

THE ORIGINAL DYNGUS DAY GUIDE

AM-POL EAGLE

Dyngus Day

GUIDE 2022



Get ready for Dyngus Day 2022

Dyngus Day in Buffalo 2022 will look more like it did in the pre-COVID days. The annual Dyngus Day Parade on Buffalo's East Side and festivities throughout the region are on tap for the Monday after Easter, April 18.

Eddy Dobosiewicz, president/coordinator of Dyngus Day Buffalo, said that following some "11th hour" adjustments and tweaking, planning for Dyngus Day yielded a full slate of activities including the return of the Pussy Willow Pass (\$15 instead of the usual \$10, although it covers admission into all participating Dyngus Day Buffalo locales, which the previous pass did not) with live music, dancing, authentic food and beverages and general revelry taking place at locations across WNY.

"I think lots of people are really looking forward to this year's Dyngus Day," Dobosiewicz said. "We're looking forward to some new venues having some really cool things going on."

He said Tops is one of the new sponsors of the event this year, with Pussy Willow Passes available for purchase at all Tops locations. Pass-

es can also be purchased at participating Dyngus Day Buffalo venues up to and including Dyngus Day. For a list of venues visit <https://www.dyngusday.com/>

Aside from Dyngus Day Buffalo locations, churches, bars and restaurants are again hosting their own Dyngus Day celebrations with live music, food and festivities. Some venues are not hosting events this year including St. Stanislaus Church and The Central Terminal on Buffalo's East Side.

The Parade route controversy

The parade and related festivities were canceled in 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 virus. Last year, a scaled-down parade was held in Buffalo with safety precautions implemented as part of state and Erie County COVID guidelines. About half of the typical parade go-ers were permitted, with roughly 15 blocks of the designated parade route capped at 200 spectators each. The number of marchers and floats in the parade was also cut in half, with social distancing measures enforced.

According to Dobosiewicz the parade this year is different in that

those marching will check in on Memorial Drive at Paderewski with the route heading west down Broadway from Memorial Drive to Fillmore Avenue. Three side streets will be closed off. Dobosiewicz told the *Am-Pol Eagle* these measures were taken to adhere to safety protocols while attempting to not disrupt neighborhood residents as the parade route is wider/more expansive. The parade will kick off at 5 p.m.

The change in the route has triggered a petition to Mayor Byron Brown and the Common Council led by the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle on Fillmore Ave. Aniela Baj-Thant said the group will file its petitions on March 31 with the Council and present letters from venues being impacted by the route shift. "We are asking for a reroute to take place and extend the parade route to Fillmore & Peckham," she said.

She added, "We wholeheartedly support the parade and the costs associated with a parade but a cultural parade should go through the entire historical Polonia District and maintain the route designated as Dyngus Day Way." Instead, she said it would showcase just the Matt Urban Center, Broadway Market, Jehrico Road properties and "buildings owned by the parade's organizer." It would not, she said, additionally showcase "improvements made along the Broadway Fillmore Corridor." (The recently designated Broadway Fillmore Historic District runs along Fillmore roughly from Sycamore to Paderewski and stretches a few blocks along Broadway.)

The petition states: "We object to the Dyngus Day Parade Route that is currently being promoted by Dyngus Day Buffalo. We think the Mayor of the City of Buffalo, Buffalo Common Council and Special Event Committee should further review the application to prevent venues (St. Stan's, Corpus Christi, CTCR and Adam Mickiewicz Library & Dramatic Circle) from being cut out of the parade route. These organizations are key stakeholders in Buffalo's Polonia District and should be included in any parade route."

Baj-Thant said she had no response from Dobosiewicz. "I did ask Eddy what it would cost for us to participate and he did not answer the question," she said. Emails from this newspaper to Dobosiewicz were not answered prior to the press deadline.

The petitioners are offering a remedy. The petition states: "A simple reroute of the parade will still wind up at the KMART Parking Lot, where Dyngus Day Buffalo is having their party and where the Broadway Market is charging to park cars in the Market lot."

"The parade route could begin in front of Buffalo's Iconic Central Terminal, down Peckham to pass by St. Stanislaus Church (the Mother Church of Polonia) and continue down Fillmore Ave heading North to see the improvements made to our organization and other properties since the last Dyngus Day Parade in 2019, and finally a right onto Broadway Ave to end at the Broadway Market and Kmart Parking Lot."

