



Santo Subito!

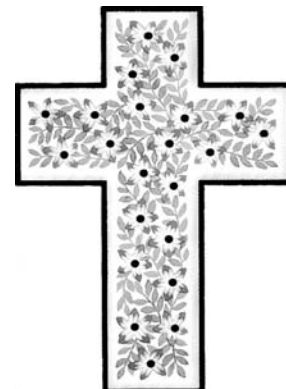
Sainthood at once! The chant heard at the funeral of Pope John Paul II is now coming to fruition. The first stage - the Beatification of John Paul II - will take place in Rome on May 1, 2011. Our Friends group will be represented in Rome by our president Cecilia Glembocki and our chaplain for the Arlington Diocese, Reverend Canon Philip S. Majka.

At the news that Pope Benedict XVI had signed the document for John Paul II's Beatification, the people of Poland as well as the rest of the world, were over-joyed. Masses of Thanksgiving were celebrated especially in the cities where Karol Wojtyla grew up, resided, studied and worked. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, Secretary to John Paul II, sent a message of thanks to Pope Benedict XVI for signing the Beatification documents .

The miracle needed - that a French nun, Marie Simon-Pierre was inexplicably cured of Parkinson's disease overnight and was confirmed by a medical commission after five years of documentation and investigation. The miracle was attributed to the intercession of the late Pope . It cleared the way for the Beatification ceremony which will take place in St. Peter's Square, Rome, on May 1, 2011, Divine Mercy Sunday.

The saintly man the world came to know was also the same private person in his daily life. Worldly goods and pursuits held no value for him. Prayer, concern for youth and all God's children were his primary interests. In his later years when he suffered greatly from the advanced stages of Parkinson's disease, he humbly bore his cross. He is a shining example of a man whose way of life is an inspiration. We pray Blessed John Paul II that we can follow your example and love and serve our Lord as you did.

*May the peace and joy
of the Risen Christ
be with you at Easter
and always*





From the President

Cecilia Glembocki

As we anxiously await the beatification, we wonder when our beloved Pope will become a saint. How long will it take? Since we don't know the year, the month, or the day, we must look into ourselves to remember what the Pope meant to us. How did he touch our lives, how do we remember him, was it because he was Polish, was it because he had a brilliant mind, was it his personality that drew so many hearts to him? Why did the young people attend his appearances in the thousands?

We must remember all of these circumstances for our future generations, to bring home the fact that a simple human being rose in history to be one of greatest human beings on the planet. How can we tell generations to come, how can we tell our grandchildren, our own children what a single human being can achieve?

He had a passion for life and for Jesus, a desire to serve Mary, and respect the human dignity of each soul he encountered.

We can preserve his memory by being an active partner with the Friends of the JPII Foundation in supporting our educational initiative of Promoting the Legacy through the film "The Nine Days That Changed the World." It is a poignant, modern marvel in the age of visual media. Young folks know and understand the twitters and blogs. They will come to seek his wisdom if we promote it. Mr. Vince Haley developed a comprehensive, brilliant study guide especially for this DVD. It is priceless and will become available to you. It can serve as a historical reference guide, a reflective view of WWII and how a Christian from Poland managed to draw people to himself through his faith, and how, as Pope, he was able change the world. Our beloved Pope will once again become a real man, a real person, who will draw thousands to his Beatification on May 1.

We can also support the education legacy project by collecting books and memorabilia of JPII and by contributing to the purchase of the 270 DVDs needed to fill each media center in the 270 Catholic schools in the three archdioceses of the greater Washington DC area.

Posters and booklets will be distributed for use by the teachers. All study guides will be developed for 7th and 8th grade classes as well as for high school classes.

It is our promise to John Paul II to promote his legacy. It is our calling to be sure that his life will never be forgotten.

This is a time to ask ourselves how can we promote his legacy. Donate a book? Donate a dollar or more? These are ways we can keep his memory alive through our work with the Catholic schools. The Friends of the John Paul Foundation looks upon the Educational Legacy Outreach program as our link to future generations....

