

# Polish Constitution Day Reports

PAC, Eastern PA District, Celebrates Polish Constitution Day 2006

## Polish American Congress & Polonia Celebrate Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA

The officers of the Polish American Congress, Eastern PA District, would like to thank everyone who attended the 2006 Polish Constitution Day Mass and Youth Program at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA on Sunday, May 7. More than a thousand people gathered to commemorate the community-wide celebration of the 215th Anniversary of Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution, internationally recognized as the second oldest democratic constitution in world history. The commemoration began with a Mass at 12:30 P.M. celebrated by Fr. Jaroslaw Zen, Provincial of the Pauline Fathers and Brothers in Australia, along with concelebrant Fr. Krzysztof Wieliczko, Provincial, Pauline Fathers and Brothers in the United States.

This public celebration, sponsored by the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, was another opportunity to unite people of Polish heritage in the Southeastern Pennsylvania area and was one of many events that took place across America and throughout the world to commemorate this historic event in Poland's history.

After Mass and a luncheon, the Youth Program began at 2:30 P.M. in the Shrine Visitors Center where hundreds enjoyed performances by several area youth groups. Participants included the Adam Mickiewicz Polish Language School, Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School, St. Adalbert Polish Language School, and the P.K.M. Polish Folk Dancers.

The outstanding performances were another positive opportunity to focus on the efforts of proud people working to maintain the treasured customs, dances and culture of Poland in America. Compliments to the directors and teachers of these groups for their participation and to the parents for encouraging their children to take part in these special activities.

During the Youth Program, awards were presented to three Polish language students for their outstanding contribution to Polonia. The awards recipients were: Melissa Mele from the Adam Mickiewicz Polish Language School, Ewa Protasiuk from Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School, and Nicole Respond from St. Adalbert Polish Language School.

At the end of the program all of the dance groups joined together to dance the Polonaise as a tribute to Pope John Paul the Great who always encouraged youth participation. It was an impressive sight and a great way to end the program.

Thanks are also extended to Theresa Romanowski, PAC Vice President, Lou Rakszawski, PAC Vice President from Bucks County, Richard Klimek, PAC Youth Committee Coordinator, the Pauline Fathers and the volunteers at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa for all their help.

The Polish American Congress would also like to extend a THANK YOU to everyone who financially supported the program as sponsors and patrons. Everyone's participation was greatly appreciated and helped to celebrate another important date in Polish history.



St. Adalbert Polish Language School performing at the Polish Constitution Day Ceremony at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA.



Group photo of the Dance Groups who performed at the Polish Constitution Day program at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA on Sunday, May 7, 2006 - St. Adalbert Polish Language School, Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School, Adam Mickiewicz Polish Language School, and P.K.M. Polish Folk Dancers.



Adam Mickiewicz Polish Language School gather along with their instructors, Debbie Majka, Stephen Skorczynski, and Margot Hollender to mark the 215th Anniversary of Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution.



Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School gather along with their instructors, Anne & Jay Poko to mark the 215th Anniversary of Poland's May 3, 1791 Constitution.



Michael Blichasz presents awards to Melissa Mele of Adam Mickiewicz Polish Language School, Nicole Respond of St. Adalbert Polish Language School, and Ewa Protasiuk of Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School, during the Polish American Congress commemoration of Polish Constitution Day at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA on Sunday, May 7, 2006.



Polish Intercollegiate Club "P.K.M. Dancers" perform during the May 3rd Ceremony at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA.



St. Adalbert Polish Language School along with their Instructors, Maria Florek, Christina Brycki, Bozena Walska, and President Maria Koleda.

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