



Orange County News

By: **Lila Ciecek (714) 544-2458**
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The beautiful California summer! long days, balmy evenings, outings to the blue Pacific beaches, picnics, barbeques, pool parties, concerts in the park, family reunions, graduations, weddings, anniversaries, far and near travels, or just plain good lazy time in the coziness of our homes and backyards. Everybody loves summer!

Hopefully though, each of us during this summer will have a chance for some rest, relaxation and a change of scenery in order to catch our breath, and recharge physical and spiritual energies. Everyday life in the "express lane" for most of us is taxing, exhaustive and draining our physical and emotional strength. Getting away "from it all", even for just a while, not only sounds good and inviting, but also is a necessity and an obligation to ourselves and to those who we live or work with. We need to be renewed and refreshed from time to time to be livable and effective. If only for a short time, let's "vacate" our lives of everyday stresses, routines and cares and renew and refresh our spirit and body. Happy Vacations to everyone!!!

The community of the Pope John Paul II Polish Center in Yorba Linda, while enjoying a slower pace of life this summer has been participating in the current happenings and events. At the end of June we bid farewell to Fr. George Blais, who after his two year directorship of the Polish Center was re- assigned by Bishop Todd Brown to another parish in the Diocese of Orange. Our good wishes and prayers went with him. At the same time we extended congratulations and best wishes to Father Henry Noga, who after ministering to the Center's Polish Community since 2001, as of July 1st, 2008, became Center's new fulltime Director. We wish him fruitful pastoral work and God's many blessing! Lovely parties were held to honor both priests.

A warm welcome was given to our guest: Professor Father Stanisław Urbański, of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, who arrived from Poland for his annual visit to our Center. While trying to get some rest, Fr. Urbański will be assisting Fr. Noga with providing pastoral services to the community. Congratulations on the 35th Anniversary of Fr. Stanisław's Priesthood! Ad Multos Annos!

The 14th annual Picnic (Ognisko) under the auspices of the "Piast" PNA Group # 3259 will take place in Huntington Beach on Saturday, July 26th. A beautiful California sunset and star studded night, a sparkling bonfire, music, singing, cordiality and friendships will be part of this happy event, and will be enjoyed by all who attend. Info: (714)996-8161

The planning and preparations have already started for the annual „Dożynki” which will take place at the Polish Center on September 20 and 21. Volunteers from the Center's community are gathering their ideas and "sharpening" their skills to assist with this important annual event. Stan Czarnota is the chairman of this year's „Dożynki”. □

Congratulations

Rev. Henry Noga, SVD



Effective July 1, 2008 Fr. Henry was appointed Director of the Pope John II Polish Center in Yorba Linda, California.

Father Noga is a member of the Missionary Religious Order – Society of the Divine Word. He is a Ph.D. student of the Department of Theology of Spiritual Life at the University of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński in Warsaw. After his ordination to the priesthood in 1996 and two years of pastoral work in Poland, he was sent to Ireland for language studies and ministry to the local Polonia gathered at the Polish House in Dublin.

Since 1999, he has lived in Riverside in Southern California with other Missionary Priests and Brothers from his Religious Community. During this time he was in charge of the Polish Ministry in the Diocese of Orange at the Pope John Paul II Polish Center in Yorba Linda. For the last six years he was a member of the Provincial Council and involved in many other administrative tasks in his Religious Order.

In 2006 Fr. Henry was elected to represent the Western Province of the Society of the Divine Word at the General Chapter in Rome. □

28th Annual Polish American Day

The Polish National Alliance-Orange County Lodge #3193, an ethnic fraternal organization will be hosting their 28th Annual Polish American Day on Sunday August 10, 2008 at Alpine Village (Alpine Inn) in Torrance, California. Alpine Village is located at 833 W. Torrance Blvd off of the 110 Freeway (Harbor Freeway) just one exit south of the 405 Freeway.

This year's event will be inside the Alpine Inn. The event will begin with Holy Mass at 12:00 noon celebrated by Rev. Doug Cook, JDL the former Director of the Pope John Paul II Polish Center in Yorba Linda, followed by dancing and entertainment from 1:00pm until 6:00p.m. Gates will open at 11:30am. Roger and the "Villagers" one of California's finest will provide music. The Polonia Polish Folk Dance Ensemble will also perform various folk dances from regions of Poland. Various Booths including Kozłowski Farms from Sonoma County and POLAM Federal Credit Union will be featured.

Alpine Village will have available throughout the day European food and refreshments. Donation to the Festival is \$7.00 for adults, seniors \$6.00 children-5 to 12-\$3.00, under 5 free with adult admission. This event is one of the biggest gatherings of Polish Americans in the West. Come meet your friends and make some new ones. Additional Information – Tony Nowak 951 808-9580, Ed Baczyński 714-970-9572, Deloria Schaffer 562-943-8904, Eugenia Carter 951-277-4294, Mary Liss 818-790-7018, or Patty Kobzi 714-998-8222. □

Tłumaczenia - Translations

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Mówimy Po Polsku

Pope John Paul II Polish Center

3999 Rose Drive,
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:00 PM ENG

Sunday 7:00 AM Tridentine

9:00 AM ENG 10:30 AM PL

Tuesday - Friday 8:30AM ENG.

First Friday of the month

8:30 AM Eng 7:30 PM. PL

First Saturday of month

8:30 a.m. ENG

Director: Rev. George P. Blais
Assisting: Rev. Henry Noga SVD

714-996-8161 office

714-996-8130 Fr. George P. Blais

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