

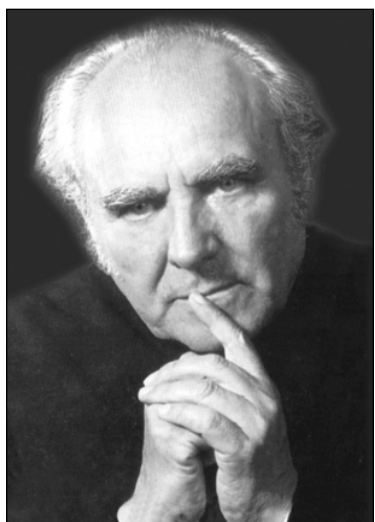
## Glen Cove Polish Americans Mark Constitution Day



**NEW YORK -** Polish Americans gather at Glen Cove's Polish National Home to observe the anniversary of Poland's May 3rd Constitution. The document was the first written expression of liberty and sovereignty on the European continent ratified on May 3rd, 1791, just a few years after the United States Constitution was adopted. Seated at the head of the audience were (from left to right) Z. Paul Wos, his sister Wanda Lorenc and Michael Madejski. All three fought against the Germans in the Warsaw Uprising of August 1, 1944. Also, Frank Milewski, President of the Downstate N.Y. Division of the Polish American Congress; Hon. Ralph Suozzi, Mayor of the City of Glen Cove and Zbigniew Kurjanski, President of the Polish Home of Glen Cove.

## Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski Named 2008 Fidelitas Medalist

(Orchard Lake, MI) - The Orchard Lake Schools (OLS) Board of Regents has named the late Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski, professor emeritus of SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary and St. Mary's Preparatory, as the 61st recipient of the prestigious *Fidelitas Medal*. The posthumous presentation was made as part of Polish Constitution Day activities at Orchard Lake on Sunday, May 4, 2008, following the 1 PM Mass in the Shrine Chapel of Our Lady of Orchard Lake.



**Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski**

Msgr. Peszkowski, born in 1918 in Sanok, Poland, was a Katyń Forest Massacre-survivor and a legendary chaplain of the families of the Katyń genocide. Until the end of his life on October 8, 2007, Msgr. Peszkowski fought to make public the truth of the 1940 Soviet mass murder of more than 20,000 members of the intellectual elite and military officers of pre-war Poland. A POW at the camp in Kozielsk, Msgr. Peszkowski miraculously escaped execution. He subsequently studied at Oxford University and later came to the USA to continue his education, entering SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary (SSCMS). He was ordained a priest on June 5, 1954. Following his ordination, he taught Pastoral Theology, Polish Literature, and Polish Homiletics at SSCMS as well as classes at St. Mary's Preparatory. In addition to meeting his priestly commitments, Msgr. Peszkowski traveled extensively to participate in historical and theological conferences. He published more than

100 books. For many years, he served as International Chaplain of Polish Scouting (Harczerze). In 1966, he was elected President of the Polish American Historical Association.

In 1994 he returned permanently to Poland, devoting the remainder of his life to seeking justice for the memory of his slain Katyń comrades and their families. Msgr. Peszkowski wrote several books on Katyń and took his case to Boris Yeltsin at the Kremlin, working tirelessly to commemorate the victims of the Stalinist genocide at the three main massacre sites, never abandoning his mission, for, as he put it, "the Polish-Russian reconciliation on the basis of truth, memory, law, and forgiveness."

A close friend of the late Pontiff, John Paul II, Msgr. Peszkowski could be seen at his side during papal pilgrimages to Poland and the United States. In 2006, the Polish parliament supported by acclamation Msgr. Peszkowski's candidacy for the Nobel Peace Prize, primarily for his efforts in fostering forgiveness and reconciliation between the people of Poland and Russia.

About the Board's decision, Chancellor Rev. Timothy F. Whalen, who was once Msgr. Peszkowski's student said, "The lessons that Msgr. Peszkowski taught me, and millions of oth-

ers, will always be stored not in our minds but in our hearts. Msgr. Peszkowski lived all 89 years of his life with a passion, because he loved God passionately. Msgr. Peszkowski was typically doing five projects at once because he believed that each one was more important and urgent than the other. Whether you were a bishop or someone he just met, you were his *brac* (brother)."

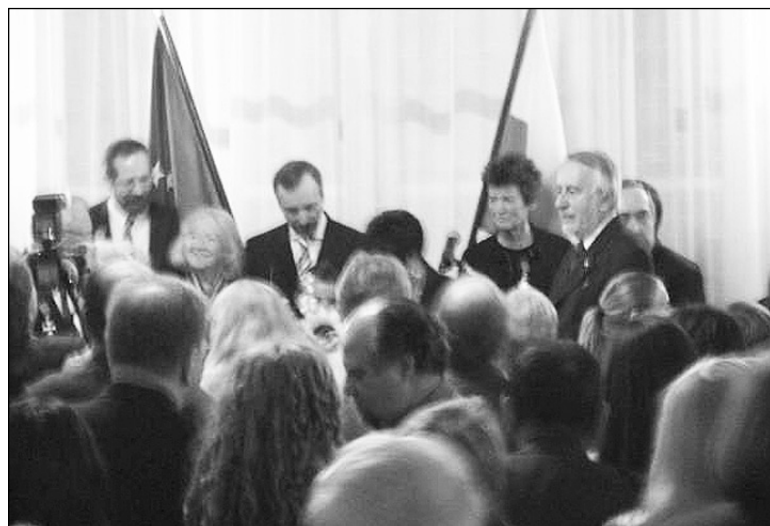
This award, the sixty-first since its inception in 1949, was presented to Msgr. Peszkowski posthumously in recognition of his fidelity in serving God, country, and the Orchard Lake Schools. Recipients of the *Fidelitas Medal* are considered for their realization of the religious and cultural ideals of OLS founder, Rev. Joseph Dabrowski, and his successors. Among the 60 other recipients of the Orchard Lake Schools *Fidelitas Medal* are Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski of Washington, D.C., the late John Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia, the late Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine, the late Dr. Czesław Miłosz of Berkeley, California, the late Judge Frank G. Schemanske of Detroit, His Eminence Edmund Cardinal Szoka of Rome, Italy, and His Eminence Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit.

*The Orchard Lake Schools, a private, Catholic center of formation and education, are located on the eastern shore of Orchard Lake, in the city of Orchard Lake Village. The 115-acre campus, which encompasses SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, St. Mary's Preparatory, as well as Madonna University's Orchard Lake Center, has been designated a Michigan Historical Site and placed on the National Register of Historic places. Established in 1885 as an American Polish seminary by Rev. Joseph Dabrowski, today the Orchard Lake Schools are united by their tri-cultural - Catholic, Polish, & American - heritage, as well as their shared commitment to faith formation through Catholic education, tradition, & community service.*

## New York Polish Consulate Celebrates May 3rd

**NEW YORK -** The Polish Consulate in New York City held ceremonies on Friday, May 2nd to commemorate May 3rd - Polish Constitution Day. Eight medals were given out to Poles residing in the U.S. for their outstanding achievements.

- Ewa Bronowicz



**Consul General of the Republic of Poland Krzysztof W. Kasprzyk (on right) presides over the ceremonies.**



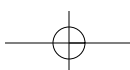
**Two Polish children dressed for the occasion.**



**Proud Polish family and friends**



**Polish musicians entertaining the guests before the ceremony.**



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