

Dozynki "Polish Harvest Festival"



P.K.M. Polish Folk Dancers, Theresa Romanowski, Vice President of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, Michael Blichasz, President of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, St. Adalbert Polish Language School children, and their School's President, Maria Koleda, pose for a group photo with Cardinal Justin Rigali at the "Dozynki" Polish Harvest Festival.



St. Adalbert Polish Language School children at the "Dozynki" Polish Harvest Festival.



Janosik Polish Folk Dancers at the "Dozynki" Polish Harvest Festival.



P.K.M. Polish Folk Dancers at the Dozynki.

Polish American Cultural Center Museum Polish Harvest Festival "Dozynki"

Report by Michael Blichasz

I'm pleased to offer a report on a very enjoyable and successful Polish American Heritage Month event that took place on Sunday, October 28th, the Polish Harvest Festival Dozynki, sponsored by the Polish American Cultural Center Museum and the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District.

The Dozynki began with the Polish Harvest Mass, celebrated by Rev. Msgr. Francis Feret, Pastor of St. Adalbert Parish, at 10:30 A.M. in St. Adalbert Church, Thompson Street and Allegheny Avenue in Philadelphia's Port Richmond section. St. Adalbert's Polish Language School children, under the direction of Maria Koleda, sang during the Mass, and music was provided by Jerry Ossowski, parish organist at St. Adalbert's.

Following the Mass, the Harvest Festival began in St. Adalbert's Auditorium and continued until 4 P.M. Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia, was a guest for the opening event at the Dozynki. He was welcomed with flowers, and following his remarks the people joined with St. Adalbert's Polish Language School to sing *Sto Lat*.

Hundreds stopped by the Dozynki throughout the day and enjoyed entertainment by the Music Box Band, St. Adalbert's Polish Language School, the P.K.M. Polish Folk Dancers and the Janosik Polish Folk Dancers. It was really a great Harvest celebration.

These events require a great deal of effort. I want to thank the two co-chairpersons of the Dozynki, Theresa Romanowski, Vice President of the Polish American Congress and Board Secretary of the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, and Richard Klimek, also a member of the Board of the Polish American Cultural Center and Chairman of the Polish American Congress Youth Committee. Our thanks also to Barbara Ilnicka who conducted a live broadcast of her Sunday afternoon program from the Dozynki and to Dorothy Skorczynski who presented the Polish Harvest menu. We also thank Caroline Ciesielka and Tillie Garczynski of the Museum's Gift Shop booth, and to the Museum's volunteers for assisting at the Dozynki.

The officers of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, and the Polish American Cultural Center Museum join with me to say thank you to all who supported the Dozynki. It was another opportunity for people to get-together and have an enjoyable time and highlight another Polish American Heritage Month celebration. Thanks also to the people from Southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware who stopped to let me know that they tune in to the Polish American Radio Program on 1540 AM and let me know how much they enjoyed the Polish Harvest celebration.

Thanks for spreading the word!

Dziękujemy Bardzo!



People enjoyed dancing the Polonaise throughout the day at the Dozynki held in St. Adalbert Auditorium in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia

Enjoy the Music of the Polish American String Band

Holiday Music - The Polish American String Band will be playing holiday music and escorting Santa Claus through the streets of Port Richmond (north of Allegheny Avenue) on Friday, December 14 and on Saturday, December 15 (south of Allegheny Avenue) from 6:15 P.M. to 9:15 P.M. Be ready to greet Santa and spread the holiday cheer!

Christmas Parade - On Friday, December 7, Polish American String Band will be performing in the Clinton, NJ, Christmas Parade.

String Band Invites Assistance

An invitation is extended to all dads, grandfathers and brothers to join the Polish American String Band as marshals and helpers. The band requires assistance with props, banners, and equipment as well as distribution of water bottles. This is especially needed on New Year's Day. For information contact Walter Wojcik, 215-752-9270, or log on to: www.PolishAmericanStringBand.com

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