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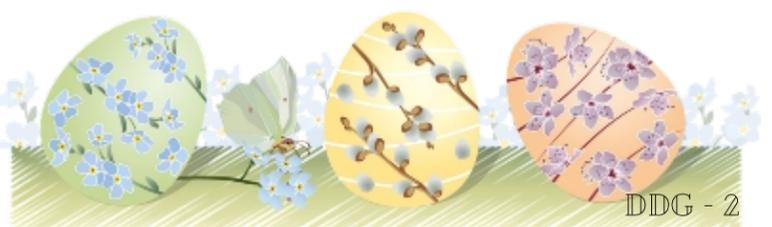
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David Matecki is North Tonawanda's Dyngus Day Parade Grand Marshal

The North Tonawanda Neighborhood Watch is excited to announce that this year's Dyngus Day parade will be led by Grand Marshal David Matecki. While discussing potential Grand Marshal candidates, the committee felt it was important to find an individual who truly encapsulates the spirit of Dyngus Day. After a great deal of deliberation, organizers said there was really only one person who fit the bill and his name is David Matecki.

The NT Neighborhood Watch's 2nd annual Dyngus Day Parade will be held on Monday, April 18 with the parade commencing at 5 p.m. An after-party with live music, food and drinks will be hosted by Sweeney Hose Fire Co. at Heritage Park.

Born July 26, 1937 at DeGraff Memorial Hospital, Matecki, affectionately known as "Bozo" is a life-long resident of the Lumber City. Growing up on 6th Ave., he and his six siblings were raised by his Polish-American parents and grandparents.

Family has always played an integral part in Matecki's life, and it certainly still does. Along with his wife Judy of almost 60 years, Bozo (as his many close friends call him) resides only a few blocks from his childhood home, has three children,



nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren with one more on the way.

Matecki attended Our Lady of Czestochowa Church (OLC) primary school until transferring to North Tonawanda High where he and close friend Edy Johns would go on to become sectional champions in men's doubles tennis. After 50 years of employment at Glidden Tools, Matecki is now happily retired and enjoys spending much of his time with family and friends, attending sporting events around the country with the Gratwick Athletic Club, and working part-time at Deerwood Golf Course.

If you're looking for this year's Grand Marshal and can't find him at home with family or hosing down carts at the golf course, you will likely find him at the Third Ward Social Club, one of the last remaining Polish American hangouts in the area.

Joining the club in 1955, only eight years after its establishment Matecki is currently one of the longest standing members and undoubtedly one of the most loved. The fact that he is so well-liked should come as no surprise, and can be corroborated by anyone that knows, or has met him even once and there are many.

With his friendly, loving, easy-going demeanor and ability to strike a conversation with anyone, parade organizers say that anywhere he's simply a hard person not to want to be around. When asked to give some insight on what life was like, growing up on the Avenues, Mate-

cki stated that life was good, and it was a simpler time. His family never owned a car as the bus went everywhere. They were able to do all their shopping on Oliver Street, as well as attend church at OLC and socialize at bars like Topolski's where they would frequently go to dance.

North Tonawanda Neighborhood Watch stated that one of the reasons for starting its Dyngus Day Celebration was to bring attention and life back to an area that holds immense cultural significance in the city. "We believe Bozo perfectly represents the history and culture of the community and are excited to have him leading this year's parade," they added.

Groups or organizations who wish to march in the parade can sign-up at NTwatch.or

Buffalo Standard Printing Corp. publisher of *Am-Pol Eagle*, New York's weekly Polish-American newspaper, is proud to present this year's version of the Original Dyngus Day Guide. The guide lists the premier events in the City of Buffalo and its suburbs so you can celebrate Easter Monday. Check them out! The *Am-Pol Eagle* hopes you have a fun and exciting Dyngus Day!



Want to learn more about Poland and Polish-American news, events, sports, food, politics, and history? Then subscribe to the *Am-Pol Eagle*. See our offer for new subscribers below. Save \$5 if you subscribe before April 30, 2022.

If you participate in Dyngus Day festivities be sure to visit us online at www.ampoleagle.com to see photos of this year's parade and events.

