



## Visitor Experience #35



*Monsignor James Leo "Casimir" Jarzombek  
August 15, 1933 to February 15, 2019*

## **Requiescat in Pace**

Photograph from the *Victoria Advocate*

# MONSIGNOR CASIMIR JARZOMBEK

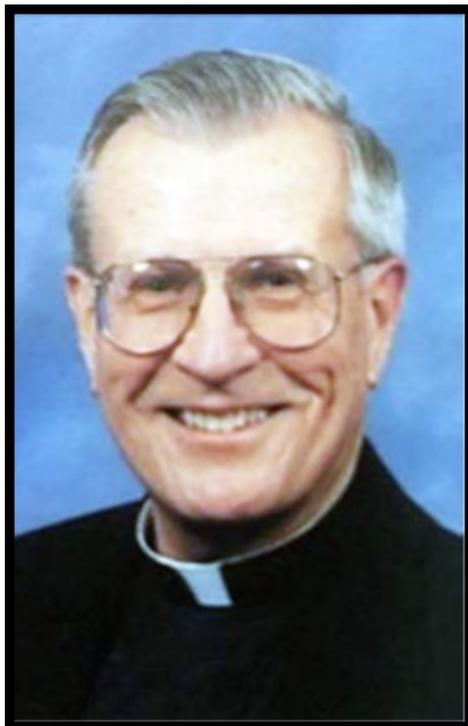
BAY CITY, TEXAS - **Monsignor Casimir Jarzombek**, 85, of Bay City passed away on Friday, February 15, 2019. He was born August 15, 1933 in Falls City, Texas to the late **Thomas Jarzombek** and **Elizabeth "Lizzie" Wollny Jarzombek**. He was baptized on August 17, 1933 and given the name James Leo. He is preceded in death by his sister, **Florence Jarzombek Dugi**, and brother-in-law, **Frank Dugi**. Visitation will begin at 5:30 PM and A Vigil and Rosary to begin at 6:30 PM on Monday, February 18, 2019 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Bay City. A Memorial Mass will be at 10 AM Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at Holy Cross Catholic Church with **Bishop David Fellhauer**, celebrant and **Bishop Brendan Cahill**, concelebrant. The Funeral Mass will be at 11:00 AM Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Falls City, Texas, with **Bishop Brendan Cahill**, celebrant. Interment will follow at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church Cemetery.

He attended Holy Trinity Catholic School during his elementary grades. He desired to become a priest beginning in the fifth grade. His pastor, **Father Theo Janysek**, was his inspiration and gave him much encouragement. In 1948, his ninth grade year, he entered St. John's Minor Seminary in San Antonio. In the fall of 1953 he decided to pursue and was accepted by the Benedictine Order in Corpus Christi. He entered the Subiaco Abbey in Arkansas where he began his formation for the Benedictine Order. He made his first profession of religious vows and took the name of **Casimir**. During the occasional volleyball game, at the Abbey, the monks would call him "**Casey**." This name would be his for the remainder of his life. On May 26th, 1960 he was ordained to the priesthood at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in Corpus Christi, Texas by **Bishop Mariano Garriga**.

From 1961-1969 He was involved in education either as a teacher or a student. He was sent to the University of Dayton in Ohio to attend a government-sponsored Spanish Language course taught by professors from Spain, Argentina, Chile, Colombia and other countries. This was, in **Monsignor Casey's** own words, "very interesting to say the least." He left the Benedictine Order in 1970. He went

to the Diocese of Pueblo in Colorado. He served two parishes, along with serving in the campus ministry at Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado.

In 1974, **Father Theo Janysek**, who was **Father Casey's** true source of inspiration and encouragement, strongly urged him to return to the Diocese of San Antonio. He met with **Archbishop Furey** in San Antonio and was accepted as a priest in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. He was assigned as Associate Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Victoria, Texas. He also worked with the youth and served in campus ministry at Victoria College and the University of Houston Victoria Campus. In 1976 he was incardinated in the Archdiocese of San Antonio as a diocesan priest. He became involved with World Wide Marriage Encounter in 1979. He presented many



Marriage Encounter weekends in Victoria and many different cities throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Georgia. He continued his involvement until last year, when he became ill. He loved every aspect of his work with Marriage Encounter, he loved the couples he served, his brotherhood of Marriage Encounter priests and the many friends that worked side by side with him. Other parishes that he served at were, Holy Cross Catholic Church, Yorktown and its two mission churches San Luis in Yorktown and St. Ann's in Nordheim, St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Palacios, Texas. In 1998 he was assigned to Holy Cross Parish in Bay City, Texas. Where he served as Pastor until his retirement in 2012 and he remained there until his death.