We will use the DVD to encourage students to write about our beloved Pope, spread the word through social media, and bookmark a place in their hearts for this wonderful man who once upon a time walked among us and made Christ come alive for us. He will be our living saint for this generation.

Friend John Paul II? Late Pope gets Facebook

Move is Vatican's latest in its social-media transformation

BY NICOLE WINFIELD ASSOCIATED PRESS

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican will unveil the latest installment in its social-media transformation this week — a Facebook page dedicated to the upcoming Beatification of Pope John Paul II.

The site, which will link to video highlights of John Paul's 27-year papacy, is designed to promote the May 1 Beatification. But it may well continue beyond given the global and enduring interest in the late pontiff, Vatican officials said.

The Vatican's first attempt at an event-themed Facebook page — to promote Pope Benedict XVI's September trip to Britain-- is still active six months later and updated near-daily with 10,000 to 15,000 regular fans checking in, said Monsignor Paul Tighe, the No. 2 in the Vatican's social communications office.

The Vatican's overall social-media push culminates with a new Vatican information Web portal, expected to be launched at Easter, whose contents are specifically designed to be tweeted, posted and blogged. The portal will serve as a one-stop-shop aggregator of news from the Vatican's various information sources: Vatican Radio, Vatican Television, the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano, the Holy See's press office and Fides, the Vatican's missionary news agency, Tighe said.

The Vatican's current Web site — www.vatican.va — will remain because that's more of a stable site with basic information about the Holy See, key Vatican documents and offices, and papal activities.

FRIENDS OF JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

Washington, DC Chapter

2010 Year End Gift Giving Donations

The new site, rolled out first in English and Italian and then other languages, will be more news-based, bringing together onto one page the current disorganized Web presence of Vatican media.

“For us it will be a beginning of drawing on the riches of what we have, of our existing communications apparatus, and integrating that to ensure that its formally working with new media,” he said.

The Vatican’s communications and public relations woes are well known: muddled papal messages, flat-footed responses to crises such as the sex abuse scandal and a certain lack of Internet savvy that allowed, to cite one egregious case, for the pope to lift the excommunication of a Holocaust-denying bishop. (Benedict now says he never would have rehabilitated the bishop had he known his views about Jews, which were widely available with a Google search.)

That said, the Holy See has improved getting its message out online, with a dedicated YouTube channel and Twitter accounts, and its increasing presence on Facebook. Pope Benedict XVI has spoken out recently about how the church’s message can get out effectively and in entirely new ways using the interactivity of the social media.

“A lot of our communications in the past was: I have a message. I broadcast it. TV takes it, radio takes it, newspaper takes it, and people passively receive it,” Tighe said. “With the Internet you have this possibility of getting people’s comments, getting their responses, and also of hearing their questions.”

Benedict himself will take a step in that direction on April 22, Good Friday, when he responds to questions posed by the faithful that were submitted online. His prerecorded responses will air on Italian state television, and presumably then find their way onto YouTube.

We express our sincere appreciation and thanks for the generous donations to support the John Paul II Foundation in Rome, Italy from the following:

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Donations in Memoriam

In Memory of Adeline Zachariasiewicz

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In Memory Eleanor Knap
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Hon. & Mrs. Lucien N. Nedzi

In Memory of Janine Mannix
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Flanagan

In Memory of Capt. David Willingham
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Flanagan

Chaplains' Corner



**Reverend Canon
Philip S. Majka**
Chaplain: Diocese of Arlington

Karol Jozef Wojtyla born May 18, 1920, entered into eternal rest on April 2, 2005, the vigil of the Feast of Divine Mercy. Our beloved Holy Father

John Paul will become Blessed John Paul II on May 1, 2011. That's the Feast Day of Divine Mercy this year. Papa Wojtyla brought us into the new springtime of Christianity, the third millennium just eleven years ago. The buds of this springtime are starting to bloom! Do we comprehend and recognize what's happening in today's world? John Paul will be called Blessed by the Church in a few weeks, and for what.....

