

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-09
PROCLAMATION
New Britain Township, Board of Supervisors
Bucks County, Pennsylvania

In Honor of the 70th Anniversary of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in New Britain Township, Pennsylvania, the Board of Supervisors acknowledges the following:

Whereas in 1951, Father Michael Zembrzuski of the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit, arrived in Bucks County with a faithful copy of the Polish Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa, having been blessed by Pope Saint John XXIII; and,

Whereas in 1953, Father Michael was granted permission from the Holy See and Cardinal O'Hara of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to establish a monastery and shrine; and,

Whereas, on June 26th, 1955, the National Shrine's first pilgrimage was recorded from St. Laurentius Parish in Philadelphia, and, together with the Pauline Fathers, celebrated Mass in the small barn chapel, thus beginning their spiritual mission of serving the Polish and American communities of the United States; and,

Whereas, in 1960, the first parcel of the now 160-acre site at 654 Ferry Road, New Britain Township, was purchased by the Pauline Fathers and Brothers with the support of the faithful for the purposes of fulfilling that mission; and,

Whereas, in 1964 a groundbreaking ceremony, presided by Archbishop Cardinal Krol, took place on this property know as Beacon Hill, the historic point in Bucks County where revolutionary war scouts of General Washington lit fires to guide troops to the Battle of Monmouth; and,

Whereas on October 16, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson attended with numerous state and religious representatives, Archbishop John Krol solemnly dedicated the new Shrine in the honor of Our Lady of Czestochowa; and,

Whereas the Shrine has been visited by other United States presidents including George H.W. Bush and Ronald Reagan as well as Polish and international dignitaries throughout its 70-year existence in New Britain Township; and,

Whereas, known not only for its cultural presence, but also for its strong spirit of collaboration, the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa has generously opened its doors for community events including New Britain Township's Veterans Committee Bingo and hosting New Britain Township's Independence Day fireworks display for nearly two decades; and

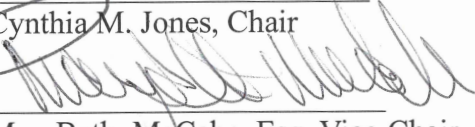
Whereas, through its continued willingness to share resources and work closely with local leaders, the Shrine has helped strengthen community ties;

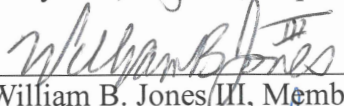
Now, therefore be it resolved, the 18th day of August 2025, the Board of Supervisors of New Britain Township proclaim a warm heartfelt congratulations to our good neighbors, the Fathers and Brothers of the Order of St. Paul the First Hermit and the thousands of pilgrims who visit the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa on this 70th Anniversary year.

Resolved this 18 day of August, 2025

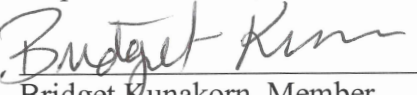
NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Cynthia M. Jones, Chair




MaryBeth, McCabe, Esq. Vice-Chair


William B. Jones III, Member


Stephanie Shortall, Member


Bridget Kunakorn, Member

Attest:

 
Dan Fox, Township Manager