**Monsignor Casey** was a member of the Bay City Knights of Columbus, Council 3070, he attained a Fourth Degree with the El Campo Assembly 1231. He was very involved in the A.C.T.S. movement and Life Teen at Holy Cross parish. He was instrumental in beginning Perpetual Adoration at Holy Cross as a shared worship with Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. His love for Holy Cross Catholic School, the students, and teachers brought such joy to his heart. He will be remembered for his quick wit, phenomenal sense of humor, captivating smile, a welcoming confessor, and loving soul. He is survived by a plethora of friends who loved him dearly. We now celebrate the beauty and blessing of his life that we were fortunate to share. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Education of Seminarians of the Diocese of Victoria.

[https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/obituaries/monsignor-casimir-jarzombek/article\\_d3a3819b-66e6-5f7c-b3cb-94f8e1b33020.html](https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/obituaries/monsignor-casimir-jarzombek/article_d3a3819b-66e6-5f7c-b3cb-94f8e1b33020.html)

## Reflections on Fr. Casey Jarzombek by Fr. Jacob Koether

*Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love; send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

There was a priest somewhere up north who was finishing up his last Mass after a long Ash Wednesday. He locked up the church, got the lights, and wrapped himself up in his coat before making the short walk to his rectory which was just around the corner. It was going to be a brisk one on this cold Lenten evening. But as he turned the corner, a man stepped out of the shadows, pointed a gun at him, and told him to hand over all the money he had. Shocked and afraid, the priest opened up his coat to grab his wallet. But when the man saw his black clothes and white collar and realized that he was about to rob a priest, he apologized and said, “Oh I’m sorry Father, I didn’t realize you were a priest. Put your wallet back.” Relieved the priest reached into his other pocket to pull out some cigars to share with the man as a token of gratitude. But the man respectfully declined, “No thank you Father, I gave those up for Lent.”

That was one of my favorite Fr. Casey jokes. He always had lots of them. Actually, he had a whole folder full of them. But most of his jokes he had stored away in his memory which he was always able to quickly draw from in any situation to lighten it up and make us laugh. That’s probably one of the things I’ll remember the most about Fr. Casey, I think - his joy. It radiated from him - a peaceful and warm happiness that was infectious.

You could tell that he loved his life. He loved the people he served, he loved the Church, and he loved his priesthood. He gave such a beautiful example of joyful living. And it’s a big reason why I’m a priest now. I was an altar boy here growing up and had the chance to be around Fr. Casey and this altar quite a bit. He would encourage me pretty regularly to consider the priesthood. But he would do it in his own way - “So you know I’m going to retire one day. I’m going to need someone to take my place. Are you going to take my place? You going to take my spot after I retire?” His joy made it a lot easier to seriously consider priesthood, especially because of where He found that joy.

Of course, he was imperfect and a sinner like the rest of us and he didn’t do priesthood perfectly. But Fr. Casey sure was consistent in fighting to stay centered on the Lord, particularly in the Blessed Sacrament. In the time that Fr. Casey spent in the adoration chapel or here in the sanctuary, the way that he held up the host at the consecration at Mass, he didn’t leave you any doubt that he believed with his whole strength that this is God.

I remember him saying that whenever life as a priest would get hard or he got lonely, he would come into the church at night, kneel down as close he could to Jesus, and pray in silence with his hands resting on the tabernacle. Coupled with his love of Our Lady as well as his devotion to Scripture and the Liturgy of the Hours, Fr. Casey worked to build his life on God.

He understood and tried to live what the Lord reminds us today in the Gospel. Jesus says, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” And that in Him, we have a home prepared for us with the Father in heaven. There is nothing of this world that can take us to that place, nothing that can bring us the joy and satisfaction that we all desire - only Jesus. He’s the one who claims us as His own, calls us from sin, saves us from death, and invites us into a life of supernatural love and goodness.