- He was Poor in Spirit....coming from the ranks
- He mourned for his family and friends, and sheep
- He was meek and humble of heart as Vicar of Christ
- He hungered and thirsted for righteousness in the world
- He was merciful by promulgating Christ's Divine Mercy
- He was clean of heart by fostering the culture of life
- He was the peacemaker at Assisi and at the Wall
- He identified with the persecuted for the sake of human rights

Let us rejoice and be glad for John Paul The Great

**Ks. Father Jan Fiedurek,
S.Ch.**
Chaplain:
Archdiocese of Washington



Dear Countrymen!

We are living through Lent along with the entire Church, which is a touching and full of gratefulness glorification of God's goodness, Who through the wounds of the Crucified Savior calls us to reform. A good experience of Lent, the Holy Paschal Triduum and the Octave of Easter will be, especially for us Poles, a time of preparation for the Beatification of the greatest Pole, John Paul II.

We will experience the important and happy event on May 1st this year. John Paul II led the universal Church and strengthened us in the Faith for over twenty six years. Through Beatification, the Church in the person of Pope Benedict XVI will acknowledge that the Servant of God John Paul II enjoys the praise of heaven: he stands before God, looks upon Him "face to face"(1Kor 13,12) and sees Him "as He is" (1J3,2); sees God, Who is love. The title of Blessed will serve him because on earth he imitated Christ in a heroic manner and served Him with his life.

Polish bishops, writing in their pastoral letters preparing for the Beatification wrote that "the Beatification of our countryman is also an assignment - demanding our reply". At the same time they encourage us to take advantage of Lent in order to examine our consciences. So that we may pose the question to ourselves, whether God is truly the center of our lives and are we living in communion with Him?

The Beatification of JohnPaul II obligates us Poles especially to greater attention and more creative reading of his legacy, contained in his words, person, style of living and service. May the directions which the Holy Father left us help in placing foremost challenges and may they inspire our personal lives, family and social. May Blessed John Paul II be our spiritual leader on the roads of earthly life.

I wish all my dear countrymen a deep experience of Lent and pray for your good Easter confession, so that no one will stand below the Lord's cross with an empty heart. So prepared, let us glorify God's mercy through the intercession of Blessed John Paul II.

Mark your calendars:

The Friends of John Paul II Foundatin will hold meetings on the following dates:

Sunday, May 22, 2011 Mass at 2:00pm commemorating the birth of Karol Wojtyla at Our Lady of Czestochowa Chapel at the Shrine of the Imaculate Conception

Saturday, June 11, 2011 at 10:00 am at Our lady Queen of Poland Parish Hall

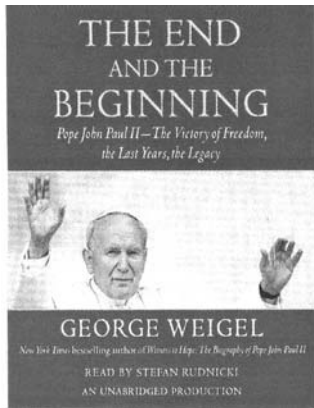
Saturday, September 10, 2011 at 10:00 am at Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish Hall

General Meeting , Saturday,November 12, 2011 (time and place TBA)

Book Review

The End and the Beginning

George Weigel



“As March gave way to April in the spring of 2005 and the world kept vigil outside the apostolic palace in Rome, the pontificate of Pope John Paul II, then drawing to a poignant end, was already being described as one of the most consequential in two millennia of Christian history.” With these words, world-renowned author and NBC Vatican analyst George Weigel begins his long-awaited sequel to the international bestseller *Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II*.

More than ten years in the making, this book tells the dramatic story of the Pope’s battle with communism in light of new and recently disclosed information and brings to a close Weigel’s landmark portrait of a man who not only left an indelible mark on the Catholic Church, but also changed the course of world history. When he was elected pope in the fall of 1978, few people had ever heard of the charismatic Karol Wojtyla.

