

E-BULLETIN #104

"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 195

"let's go with the Magi"

This January the whole community of our Polish Pallottine seminary went on an extraordinary journey, for three days [04-06], as we celebrated the feast of Epiphany – imitating the special focus given to it by our Founder, St Vincent Pallotti. Our guide during this pilgrimage was Fr Francis Gomułczak sac, the spiritual director in our seminary.



On the first day Fr Gomułczak emphasized the role of the eucharist in the church's life. He reminded us of the beauty of the Epiphany liturgy, which attracted so many of the inhabitants of Rome to the octave organized by Pallotti. The eucharist, which is the source and summit of christian life, can and should be a place of evangelization.

The second day was devoted to a meeting with Christ. Fr Francis recalled the stories of two unique encounters that took place on or under the tree: Zacchaeus and Nathaniel. An encounter with Christ is a breakthrough experience that forever changes a person, and should therefore lead to a radical decision of faith and conversion.

On the third day – the feast day itself – during the Eucharist, we considered the issue of becoming witnesses. It is not enough to arrive with the Magi at Bethlehem and bow before Christ. That is not the end of our trip, it is the beginning! After finding our Savior and Lord, we all are called to go out and proclaim the Gospel to every creature!

After Mass, everyone had the opportunity to participate in a procession of the Magi, organized for the second time in our parish community. The procession left from the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy, and came to our chapel.

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10.01.14
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item 196

a man of God

“The span of our life is seventy years, eighty for those who are strong, but their whole extent is anxiety and trouble, they are over in a moment and we are gone.”(Ps 90, 10)

Our confrere **Fr Stanislaw Martuszewski sac**, who expired on the last day of the year 2013, completed 100 years in an exceptional way meeting the demands of a strong person’s life. Without exaggeration we must say that Fr Stanislaw was strong and virtuous.

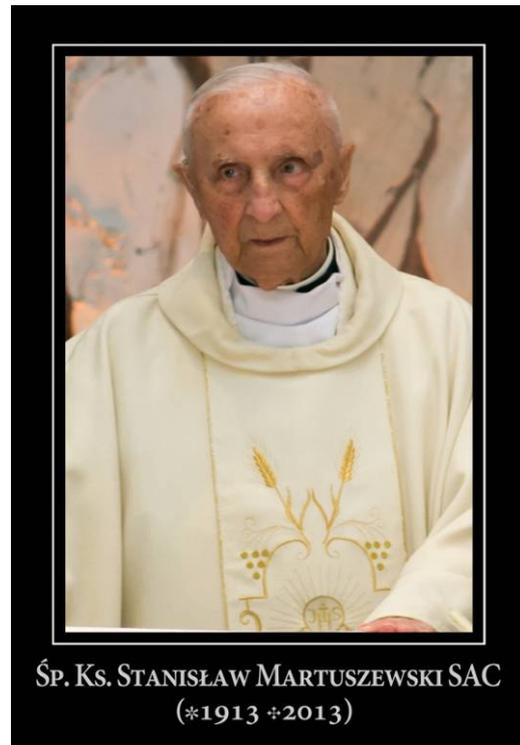
This page would not suffice just to name all the responsibilities he held and the places he worked. He was the Provincial Superior of the Polish Province, Rector of the seminary in Oltarzew, Parish Priest and rector of many houses of our province. Being a formator of the many Polish Pallottines he shaped and influenced the growth of the Pallottine presence in Poland. We cannot forget that, during his tenure as Provincial, Poland was under the regime of the Communists who were rebellious against the Catholic Church.

But leaving aside all the great things he did for the growth of our Society and that of the Church in Poland, I would like to highlight the source from which received his strength. Nobody was left with any doubt when they talked with Fr Stanislaw that he was a holy man, filled with the grace of God. Holy because he was mature and not self-centered. He never complained about the

pain or the misery of the times, about the world, about confreres, he always listened to others and prayed for them, never extravagant with his words. Fr Stanislaw was not afraid to say “I do not know, you have to wait, only God knows everything”. His humility was really a great lesson for us.

Fr Stanislaw continues to remain in our memories as a simple person. A person and not a character: a simple worker in the vineyard of the Lord, who saw himself as an unworthy servant. Today, as a Province, we thank God for his long life, a life full of service which became an example of fidelity to the charism of our founder, St Vincent Pallotti. His demise is like the final movement of a beautiful symphony, one we will hear for a long time.

An ordinary goodbye to an extraordinary Pallottine!



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06.01.14
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you commented...

- on #103** Thank you for the bulletin. It is appreciated. One thing that I noticed is that the email address listed is not correct. It should read fatherfrank@catholicapostolatecenter.org rather than fatherfrank@catholicapostolatecentre.org. Just something associated with the difference in our spelling of certain words.
- FD 19.01.14**
- Thanks...great to read Frank's reflections
- CS 19.01.14**
- The article by Father Frank is great
- LR 19.01.14**
- I enjoyed this bulletin, not only because our Sisters wrote an article but it reflects the internationality of who we are. Fr. Frank's reflection gave a great overview of what is happening in that area of Australia which he visited. Thanks.
- MR 21.01.14**
- thank you... for your help in bringing out this Article of ours...
- JD 21.01.14**