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Basic Polish Easter terms

by Robert Strybel

This alphabetical micro-lexicon can test your knowledge of our Polish Easter heritage, refresh your comprehension of the Polish language and perhaps help fill in the missing pieces.

Alleluja: This is the Polish spelling of Alleluia, a term which in Hebrew means "praise Jehovah." In Polish tradition it is closely associated with Easter, in fact it forms part of the traditional Easter greeting: "Wesołego Alleluja."

baba, babka: baba, tall, tapered, usually yeast-raised cake; a typical Easter treat.

baranek: Easter lamb; made of cake, butter, sugar, wood, fleece, plaster or plastic and placed in Easter basket and on the Easter table as the main centerpiece.

biały barszcz: tart, white Easter soup containing eggs, sausage, etc.. typical of eastern Poland; similar to żurek.

Boży Grób, Grób Pański: a tableau of Our Lord's Tomb (Holy Sepulcher), usually set up at one of the church's side altars, surrounded by flowers, ferns and candles and often watched over by rotating honor guards.

chrzan: horseradish, a pungent root symbolizing the bitter herbs of the Passover and the gall Jesus was given on the cross, is a typical condiment accompanying Easter foods.

ćwikła: beetroot & horseradish relish or salad, a typical Easter go-together with hard-cooked eggs, ham, sausage and other cold meats

Dyngus Day: Easter Monday celebration in Polonia, especially popular in Buffalo and South Bend, but also celebrated by PolAms in Chicago, Detroit, New York and elsewhere.

dzielenie się jajkiem: The sharing of wedges of blessed hard-cook eggs begins the family breakfast or brunch served after Easter morning Mass.

jajo, jajko: The Polish word for egg, at Eastertime a prominent ritual artifact and food symbolizing new life; just as a chick pecks its way out its egg-shell confinement, so too Jesus broke out of His entombment when He rose from the dead.

kielbasa: sausage, a typical Polish Easter treat; both the biała (fresh) and wędzona (smoked) varieties are served hot and cold, boiled and baked.

Lany Poniedziałek: Wet Easter Monday when śmigus-dyngus (see below) is practiced

mazurek: mazurka, flat Polish Easter cake with a variety of toppings, cut into squares for serving.

Niedziela Palmowa = Palm Sunday; the day "palmy" are blessed in church.

palma, palemka = several pussywillow twigs tied together with boxwood or cranberry leaves are the "palms" blessed in church on Palm Sunday; in the Kurpie (Białystok) area poles 10 to 30 feet long are decorated with evergreens, ribbons and crepe-paper flowers; also a colorful rod-shaped bouquet made from dried, often brightly dyed wildflowers, herbs, pussywillows and evergreens

pisanki = patterned Easter eggs made by applying designs with a special stylus or pin dipped in molten beeswax and then dyeing the eggs; to get multicolored eggs.

Popielec, Środa Popielcowa: Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, when the heads of the faithful are sprinkled with ashes to remind them to pray and do penance.

Rezurekja: Early morning Easter Mass that begins at daybreak with a procession which thrice encircles the church.

sernik: Many people love cheesecakes all year round, but they are an especially common treat on the Polish Easter table.

szynka - ham, a typical Easter treat; in Polish tradition nearly always served as a sliced, cold meat to be eaten with horseradish, ćwikła and bread.

śmigus-dyngus = Easter Monday custom of boys drenching girls with water

święcone: The hallowfare (Easter food), blessed in church on Holy Saturday and served on Easter morning to end the Lenten fast.

święconka: in Poland – the wicker basket in which Easter food is blessed or the food-blessing custom itself; in Polonia – also an Easter party (dinner-dance) usually held during the week after Easter.

Wesołego Alleluja: Happy Easter (traditional holiday greeting)

Wesołych Świąt (Wielkanocnych): Happy Easter (a more secular version)

Wielkanoc: Easter; literally: the Great Night; sometimes also known as **Wielka Niedziela** (Great Sunday)

Wielki Post: Lent (literally: the Great Fast), a 40-day period of fasting, prayer and penance in preparation for Easter

żur, żurek: tart rye-meal soup similar to biały barszcz, garnished with hard-cooked eggs and sliced kielbassa.

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What does "Dyngus Day" mean?