A couple days before Fr. Casey was called to that home, I had the privilege of preparing him for it through the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and some of the final prayers the Church has for those on their deathbed. It was an incredible gift to be there in that moment and to ready this holy man for the place he had been preparing for and working to get others to his whole life. For me, it had come full circle as I thought of that question he asked me again and again when I was growing up - “You going to take my place?” Yes. I gladly will, hopefully with as much joy and fidelity as you have.

When I was in that hospital room, I could tell that he was getting close to the end. His sharp mind and quick wit had dulled and slowed, things were foggy for him, his speech was confused, and we repeated prayers until he remembered where we were. But at the end of the prayers, I asked if he was ready to see Jesus. And in an amazingly flash of lucidity, Fr. Casey responded, “I am ready for whatever the Lord wants for me.” It was pretty much the last thing he said to me. What a beautiful end to a beautiful life.

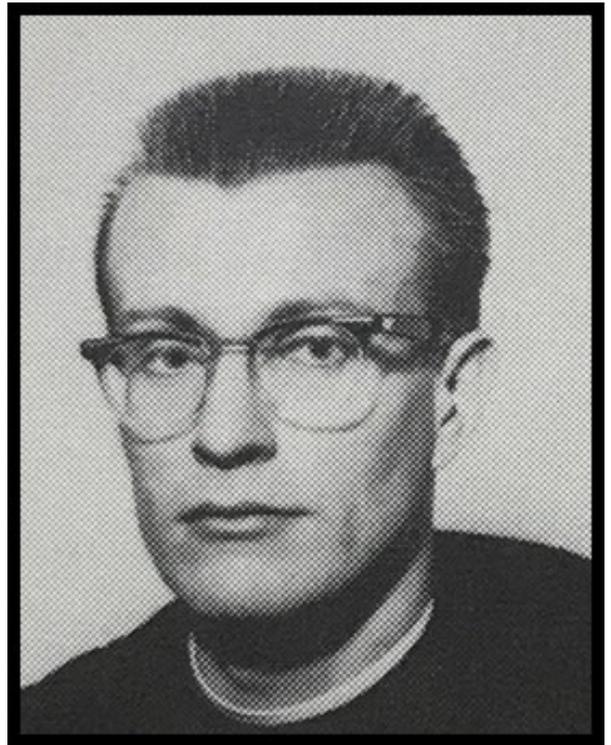
Today we offer up that life to our heavenly Father in gratitude for all he did for us and the Church in drawing us closer to that home we were made for. We also pray asking God for forgiveness for Fr. Casey, that should any sin have stained him or any fault affected him, that it would by the Lord’s loving mercy be forgiven and wiped away. Lastly, we pray for ourselves and we ask that we be prepared when we reach the end of our earthly lives. May we build our lives on God, may we follow Jesus the way, the truth, and the life who leads us to the Father in heaven.

And so we pray: eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

By Father Jacob Koether (Ordained for the Diocese of Victoria, 2015)

## Memorializing Msgr. Casey Jarzombek

As a contemporary of **Msgr. Casey Jarzombek**, whose seminary picture is shown at the right, **Bishop John W. Yanta** felt he should memorialize him. Both were only a few years apart at St. John's Seminary, where they got to know each other well, and later had occasion to work together over the years. **Bishop Yanta** attended **Msgr. Jarzombek's** funeral Mass and burial at Holy Trinity Church in Falls City which was presided over by **Bishop Brenden Cahill**, Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Texas.



Photograph from *Priest Forever: History of St. John's Seminary, San Antonio, Texas 1915-1965*, page 110

During the reception following in the hall at Holy Trinity Church, there was much remembering and reminiscing over the beautiful life that **Fr. Casey** led. On pages 2 and 3 is the obituary that appeared in the *Victoria Advocate* newspaper. In it, you are able to glimpse a sense of the rich and full life that **Fr. Casey** not only experienced but also shared with others.

**Msgr. Jarzombek**, like Bishop Yanta, also saw the importance of celebrating and saving our heritage. Last year, on what is believed was his last visit to his *home area*, **Msgr. Jarzombek**, who wanted to help support the Polish Heritage Center, brought with him and donated a box of items for our collection. In it were books, crucifix, and the like. Like **Bishop Yanta**, **Fr. Casey** perceived the need to celebrate and save our heritage.