But in a very short time he would ignite a revolution of conscience in his native Poland that would ultimately lead to the collapse of European communism and death of the Soviet Union. What even fewer people knew was that the KGB, the Polish Secret Police, and the East German Stasi had been waging a dangerous, decades-long war against Wojtyla and the Vatican itself. Weigel, with unprecedented access to many Soviet-era documents, chronicles John Paul’s struggle against the dark forces of communism.

Moreover, Weigel recounts the tumultuous last years of John Paul’s life as he dealt with a crippling illness as well as the “new world disorder” and revelations about corruption within the Catholic Church. Weigel’s thought-provoking biography of John Paul II concludes with a probing and passionate assessment of a man who lived his life as a witness to hope in service to the Christian ideals he embraced.

PROPOSAL to the Friends of the John Paul II Foundation

Promoting the Legacy of Pope John Paul II Through an Educational Outreach Program

Mission Statement:

Promote the legacy of John Paul II.

Objectives:

To make the Catholic Schools aware of our Foundation.

To provide educational materials i.e. books to the school libraries on behalf of the Foundation.

To supply each media center with a DVD of “Nine Days that Changed the World.”

To explore the possibility of promoting the DVD and or “Rediscovering God in America.”

To develop lesson plans according to the Sol’s.(Standards of Learning)

Implementation:

- Select three dioceses to work within the Washington DC metropolitan area.
Washington DC, Arlington, Baltimore.
- Contact Superintendents of Education in each dioceses.
Determine a date during which principles meet for their meeting prior to school in September.
Make a presentation concerning the need to promote Pope John II’s legacy.
- Determine the best use of the DVD- 9 Days... either through Media Centers or class room instruction time.
- Develop lesson plans for courses: social studies, history, geography and religious.
- Meet with Secretaries of Education to develop a program that would promote the legacy.
- Use the students at Catholic University to help develop a course of study/lesson plans.
- Hold a contest to promote the legacy. Award \$200 for first prize, \$ 100 for second and \$50.00 for third place. Contest can be an essay, bulletin board etc.
Teachers will be judge of the contest. Fund a breakfast or luncheon for the teacher’s work day while promoting the project. Donate for each meal event.

The above proposal was presented at the last general meeting by our President Cecilia Glembocki. The program is meant to carry out our mission of preserving the legacy of John Paul II. If any members have anything to add or would like to comment, please send a letter to the Editor: Mary Flanagan 1721 Forest Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3323.

In Memoriam

Adeline Zachariasiewicz

On Wednesday, February 16, 2011 after a long and debilitating illness, Adeline Zachariasiewicz departed from us after receiving the Last Rites. She was one of the most active and deserving people in our Polonian Community. She belonged to the Polish American Congress for many years, was active in the Polish American Arts Association of Washington, DC, also in the Kosciuszko Foundation in which she was, as a former debutant, the directress of debutantes at their annual ball. She chaired the charity ball of the Polish Kombatants and from its beginning served on the Board of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation in Washington, DC. She participated in the Foundation's conventions in Rome and all the important Polish/American gatherings and ceremonies locally.

She was a member of the Polish Parish of Our Lady Queen of Poland and Maksymilian Kolbe from its inception, which came about thanks to the intervention of the then Metropolitan of Krakow, Cardinal Wojtyla. She was a person of high ideals and great heart, always helping her fellow countrymen in need. While residing in New York for many years with her husband Walter, she was pro bono very engaged in the work of bringing political refugees from Europe. The doors were always open to those in need. Her last great experience was taking part in the 70th Anniversary of the outburst of WW2 Commemoration in Warsaw. Along with the widow of General Anders, she was on the Honorary Committee.

She leaves her deeply saddened husband Walter Zachariasiewicz with whom she shared a felicitous marriage for sixty-two years. She leaves a daughter Danuta, sons Robert and Jan, five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Adeline's brother died while serving in the U.S. Army during World War 2 at the invasion of France. Continuing the patriotic traditions of her parents, she was dedicated to the actions for Polish independence. The authorities of the Republic of Poland granted her the Order of merit for her accomplishments. She valued this award greatly.



