



Msgr. John S. Gorzynski

The First Hundred Years St. Adalbert Church 1883-1983,
Pittsburgh, PA, p. 20. CAP at Orchard Lake.

Father John Gorzynski was born in Koronowie, Poznan, Poland. The continuous persecution of Poles by various oppressors and his search for freedom and opportunity led him to emigrate to the United States in 1886. Responding to a religious call, he pursued classical studies at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pennsylvania; next, he studied philosophy at Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, Michigan. He returned to Latrobe to complete his courses in theology and was ordained there on April 23, 1893.

Before receiving his appointment as the permanent pastor of Saint Adalbert Church, Father Gorzynski served as an assistant pastor in a parish in Connellsville, Pennsylvania (1893-1895); assistant at Saint Ladislaus Church, Natrona, Pennsylvania (1895-1897); and pastor of Saint Mary Church in McKeesport (1897-1906).

In 1904, he was named a Diocesan Consultor, an office advantageous to all Polish clergy and parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Two years later, in October of 1906, the Most Reverend J. F. Regis Canevin, Bishop of Pittsburgh, named Reverend John S. Gorzynski permanent pastor of Saint Adalbert Church.

For six years, Father Gorzynski worked to expand and further the name of Saint Adalbert Church throughout the community. However, because of failing health, Father Gorzynski traveled to Europe in 1912. He returned after a few months in good health and worked with renewed energy, specifically over plans for a new school.

On January 17, 1915, His Holiness Pope Benedict XV elevated Father Gorzynski to the rank of Monsignor. He received this honor from the hands of Bishop Regis Canevin on March 25, 1915. Several years later, Monsignor Gorzynski was awarded a Doctor of Laws degree from Duquesne University.

Following Saint Adalbert's Golden Jubilee in 1933, Monsignor Gorzynski's health began to fail again. He died on October 27, 1935, and was mourned by all. According to his prescribed wishes, Monsignor Gorzynski was buried at Saint Mary's Cemetery, Lawrenceville.