Fr. Czesław Krysa

Excerpt from "Święconka, The Blessed Easter Basket Traditions, and Dyngus Day Traditions."

What does "Dyngus Day" mean? There are several ancient traditions concerning this very difficult word. It is difficult because much of its root is lost in antiquity.

We call upon Glogers 19th Century Encyclopedia Staropolska for what we believe is the best rendition of the word. This old Polish dictionary ties the word, "Dyngus" with the Latin word "Dingnus." This is a medieval word going back to at least AD 1610.

Definitions include: "a ransom during war to protect against ravag-

ing; something of worth or deserving good things: to bargain, to haggle, dicker for a price; a bribe; trying to get something, barter for; compete for a prize, sue for a hand (courtship); bargaining before the courts of nature; hoping for harmony with nature."

A. "Dingen," German equivalent of "Wykupywac, umawiac sie,

szacowac" or to "buy back, ransom, redeem, come to an agreement upon, or evaluate."

B. Dingnus, dingnis: Latin equivalent of "wykupno w czasie wojny jako obrona od rabunku" or "ransom

during war, to protect against ravaging."

In all of the above definitions, a direct correlation is made by the church, between our condition before Holy Baptism and our condition after Baptism. God brings us into His protection in the war against evil.

Therefore, we see the Baptism of Prince Mieszko I in AD 966 as a classic victory in the struggle of good against evil. Baptism wipes away our confrontation with the darker side of self, as well as of evil in general; "buys back" our reconciliation with God. We are redeemed.

The connotations of the pagan rites of cleansing, purification, courtship, fertility, of the primitive cultures where our Faith originated were intertwined with basic biblical doctrines.



During the early days of Christianity, including the baptism of Prince Mieszko I and beyond, baptisms were performed exclusively during the Easter Season. Thus, Dyngus Day becomes a folk celebration uniting

pagan and Christian practices into one joyous moment, because the Church gave what were pagan rituals the transforming benediction of acceptance and respectability.

"Dyngus Day" remains a day of revelry, joy and celebration, commemorating well over 1000 years of Polish Catholicism in Poland and Polonia, (Polonia is the word which encompasses all Polish people living outside the homeland). It continues as a day of sprinkling, (Holy Baptism), and "Smigus day" (switching) reminding us of our Lord - "with His stripes are we healed," calling to mind the lashing which our Lord received when in the presence of Pontius Pilate. It is also associated with His driving out the "money changers", and thus purifying our worship.

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Where it all began on the East Side

The roots of current Dyngus Day celebrations in Buffalo can be traced back to the parties hosted by the Chopin Singing Society.

In 1974, the Chopin Singing Society published its 75th Anniversary Booklet. It states:

"The Chopin of today is a happy place. The special brand of gaiety, song and vivacity has perhaps been interpreted for Western New York best by its TV concerts and then by its 'Dyngus Day Party' held traditionally on Easter Monday.

"All of Buffalo, political leaders, business executives, and people from every walk of life stop by to enjoy Chopin hospitality and the biggest non-stop party of the year. Several thousand meals are served in

the course of the day to an unending stream of visitors who are welcomed by pretty Chopin hostesses. Since Chopin reintroduced this ages-old custom, 'Dyngus Day Parties' have multiplied throughout the city. The Society is pleased by the emulation of the custom and be- musedly accepts the competition of publicized "Irish" and "Italian" Dyngus Days.

Deborah Anders Silverman, in her book *Polish-American Folklore*, dates the Chopin Dyngus parties to 1962. The event was described as a "carefully crafted expression of Polish-American identity" as well as a chance for "in-group bonding" as well as an opportunity for outsiders to get a taste of another culture.

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DYBOWSKI
Authentic
POLISH MARKET

1325 Hudson Ave, Rochester, NY 14621

EASTER WEEK HOURS

Thursday	04/07/2022	10 am – 6 pm
Friday	04/08/2022	10 am – 6 pm
Saturday	04/09/2022	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday	04/10/2022	10 am – 2 pm
Monday	04/11/2022	10 am – 5 pm
Tuesday	04/12/2022	10 am – 5 pm
Wednesday	04/13/2022	9 am – 6 pm
Thursday	04/14/2022	9 am – 6 pm
Friday	04/15/2022	9 am – 6 pm
Saturday	04/16/2022	9 am – 2 pm
Sunday	04/17/2022	Closed

happy Easter

585-287-6107



Polish Easter Books
BY LAWRENCE G. KOZŁOWSKI **\$14⁷⁵ each**

Order any 3 books for \$30.00 (save \$14.25) free shipping!

