Dedication and Blessing of OUR LADY OF THE BRIGHT MOUNT Polish R.C. Church, 3424 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 18, California. Sunday, December 9, 1956 at 10:30 A.M.

After the Solemn Dedication and Blessing services at which His Excellency the Most Reverend Timothy Manning, D.D., J.C.D., Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles officiated, a Solemn High Mass was offered by our Pastor, Father Stanislaw Jureko with the assistance of Father Boniface Slavik and Father Thaddeus Shubsda, deacon and subdeacon respectively. During the solemn High Mass, the sermon was delivered by Father John Huchra, S.J., of Chicago, Illinois. In his sermon, Father touched upon the various phases of the history of the parish concluding with his personal good wishes and calling down upon the parish the Blessings of Almighty God.

Just before the conclusion of the Mass, His Excellency the Most Reverend Bishop gave a brief talk on the history of the parish. He also mentioned the fact that there is a relationship between Catholic Poland and Ireland in that both countries maintained their religious beliefs and fought for their religious freedom. His Excellency concluded his remarks in Church by stating that in his estimation, our Church is the "Jewel box of the Archdiocese."

Immediately after the Mass, a banquet, prepared by the Ladies of the Altar and Rosary Society, was given in honor of the unusual solemnity of this day.

Present at the banquet were: Most Rev. Timothy Manning, many Monsignors, priests, the "good Sisters of Pomona," parishioners and friends — a total approximately 500 people.

The invocation for the banquet was offered by our Pastor, Father Jureko, who introduced Mr. Krol as Master of ceremonies for the program part of the banquet. Mr. Niemojowski was our first speaker. He in turn read a letter from President Zaleski of Poland in which the President expressed his happiness that the Polish People of Los Angeles had built this new Church in honor of Our Blessed Mother of Czestochowa. He expressed his best wishes and congratulations on this happy occasion praying that Our Blessed Mother would continue to care for us and for her church.

The next speaker, Mr. Zagorski described the battle of Catholicism and its efforts in fighting communism. He reviewed the history of the Poles and their deep devotion to Our Blessed
Mother of Czestochowa, mentioning a few skirmishes in which the Poles, with the intercession of Our Blessed Lady were victorious. He also touched upon the present government, its head Mr. Gomulka, and the recent release of Cardinal Wyszynski and religious freedom.

Mr. Krol, the Master of ceremonies, now spoke briefly asking the people for their prayers, a continuation of those 30 years of prayers which resulted in the new Church becoming a reality. He continued his remarks, dwelling upon the hard work and zeal of our beloved Pastor, Father Jureko; the cooperation of the parishioners, who donated unstintingly towards this cause; the blessings for us through Our Blessed Mother.

The Master of ceremonies now called upon our pastor, Father Stanislaw Jureko. A standing ovation was given him as he rose to speak. Father Jureko thanked his Ex-cellency, the Bishop, the Priests, the nuns and the faithful who gathered here to be witnesses of the solemn dedication and blessing of our New Church. Abruptly, Father began to speak in Polish, putting aside his prepared notes to speak from his heart as a father speaks to his children. In the manner, he expressed his sincere thanks to all those present, as well as those who were not present for their wonderful cooperation and persevering prayers. He then read telegrams of congratulations from His Holiness Pope Pius XII; Cardinal Wyszyński; Archbishop Gawlina and the Rector of the Cloister at Czenstochowa. (The texts of these telegrams can be found in full in the California News for January 1957.) Continuing his remarks, Father said that it took many years of prayer, hard work, hope, planning to make this moment possible. He referred to Fr. Bronisław Krzemiński as the originator of the parish, that it was he who instilled the initiative for a new Church — "some time in the future" —, that this "future moment" has now arrived. Thanks to the foresight of Father Krzemiński, though God did not allow him to see the fruits of his labor by calling him to his eternal reward, nevertheless, we the living will always be indebted to him, must honor him therefore and continue to pray for his soul. — Recalling to the mind of the people the remarks of the Most Reverend Bishop, Father continued by expressing his hope and prayer that with the help of God we will again regain freedom in Poland for our religion and our people. Thanks were tendered to Yates and Szeptycki, the architects of the Church; to the artist, Mr. Mrozowski and to the parish as a whole.

Father Slawik, called upon to speak, gave a dramatic reading of a poem by Poland's greatest poet, Adam Mickiewicz. It was well received by all present.

Mr. Krol next called upon Mr. Miller who gave the following speech in Polish: Your Excellency, Most Rev. Bishop; Reverend Pastor; Reverend Fathers; dear friends and guests: Much time has elapsed a generation in fact, when a handful of faithful Brothers and Sister in Los Angeles, with "the faith of our fathers present in their hearts: —GOD—Honor and Country—became the nucleus of LET'S BUILD A POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH. Today, the goal! PRAISE THE MASTER, we honestly believe that BLESSINGS have come from heaven upon this Polish Church in honor of Our Lady of the Bright Mount, within which we give service to the Glory of God, at whose altar we will beg FREEDOM FOR OUR FATHERLAND. PLEASE RETURN, O LORD!—As one of the men who worked from the very beginning on our Church Building Committee, permit me
the liberty of humbly the king His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop for his untiring efforts, for his fatherly support in bringing about the realization of our new Church. Sincere thanks to all who worked in various ways to bring this our goal to a reality. Particularly, our heartiest thanks to Rev. Father Jureko, who from the time of his appointment to our Parish did not stint time or sweat in order to bring about the present fulfillment: "The Word was made Flesh."

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is my belief that I convey the thoughts and convictions of all those present: Honor to His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop, beloved Father Jureko in saying: NIECH BEDZIE POCHWALONY JEZUS CHRYSTUS! — that is—LET JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED."

Mr. Krol expressed thanks to the St. Stanislaus Club which served the dinner prepared by the ladies of the Altar and Rosary Society. A drawing for a $200.00 prize offered by the "600 day club" was then held. Father Jureko drew number 495 which was held by Mrs. John Pasek, who rather than accept the prize turned the money over for the new Church. Father thanked her sincerely in the name of the Parish and himself.

Charles V. Babiarz, Acting Sec'y, Holy Name Society.