that afternoon.

I kept thinking how Bishop Yanta would have been delighted at the quality of the day. Then several people came up and expressed that same sentiment.

We feel Bishop Yanta's presence in all we do at the Center and invite all our readers to visit and spread the word about the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria.



Bishop's Celebration: Mass, Blessing and Reception



Special Thanks:

Albert and Geri Rakowitz, from Geri's Sweets in Floresville, donated the reception's beautiful cake with cross made from sugar.

Bishop's Celebration: Wawel Dancers from Houston, TX



Photos courtesy of Alice Poore, Tracy Yanta Hosek and Susan Moczygamba-McKinsey



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News from the Heritage Communities

Visitors from Poland Enjoy Bishop's Celebration



Professor Grzegorz Liśkiewicz from Łódź University with board member Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz



Polish airmen entertain crowd with a song