"Celebrate Easter ... Polish Style"
33 pg. customs, traditions, recipes, egg decorating, palm weaving, and paper cutting.

"Drop-Pull & Pin-Tip Egg Patterns ... Slavic Style"
Over 300 full color egg decorating patterns and instructions. Includes Polish, Slovak, Ukrainian, Rusyn...

"Easter Eggs ... Polish Style" & "Two Hundred & One Egg Patterns ... Polish Style"
2-Book Set
Complete history and step-by-step instructions for eight decorating techniques and over 300 regional egg patterns.

(Postage & Handling Included)
L.G. Kozłowski, 525 Beatty Rd., Monroeville, PA 15146

MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE

Easter Season
AT THE HISTORIC BROADWAY MARKET

Continue the tradition...
Shop the Market for Easter!

The Easter Bunny will be at the Broadway Market April 2 - April 16. Check the Market's website for hours and a list of Entertainment.

BROADWAY MARKET HOLIDAY HOURS:

SATURDAY APRIL 2
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

SUNDAY APRIL 3
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

MONDAY, APRIL 4 - SATURDAY, APRIL 9
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 10
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

MONDAY, APRIL 11 - THURSDAY, APRIL 14
8:00 am - 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 15
6:00 am - 7:00 pm

HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 16
6:00 am - 5:00 pm

(THE MARKET IS CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY)

999 BROADWAY Buffalo, NY 14212 716.693.0705 broadwaymarket.org Like us on FACEBOOK [broadwaymarketbuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/broadwaymarketbuffalo)

SAVE THE DATE **POLISH HERITAGE DANCERS OF WNY**

THE BACKLOT
ENTERTAINMENT VENUE
11891 Main St Akron, NY 14001

\$10 GENERAL ADMISSION **\$20 VIP EXPERIENCE**

PROUDLY PRESENTS

BUFFALO'S POLKA FESTIVAL

SEPT 24TH STARTING AT 12PM

THE BUFFALO TOUCH **Captain Tom And The Hooligans** **THE CONCERTINA ALLSTARS** **HOCUS POLKAS**

VENDORS - FOOD TRUCKS - LIVE MUSIC - FREE PARKING - RAIN OR SHINE

Polish NOOK
RESTAURANT

COME CELEBRATE DYNGUS DAY WITH US!
Doors open at 2 PM

\$25 Includes Plated Meal
Live Polka Band in the Evening
Reservations and Prepayment Required
Call 716-282-6712

2242 Cudaback Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14303
Dine-in Hours: Wed-Thurs 4 -8 pm, Fri 3 - 9 pm & Sat 4 - 9 pm

Buffalo's Best Kielbasa Contest
Saturday, April 16, 2022
Check In 11 am, Event at Noon
Flying Bison Brewing Co.
840 Seneca St. Buffalo

Category/Categories:
Traditional Fresh
Holiday Fresh
Traditional Smoked
Holiday Smoked
Non-Traditional
(Fresh or Smoked)

ENTRY DEADLINE: April 8, 2022
Each entry also receives two admissions to the Pils, Pierogi & Polka event at Flying Bison at 1 pm that day.

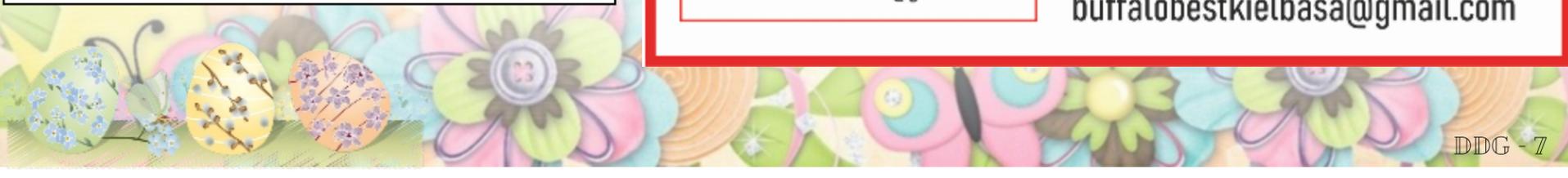
For application e-mail us at:
buffalobestkielbasa@gmail.com