Photograph from *Victoria Advocate*

# Clarification:

The generous memorialization of **Rev. Bernard Marcelli Goebel** featured in Newsletter #32 was actually the wish of **Adelene Moy Manka**, wife of **Mike Manka**. We are very grateful for her gift which will be a permanent recognition of this courageous and much-loved priest.

This clarification is a good time to remind everyone that it really helps if you include ALL the important information that is needed to properly and completely record the memorialization or tribute. In most instances, a note of some kind is included which is helpful; however, sometimes I receive only the name of the person being memorialized with a check enclosed. If there is more than one name on the check, please specify the person(s) making the donation. If there seems to be something I cannot determine, and I have your contact information, I will reach out to clarify. But if it seems complete, then that is what I use.

## AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT!

Speaking of memorializations, tributes, and general support, remember that it is easier than ever to partner with us and support the Polish Heritage Center! We now have a **DONATE** button on our website: <https://polishheritagecentertx.org>. On almost every page, in the upper right, you will find a red **DONATE** button. With this red **DONATE** button, you can, not only make one time gifts, remember loved ones and friends who have died by memorializing them, but honor friends who are still with us. You can also set up **RECURRING** gifts! Your recurring gifts are powerful and very much appreciated. This way you do not have to remember to write a monthly check or try to keep a mental note as to how often you want to make your gift. This is also a convenient way to pay towards a pledge over time! [Simply make a pledge, and if interested, chose a Naming Opportunity and use the recurring option to pay over time, \(contact me for more details\)!](#) This is a much easier way to remember your ancestors and those important to you! The link is safe and secure. Check it out! If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact me, John Wojtasczyk at [wojtasczyk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wojtasczyk@sbcglobal.net) or text/call 210-387-7472.

# *New members of the Board of Directors*

The Board of Directors of the Polish Heritage Center at Panna Maria Foundation have invited these new members to join their ranks as members on the Board of Directors. Please join me in welcoming these new members!

†Bishop John W. Yanta

**Laura Krawietz Dylla, of Adkins, Texas**

*My name is Laura Krawietz Dylla, daughter of Engelbert and Eleanora Janysek Krawietz of Cestohowa. My husband of 52 years is Paul Dylla of St Hedwig. We have 5 children, Julie, Philip, Gregory, William, and Charles who have blessed us with 15 grandchildren. I am proud to recognize my amazing Polish ancestry and be a part of the wonderful PHC Board of Directors. I was also asked to take on the leadership of the Champion group that supports the efforts of the PHC board of directors.*

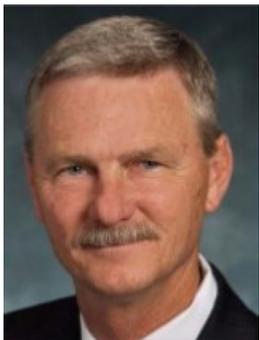


**John Cebrowski, of San Antonio, Texas**

*John W. Cebrowski of San Antonio is the VP – Director of Development for the Polish Heritage Center. He and his wife Amanda have four daughters, three of whom are married, one of whom is a Dominican Sister, and eleven grandchildren. John is of 100% Polish heritage and is originally from New Jersey. John has an MBA in Marketing Management from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, & undergraduate degrees in electrical engineering and industrial design. He has been to Poland on many occasions to visit family & friends. John's responsibilities are to personally lead development outreach both within and beyond Texas, lead the Campaign Steering Committee, counsel the Board of Directors on development matters, and advise the Marketing Team.*

**Susan Moczygemba McKinsey, of Panna Maria, Texas**

*Susan Moczygemba-McKinsey was born and raised in Panna Maria, TX, daughter of Felix C. & Rosalie Dziuk Moczygemba. Susan's first career was in radio/television news as a reporter, anchor & producer. Her second career at the University of New Mexico was in Communications and Marketing and served as director of University Communication until her semi-retirement. Susan works part-time for UNM as a government relations consultant every winter during the NM legislative session. Susan currently splits her time between San Antonio and Panna Maria.*



**Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, of Bryan/College Station, Texas**

*From Chappell Hill, Texas. I am a fifth generation Texan of 100% Polish descent originating from Wielkopolska and Kujawy. Currently, I serve as Professor and Leadership Program Director for Texas A&M AgriLife/Texas A&M University and President of the Polish American Council of Texas (PACT).*

# *What triggered my support!*



My support for the Polish Heritage Center stems directly from the influence of my aunt **Dorothy Burda**. She worked tirelessly to research our genealogy, and was among the group of descendants of Panna Maria settlers who traveled to Poland with **Bishop Yanta** in 1973. My grandparents, **John & Frances Burda**, were very humble, private people, so we didn't learn much about their ancestry when they were alive.

