



NEW ENGLAND PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION

Provincial's Newsletter

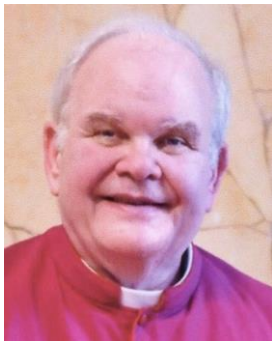
Volume 2024/ May

FROM THE PROVINCIAL

April 17, 2024, was a particular date for the Congregation of Missionary Fathers, which begins its 400th anniversary of foundation today. THE FOUNDATION AGREEMENT OF THE CONGREGATION was signed on April 17, 1625, in the afternoon, in Paris, at the Palais de Gondi, Rue Pavée, in the parish of Saint-Sauveur. Ph. E. de Gondi, F. M. de Silly, and V. Depaul signed the agreement in the presence of notaries Dupuys and Le Boucher.

May the Spirit of St. Vincent help us to continue his mission for the next hundreds of years.

MONSIGNOR PLOCHARCZYK MASS



On Thursday, April 18, our Provincial participated in a solemn funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Parish in New Britain to honor the late Monsignor Daniel Plocharczyk, who passed away on April 12.

Father Daniel was well-known among Connecticut's

Polish-speaking parishes for presiding over their annual 40 Hours Eucharistic Devotion and singing the All Saints litany in Latin, Polish, or English. He always used this opportunity to pray with people and bless them with the Most Holy Sacrament. He was a great Pastor, open to all needs, and a man of prayer. He served for many years as the Executive of the Polish American Priests Association in the USA.

The new Archbishop Christopher Coyne was present. The church was filled with people, a testament of love to their Pastor. Father Stasiu Dudek, a Franciscan priest who served as a parochial vicar with the prelate for 20 years at this parish, delivered a beautiful funeral homily, uniting us in our grief and memories. A total of 12 priests attended the Mass, standing together in honor of Monsignor Daniel Plocharczyk. The new parish's pastor, Father John Garncarz, was the principal celebrant of the Mass, leading us in our prayers and reflections.

FIRST LADY OF POLAND VISITS "KOSTKA"



On Wednesday, April 17, 2024, St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Brooklyn was visited by the First Lady of the Republic of Poland, Mrs. Agata Kornhauser-Duda. The visit began at noon at St. Stanislaus Academy, where, after a beautiful welcome by Father Pastor Gregory Markulak CM and school principal Mr. Ivan Green, the children, i.e., students of the Academy, presented a short program consisting of a performance of two songs including one about Copernicus in Polish and English performed by the school choir and a piece called Panis Angelicus. A short show of Polish folk dances followed this. Mrs. President congratulated the children on this performance. She stressed that she was pleasantly surprised that in a school based on the American educational system, there is a school where so many Polish children maintain Polish culture and the Polish language and learn Polish history despite the fact that it is not a Saturday Supplementary School.





Afterward, Mrs. President visited classrooms and spoke with students and teachers.

After a meeting at the school, the First Lady visited St. Stanislaus Kostka Church. Father Pastor Grzegorz Markulak CM briefly presented the church's history and

introduced parishioners, Parish Council, rectory staff, and invited guests. The First Lady thanked everyone and received flowers as a gift from the parish, while she gave a presidential pen to Father Gregory. The whole visit was enjoyable.



ANNIVERSARIES

In May 2024, we celebrated significant milestones in our priesthood. On May 23rd, Father Chester Mrowka marked his remarkable **65th anniversary** of priesthood, and on June 6th, Father Stanislaw Miekina also will celebrate his **65th anniversary**. On May 28, we rejoiced with Father Marek Sadowski and Father Jan Szylar as they commemorated their **30th anniversary** of priesthood.

We extend our sincere wishes for good health, God's blessings, strength in further apostolic ministry, and happiness to **all confreres celebrating anniversaries** of their priestly ordination, especially to the jubilarians.

FATHER CHESTER IN REHAB

On Thursday, May 16, 2024 Father Chester Mrowka fell in his room and broke his hip. The next day, he underwent surgery, and after a few days, he was transferred to the Manchester Rehab Center. He needs our prayerful support. Keep him in your prayers. His current address is: Touchpoints at Manchester 333 Bidwell St, Room 103 Manchester, CT 06040