

THANKS FROM THE PASSIONIST SISTERS



“For Christ’s love compels us” / 2 Cor 5:14 /

Dear Compatriots, Beloved Children, Youth, Teachers and Friends.

On behalf of our Congregation’s community of Passionists Sisters in Peterborough, I am extending heartfelt thanks for all the goodness received throughout all of the 43 years of our mission!

Our motto: **“Christ’s love compels us”**, as well as the **passion charisma of our Founding Mother Józefa Hałacińska**, have been an inspiration and a source of spiritual power during our continuous service for our Polish brothers and sisters. We serve God, the Church and each and every person that crosses our path.

Our work for the community we shared with our priests, Franciscans and with the faithful, consisted of preparing the liturgical setting for all Polish Masses and liturgies such as May, Lenten or Rosary. We organized and helped to run the choir, the musicians and the readers and participated in countless meetings, trainings, seminars and practices. We took the initiative for the “Workers of the Crucified One” prayer group, started Bible Reflections, praying the Rosary in parishioners’ homes and simply praying more.

John Paul II Polish School founded in 1978 has been the core pillar supporting the Polish St. Hedwig Mission. Its students have participated in the Liturgy of Eucharist and other liturgies including the special commemorative ones. Annual events such as “Jasełka” – a Christmas play in which even adult family members took part traditionally, had a wholesome content encompassing three generations on the stage and in the audience. Students together with parents and teachers have been engaged in patriotic and church festivities. Quite often they extended outside the Polish community so that Canadians of all backgrounds could benefit from such activities. The School worked hand-in-hand with local organizations and also had work ties with Toronto, mainly with the Polish Teachers Association in Canada.

Currently apart from our household duties, we volunteer our time to Polish Canadians as three retirees after the passing of our beloved Sr. Bogdana on May 2, 2019. She taught us tirelessly to put patriotism and Polish language as well as putting faith and love of thy neighbour into action. Sister Gaudentia took over the leading role in promoting these beautiful values and we followed – each in her own way.

The time has come to say Goodbye or rather Godspeed! God bless you all from this day on! Parting is never easy from a human point of view, but we entrust this moment in history to Jesus, Mary and Saint Joseph. We trust that Faith, Hope and Love will accompany us in this daily pilgrimage to the Heavenly Motherland. We believe that the seeds planted in the hearts of the young ones and the older ones too will produce desired fruit.

Thank you for your kindness, all your help and showing that you care. We are deeply moved, particularly lately, with your cordial gestures of appreciation and true and visible sadness.

Beloved Compatriots,

May Merciful God generously bless each of You with health, joy and peace!

May Mary the Queen of Poland protect You from all evil!

May Saint Joseph support you with fatherly goodness!

You will be in our hearts and prayers...

God Bless!

Sr. Gaudentia Zwierzchowska, csp

Sr. Bogumiła Godlewska, csp

Sr. Dolores Pius, csp