Thank goodness for **Aunt Dorothy**. I was able to expand on her research, and secure the hundred-year-old Heritage Ranch designation for my grandparents place in DeWitt County, and will be seeking the 150-year designation in 2020. My father **Frank** purchased a ranch in Karnes County in the 1940s, and it is through that land that we have been fortunate to experience the blessings of that Eagle Ford shale. It seemed only fitting that I would use some of that money to honor his heritage and the courage of his immigrant grandparents who first come to Panna Maria.

I have decided to sponsor the depiction of the **Midnight Mass 1854** as well as the display honoring **Bishop Yanta**. I hope that incredible Center will bring pride and inspiration to those who visit, and will continue to honor the magnificent legacy of all immigrants to this country.

Elizabeth Claire Burda

Dear Friends,

Thanks to the leadership of passionate donors, supporters, and friends like you, we're now two-thirds of the way toward achieving our dream of a beautiful Heritage Center. We are making steady progress at a pace commensurate with donations.

The "Gift Scale" on the right is a device used in capital campaigns to signal objectives and to track results. You can see our progress (\$9,100,000) and our remaining objective (\$4,900,000) which includes a \$1,000,000 endowment to fund future operations.

Please note both the filled and the empty boxes. We need to fill them all in to finish the job. We ask that you reach out to family and friends. We ask you to reach out to businesses, foundations, and organizations with which you may be familiar. We ask you to consider as big a gift as you can. We ask you, if you have already contributed, to consider another gift.

This Heritage Center is a national shrine, an anchor for American Polonia, intended for the benefit and enjoyment of all Americans of Polish heritage, with the mission to honor those who came before us, regardless of where they settled. As Polish Nobel laureate Czesław Miłosz has stated, *"The living owe it to those who no longer can speak to tell their story for them."*

The Center offers you an opportunity to partner with us and to memorialize your loved ones, to have their names in place for perpetuity. There are also opportunities to sponsor elements of the Center and its many exhibits. Please contact our Director of Development, John Cebrowski at 210-370-3953 or [jcebrowski39@gmail.com](mailto:jcebrowski39@gmail.com) for details. Or, please contact any other Board member named below whom you may know.

Our sincerest thanks and blessings to all,

### *Board of Directors, Polish Heritage Center:*

*Chair, Bishop Emeritus John W. Yanta, Vice-Chair Aloys Notzon, Vice-President Joe Yanta, Assistant Vice-President Randy Pawełek, Treasurer Betty Kowalik, Secretary Sam Kotara, Pastor Fr. Wiesław Iwaniec, John Cebrowski, Laura Dylla, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Susan Moczygomba McKinsey, Lambert Titzman*



*We wish to acknowledge and thank those who have recently supported the ongoing work of the Polish Heritage Center!*

Association of Catholic Rock Stars,  
Houston, Texas  
Marjorie Beck, San Antonio, Texas  
Bishop Charles Grahmann  
Memorial Charity  
George Bobinski, Vestal, New York  
Marvin & Janet M Boroski,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Robert Brandt, La Vernia , Texas  
Elizabeth Burda, Yorktown, Texas  
Amy R Clark, Fischer, Texas  
Janice Connor, San Antonio, Texas  
Children of Carlos & Dina Cortez,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Richard & Nancy Dugger,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Claude Dugie, San Antonio, Texas  
Edwin Dupnik, Lago Vista, Texas  
Mildred Dupnik, San Antonio, Texas  
Jessie Estrada, San Antonio, Texas  
Ray & Debbie Gawlik, St. Louis, Missouri  
Thomas L Gawlik, St. Hedwig, Texas  
Antonette Gustafson, San Antonio, Texas  
J. Sean Habina, San Antonio, Texas  
Linda Hausenfluke, San Antonio, Texas  
Pat & Barbara Moczygemba Hoffmann,  
San Antonio, Texas  
John & Mary Pollok Yanta Memorial Trust,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Knights of Columbus #4315,  
Our Lady of Fatima Council,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Sam Kolodziej, San Antonio, Texas  
Ruth Krawietz, Falls City, Texas  
Leonard & Mary Krzywosinski,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Donald Lackey, La Vernia, Texas  
C.D. Lewis, Saint Cloud, Florida  
Gene Lysik, San Antonio, Texas  
Rudolph Lyssy, Falls City, Texas  
Rev. Canon Philip Majka,  
Annandale, Virginia  
Louis Marlowe, San Antonio, Texas  
Allen & Joyce Moczygemba,  
Falls City, Texas  
Carlton & Anna Moy, Floresville, Texas