Homemade (non-commercial) Entrants:

- Must supply 3 lbs of Kielbasa-Cooked and Ready to serve for judging.
- Facilities will NOT be available to cook on-site, but please bring a crockpot to re-warm kielbasa.
- 2 volunteers to prep and hand out samples to attendees.
- Prizes for each category

All Entrants Must be on premise at 11 am with product ready to go by 11:45 am

Any questions, call **Tod Kniazuk** at 716-912-8236 or buffalobestkielbasa@gmail.com



St. Leo the Great Parish
POLISH HERITAGE NIGHT
 Saturday, May 7, 2022
 Music by **Special Delivery**
 Tickets: At the Door: \$25 - In Advance: \$20 Adults
 \$10 Children (12 and under) / Children under 5, Free
BREADED PORKCHOP, SMOKED SAUSAGE,
POTATO PIEROGI, LAZY PIEROGI, GREEN BEANS,
RYE BREAD, DESSERT, COFFEE, TEA AND WATER
 CASH BAR (POP, BEER AND WINE)
Door Prizes and Basket Raffles
 Doors Open 5:00 and Dinner 6:00
 Tickets available in the parish office and
 on the website www.StLeotheGreatAmherst.com
 885 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst, NY 14226
 (716) 835-8905

HAPPY DYNGUS DAY FROM YOUR MPA FRIENDS!
 Enjoy the traditional Polish celebration!



MPA
 Midwest Polka Association

We're your Minnesota connection
join us for our monthly dance events when you're in the area.

**There's great music in Minnesota,
 Land of 10,000 Lakes, in 2022!**

Out of State Bands joining us in 2022 include:
LIVewire – April • DynaBrass – August
Cynor Classics – September
Polka Country Musicians – October
 Visit our website: www.midwestpolkaassociation.com
Also, find us on Facebook. . .

Direct from Poland!
 Breathe easier, feel better
 and live healthier
 With Salt Lamps!

Visit WNY's Salt Lamp
 headquarters for lab tested,
 quality salt lamps from Poland.
 Polish Salt Lamps purify the
 air and increase overall air
 quality. We also carry soaps,
 jojoba oil, magnetics, jewelry,
 deodorant stones and other
 healthy products.

**Polka CDs
 Available!**

**NEW SHIPMENT
 OF SALT LAMPS
 FROM POLAND
 Hurry In!**

10% OFF WITH THIS AD
 EXP. 6/7/22

**New: Beautiful painted
 Ukrainian Eggs - \$3 each**

Salt Lamps Etc.
 5274 Broadway
 Lancaster, NY 14086
 (716) 395-3379
 Hours: M/W/F & Sat: Noon-4 pm
 T/Th: Noon 6 pm
 Sunday closed



SAINT GABRIEL'S
Dyngus Day Party • April 18, 2022



New Direction



Concertina All Stars



Special Delivery



Tony's Polka Band

11:30 am Polka Mass with Father Walter Grabowski & **SPECIAL DELIVERY BAND**
 Continuous Music from 12:30 to 9:00 featuring
NEW DIRECTION BAND TILL 3:00 pm
CONCERTINA ALL STARS AND
TONY'S POLKA BAND FROM HAGAMAN, NY TILL 9:00 PM
 Admission \$10.00 (Children under 12 Free)

Food provided by the POLISH VILLA Restaurant 12:00 to 2:00 PM
POLISH PLATTER available in Parish Hall
 (2 Pierogi, Golabki, Fresh & Smoked Polish Sausage, Rye Bread & Butter,
 Sweet & Sour Cabbage) **\$15.50**
FREE Admission with Purchase of a Polish Platter 11:30 Till 2:00 PM
Polish Food ALA CARTE available from 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 St. Gabriel's Rectory 716-668-4017- Presented by the St. Gabriel's Holy Name Society
Dance the Night Away on our MORE THAN SPACIOUS DANCE FLOOR
5271 Clinton Street, Elma NY 14059 (1/4 mile East of Transit)

