

Rev. Francis Hodur
Organizer of the Polish National Catholic Church

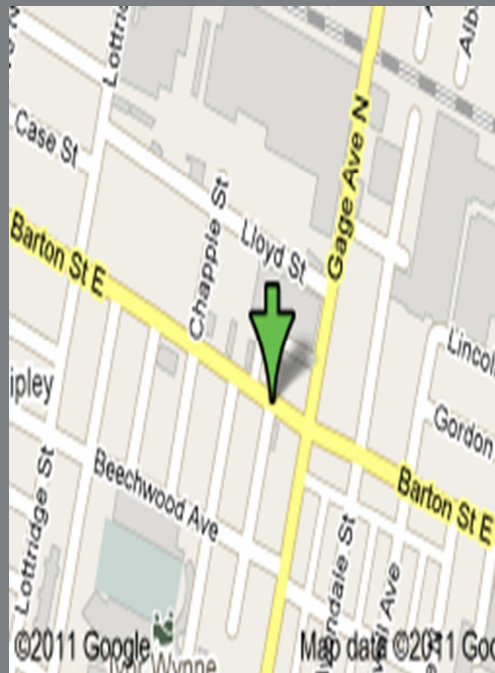
Born: April 1, 1866, in the village of Zarki, six miles from Cracow, Poland.
Ordained to the priesthood August 19, 1893, in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. Took charge of Saint Stanislaus Parish, March 14, 1897.
Elected Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church at the first Synod in Scranton, PA, September, 1904. Consecrated Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church, September 29, 1907, at Utrecht, Holland, by Archbishop Gerard Gull and Bishops John Van Thiel and Peter Spitz of the Old Catholic Church of Holland. Died: February 16, 1953, at Scranton, PA. Buried in the St. Stanislaus Cathedral Cemetery at Scranton, PA, February 21, 1953. His religious work will always live in the hearts of men.



Polish National Catholic Church
Holy Trinity Parish

Mass Schedule

Sunday 11:00 am



880 Barton Street East
Hamilton, Ontario, L8L 3B7
www.polskikatolik.com

P: 905 549 0470



**All nationalities cordially
invited**

Polish National Catholic Church
**WE WISH YOU A MERRY
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Holy Trinity Parish
Hamilton

What is the Polish National Catholic Church?

It is not easy in this short space to tell you all about the Church. We wish to make it clear that we are not a new Church. We adhere to the One Holy Catholic Church founded by Jesus Christ.

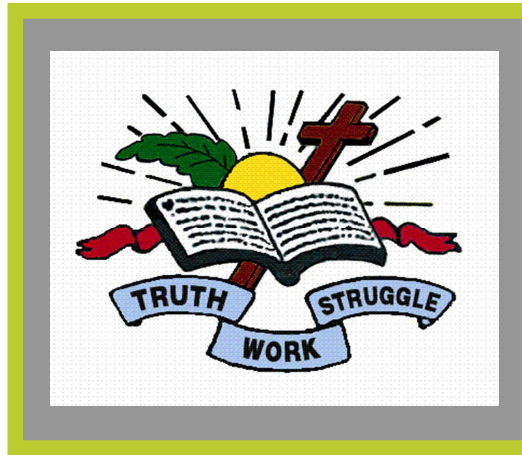
Bishop Hodur wrote in 1930s:

“As a human organization, the Polish National Catholic Church came into existence among the Polish people in emigration in America in 1897, but as a Divine Institution, it existed from its establishment by Jesus Christ in Jerusalem”, (Catechism of PNCC). In the 19th century many Polish people immigrated to the United States looking for economic, political and also religious freedom

The Polish National Catholic Church was formally organized at Scranton, Pennsylvania, on March 14, 1897. By 1904 over 20,000 people in five states joined the Polish Catholic Church. The PNCC is the only American Church that is a member of the Utrecht Union of Old Catholic Churches. Both the Roman Catholic and the Orthodox Churches recognize our Orders.

It is a Catholic Church, rooted in Scripture, based on tradition, and accepting as dogmatic the first Seven Councils of the undivided Christian Church.

It is an Apostolic Church, preserving the Apostolic Succession, an unbroken line of bishops from the Apostles of Jesus Christ to the present day bishops and priests.



It is a sacramental Church, which acknowledges Seven Sacraments:

- » Baptism and Confirmation
- » The Word of God
- » Penance
- » Holy Eucharist
- » Holy Unction
- » Holy Orders
- » Matrimony

It is a teaching church... using catechism for children and teens; School of Christian Living, a Sunday School for all ages to impart the rich heritage left by Christ to all.

It is a democratic church... in which clergy and laity interact responsibly in Church policy and management with voice in parochial and Seniorate, Diocesan and General Synods.

It is a responsive church... meeting of the religious needs of its faithful through Mass and the Sacraments and their social needs through various service organizations.

ANSWERS TO SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS

DO I HAVE TO BE POLISH TO BELONG?

NO! Although the Church has its roots in the Polish immigration (the end of the 19th century), although it retains its Polish name and heritage, it's an international Church made up of members from different nationalities and many ethnic backgrounds. Today, the number of non-Polish members is growing and the language of the Church is basically English.

How do I receive the Sacrament of Penance?

The Church administers two forms of penance. Corporate or general confession is given at the opening of Mass. You are expected to have made an examination of conscience prior to Mass. At the appropriate time, you confess your sins to God privately within yourself and the priest will administer absolution, assigning a general penance. You are able to receive Communion at that Mass. Private confession is given to anyone requesting it and to young people from the time of their first penance until they are 16 years of age. Any adult may utilize this form of Penance if so desired.