Jason E Moy, Adkins, Texas  
Johnnie Moy, San Antonio, Texas  
Richard Murray, La Vernia, Texas  
John Nelson, Taylor, Texas  
James & Helen Noll, Falls City, Texas  
Brian Notzon, Burien, Washington  
Gaylon Oehlke, Kenedy, Texas  
Wanda Olenick, Falls City, Texas  
Carlos & Guadalupe Ontiveros,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Richard & Carolyn Osburg, Calliham, Texas  
Evelyn Page, Portland, Texas  
Thomas Pauken, Dallas, Texas  
Gilbert Pawelek, San Antonio, Texas  
Michael Pawelek, Brookshire, Texas  
Michael Pawelek, San Antonio, Texas  
Thomas & Bridget Pawlik,  
San Antonio, Texas  
John & Patricia Picacio, San Antonio, Texas  
Anton Pliska, Plover, Wisconsin  
Jerry & Marilyn Pruski, Adkins, Texas  
Arthur Rakowitz, Adkins, Texas  
Gary A Reile, Lakehills, Texas  
James & Angela Richter, San Antonio, Texas  
Elaine Savoie, Cuero, Texas  
Charles M Smith, San Antonio, Texas  
Glenn B Snoga, Seguin, Texas  
Darlene Stewart, Victoria, Texas  
Rayleen Sullivan, Burleson, Texas  
Katherine Szafranski, Austin, Texas  
Patricia Szalwinski, Pleasanton, Texas  
Clarence Thomas Szczech,  
San Antonio, Texas  
William Bill Tabbert, Jr, Converse, Texas  
John M Titus, San Antonio, Texas  
Nicholas F. Urbanski, Katy, Texas  
Donald & Catherine Varella,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Homer Villarreal, San Antonio, Texas  
Allan & Vernell Wiatrek, San Antonio, Texas  
Greg Witcher, Victoria, Texas  
John & Christie Schroeder Wojtasczyk,  
Panna Maria, Texas  
Joe & Joyce Polson Yanta,  
San Antonio, Texas

# Memorials and Tributes

In memory of Leonard & Emily Korzekwa by:

Anthony & Patricia Korzekwa, Falls City, Texas  
Leonard Korzekwa, Jr, Falls City, Texas  
Milton & Theresa Lowak, St. Hedwig, Texas  
Roger & Lori Lyssy, Falls City, Texas  
E. E. & T. R. Zaiontz

In memory of Michael & Frances Foegelle by:

Susan M Bohuslav, Stockdale, Texas

In memory of Peter Frank & Bridget Rapstine Lyssy by:

Stephen J & Alice H Lyssy Berestka, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

In memory of Isidore & Annie Yanta Dziuk by:

Michael & Vivian Yanta Hudson, Victoria, Texas

In memory of Rev. Thomas Lyssy, Anna Pruski, Nick Gawlik Sr, & Annie Jaskina by:

William R Lyssy, Stockdale, Texas

In memory of John & Lucy Dylla by:

James J & Lorraine M Polonis, San Antonio, Texas

In memory of John Peter & Helen Wiatrek Lyssy by:

Mary Ann Rakowitz, Floresville, Texas

In memory of Brother Basil Ibrom, OFM & Sister Victoria Ibrom OSU, and Tomas & Katarzyna Respondek by:

Alice Kowalik Reue, Yorktown, Texas

In memory of Edith & Victor A Yanta, John Valentine Yanta, & Donald R Yanta by:

