PILGRIMAGE OF POLONIA TO OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA - DOYLESTOWN, PA

Michael Pajak

On **Saturday, August 22 2026, at 6 pm,** the chapters of the John Paul II Foundation will gather for a banquet during which they will present the "Fidelity to the Legacy of St. John Paul II Award" to Mr. Michael Pajak, a long time dedicated leader in Polonia having served as president of the New York Society of the John Paul II Foundation for 27 years. His generosity and dedication have greatly advanced the organization's mission. During the banquet Mr. John Grondelski, Deputy Director, State Department for U.S. Citizens outside the U.S., will be the keynote speaker.

Mr. Pajak's biography will be published in the September edition of the Polish American News.

This year's pilgrimage also coincides with the regional assembly of the eastern US state chapters of the John Paul II Foundation, including Washington, DC, New Jersey, New York, New England, and Philadelphia. During this gathering, the chapters will share with one another how they extend the legacy of St. John Paul II through activities and initiatives in their respective localities.

Jagwiga Kopala

On **Sunday, August 23, 2026,** the National Polish Apostolate Committee in the United States will confer its distinguished Pride of Polonia Award on Mrs. Jadwiga Kopala during a ceremony at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. The Pride of Polonia Award is presented annually to recognize an individual who has made exemplary contributions to the life of the Polish diaspora and community in the United States.

Mrs. Kopala's biography will be published in the September edition of the Polish American News.

The Polish Apostolate invites everyone to observe the Polish custom of celebrating the Solemnity of Our Lady of Czestochowa by making a pilgrimage to the American Czestochowa located at 654 Ferry Road in Doylestown, PA on **Sunday, August 23, 2026.** A tribute program which will include musical selections commemorating the 250th Anniversary of U.S. Independence emphasizing Polonia's contributions will take place at the Shrine at 12 Noon. Celebration of the Holy Mass will follow at 12:30 p.m. with Archbishop Thomas Wenski, Archbishop of Miami, as the main celebrant and the Most Reverend Witold Mroziewski, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, as the homilist. All are warmly invited!

The Polish Apostolate Committee, affiliated with the Bishops Committee on Migration of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, is dedicated to serving Catholics of Polish origin. Reverend Dariusz Gościniak, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in New Britain, Connecticut, serves as chairman of the Polish Apostolate.

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

"America's Czestochowa"
Pauline Fathers and Brothers

654 Ferry Road, Doylestown, PA 18901
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Internet: PolishShrine.com