Adeline's Funeral was very beautiful, full of solemnity and tributes; attending were many countrymen and friends, many from the Polish Embassy (Ambassador R. Kupiecki, P. Ehrenfeit, M. Pisarski), U.S. Diplomats (Len Baldyga), well-known writers (G. Weigel, J. Dougherty) and other personalities. At the farewell viewing at Gawler Funeral Home on Friday, February 25, there were over a dozen speakers.

The farewell speeches were begun by the Polish Ambassador to Austria Madame Irene Lipowicz, Advocate for Human Rights, who reminisced about the friendship and patriotism of Adeline. Letters of condolence were read from the U.S. Ambassador in Warsaw (J. Feinstein) and from the Church Hierarchy from the Vatican and the John Paul II foundation in Rome.

On Saturday, February 26, Mass held at 9:30 am was held to a packed church - Our Lady Queen of Poland in Silver Spring, Maryland. Following the Mass attendees proceeded to Doylestown, Pennsylvania to the cemetery of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Other mourners from Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and environs, as well as those from Washington, DC, Virginia and Maryland joined for the final ceremonies at 3 PM. Just at that time the clouds lifted and the sun shone as though it wished to honor Adeline with its warm sunny smile.

Marek Michalski

To All Our Members and Donors

We extend to you our gratitude and appreciation for your continued patronage and loyal support throughout the years. Our administrative needs are minimal, so we are able to send a very large percentage of the membership dues and all of the Year End Gift Giving donations to the Foundation in Rome, Italy. Because of your support, the Foundation is able to use a considerable amount of the funds for scholarships to sponsor poor and talented young people coming from Eastern and Central European countries to attend the Catholic University of John Paul II in Lublin, Poland.

The Holy Father Pope John Paul II said during meetings with benefactors of the Foundation in October 23, 2001 that "The most outstanding of all initiatives is the fund for scholarships for young people from Central and Eastern Europe and from other countries of the ex-Soviet Union. After completing their studies at various faculties of the Catholic University of Lublin and other Polish universities, many students return to their countries and have become promoters of science and culture solidly based on perennial values. This work is invaluable! Whosoever invests in the human person, in his overall development, never loses. The results of this investment are imperishable".

This year the Foundation established by Pope John Paul II himself will be celebrating its thirtieth anniversary in October. In addition to a group trip which is planned to attend the ceremonies the Board would like to make a donation of \$2,500. to have the name of our group "Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Washington DC area, placed on a commemorative plaque which will be unveiled at the ceremonies. Many of our members already have their individual names on one of the plaques in the John Paul II Home in Rome but this would be a listing of our entire group. Therefore, we ask everyone to consider an additional donation for that purpose.

A Memorial or Special Occasion Donation in remembrance of a family member or friend may be made to the Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Inc. This is a wonderful way to make a lasting gift that will perpetuate our great Pope John Paul II's legacy and his elevation to sainthood. The names with the donation are forwarded to the John Paul II Foundation in Rome, Italy and they are acknowledged by the Director. Please use the form below to send in a Memorial or Special Occasion Donation.



FRIENDS OF JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP 2011 - 2012

Yes, please count on me to support the John Paul II Foundation that was established by Pope John Paul II as a religious, educational, charitable and non-profit organization.

- \$10-Student
 \$25-Individual
 \$35-Couple
 \$100-Supporting
 \$2,500-Life Benefactor*

*name goes on plaque in the Home in Rome

All gifts including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, last wills and testaments are always welcome. The Friends of John Paul II Foundation is a 501(C-3) non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible.

\$ _____ Additional gift for Friends of John Paul II Foundation plaque in Rome.

\$ _____ Memorial or Special Occasion Donation for _____

Enclosed is my check made payable to:
Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Inc.

Please mail with this form to
Membership Chair, Gloria Klepczynski
1204 Whetstone Drive
Arnold, MD 21012

Visit our Web Site: www.jp2friends.org

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**Friends of
John Paul II Foundation, Inc.
Quarterly Newsletter**

9700 Rosensteel Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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our website: www.jp2friends.org

*The John Paul II Foundation
was established in Vatican City,
Italy, 1981 .*



Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

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