Lawrence S & Barbara Yanta, Victoria, Texas

In memory of Alphonse Kotara & Melvin Golla by:

Jerry Pruski

In memory of Walter A & Lucy Snoga Zaiontz, Thomas S & Stella Ciereska Lukawitz, & Joseph H Peter Zaiontz by:

Adrian & Mary Lukawitz Zaiontz & family

In memory of Georgia Dupnik by:

Many family & friends submitted by Ruth Krawietz

In memory of Nick Gawlik, Sr, & Florian Kolodziej by:

Sam Kolodziej, San Antonio, Texas

In memory of Nick Joseph, Jr, & Sally Kruciak Gawlik by:

James & Angela Gawlik Richter

In honor of Msgr. Frank Kurzaj & Gerard Kurzaj by:

Mary Eiserer, San Antonio, Texas

In honor of Richard Allan Sowa by:

Regina Sowa, San Antonio, Texas

## *Which one of these is your trigger?*

“We saw this as an opportunity to teach our children the history, values, beliefs, customs and traditions of those early settlers.”

“We liked contributing to something that we know will be here for hundreds of years.”

“We wanted to see this completed before we die. We wanted to see our legacy.”

“We think it’s really neat that Panna Maria is the “first and oldest permanent Polish settlement in the United States” and that it was chosen as the site of the Polish Heritage Center. We really like being a part of that history.”

# CONSTRUCTION UPDATES AND PICS



Construction continues to press forward! In this current phase, III-C, work is ongoing primarily in the Concession area and Restrooms. The main floor in the Concession area is laid and the protective covering over them has just been removed. The floor for the Restrooms is poured, polished, and finished. Our Septic system outside has been installed. A 1000 gallon auxiliary water tank in the sub-level is in place. Once the remaining Restrooms fixtures are in, the Restrooms should become operational! The ceiling tiles in the Concession area are up and the final coat of paint has been applied. All that is left is the later installation of a showcase that will display what will be for sale and the installation of vending machines for snacks and drinks.



# *Come visit the Heritage Center!*

Although we are “not” open yet,  
there are two different ways to visit:

## 1) **Bring friends and family to one of our scheduled tour & scanning events!**

See for yourself the exciting progress going on inside and hear about the latest plans. We'll show you every nook and cranny and answer your questions! We suggest you bring memorable family photos and documents to be scanned for the archives. We'll also show you how to record family stories, all of the above making **your family** a permanent part of the Polish Heritage Center. Our tour & scanning events will be held from 10am till 2pm on Sunday, September 22; Sunday, October 13, and Sunday, October 20, with more to follow!

## 2) **And...you can also do this by appointment!**

Call ahead to schedule a tour. This could be a great way to treat your out-of-town visitors. Phone Sam Kotara at 830-534-4801 or Betty Kowalik at 830-583-6236 to make an appointment.

## **Upcoming Events:**

*Come visit us at:*

- Holy Trinity Church, Falls City, Texas, annual picnic, September 1
- Holy Cross, Yorktown, Texas, September 8
- St. Mary, Stockdale, Texas, Festival, September 29
- Panna Maria annual homecoming Turkey Dinner, October 13
- Cestohowa annual Turkey Dinner, October 20
- PACT annual meeting, November 16, in Bandera, Texas

# Bishop's Visit To The Center!



Upon my recent visit and inspection of the Polish Heritage Center on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, I wish to thank all of you who have supported this legacy to our ancestors. Without you, this beautiful project is not possible. Currently we are busy working inside where it is difficult to see the progress. Phase III-C, the construction of the restrooms and concession area are nearly completed at a cost of **\$474,026**. The next phase III-D will focus on the landscaping and curbing, as well as some inside work and is expected to cost about **\$331,601**. This phase should be finished towards late September. Phase III-A, the Admin office spaces was completed earlier this year at a cost of **\$424,572**. And in Phase III-B, the installation of the metal studs cost **\$400,851**.

Thank you for your prayers, Masses, Rosaries, and devotions for the completion of the Polish Heritage Center as we progress towards the Grand Opening!

Know that I remember our entire Polish Heritage Center family every day when I celebrate Mass and pray for your intention. Remember us and I pray for your continued support. Asking for God's blessing on you and yours,

†Bishop John W. Yanta