



Stoczek is first of all the Sanctuary of the Mother of Peace and the place of imprisonment of the Servant of God Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński. However, the place is unique due to nature, a beautiful monastery garden in particular, peace and quiet asylum – perfect environment for contemplation on eternal values. The mission of the place is to propagate message of peace and reconciliation between nations, passing on Primate heritage. The Sanctuary is also a place of concerts, open air painting, retreats, days of contemplation, many people search here for consolation and relaxation from mundane noise and try to find the sense of life.



Custodians of The Sanctuary of the Mother of Peace

Congregation of Marian Fathers

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HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

in the Sanctuary of the Mother of Peace

SUNDAY AND CHURCH HOLIDAYS

Holy Mass in summer and winter: 9 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

WEEK DAYS

Holy Mass in summer (from 1st May till 30th September) 7.30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Holy Mass in winter (from 1st October till 30th April) 7.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

FATIMA HOLY MASS

From May till October (13th of every month): 7 p.m.

CENTRAL INDULGENCE CEREMONIES IN THE SANCTUARY OF THE MOTHER OF PEACE

On the last Sunday in August

THE HOUSE OF PILGRIMS IN THE SANCTUARY

We invite warmly the visitors during all year to the Sanctuary of The Mother of Peace in Stoczek Klasztorny. The monastery has 60 beds for organized groups, individual pilgrims, tourists and guests, with splendid meals prepared in the monastery kitchen. We also offer a great relax in a beautiful baroque monastery garden.



THE SANCTUARY OF THE MOTHER OF PEACE



STOCZEK KLASZTORNY



SANCTUARY OF THE MOTHER OF PEACE

Marian Sanctuary in Stoczek Klasztorny is situated in Warmian Archdiocese and its beginning gets back to the Middle Ages, probably the period of founding a hamlet Stoczek by Warmian bishop Herman from Prague in 1349.

The old tradition tells that one missionary hung a small figure of Madonna, which was 'as they said made of ivory' on a tall oak tree. That was an image of Our Lady of Sorrows with Her head bent down and signs of tears on Her beautiful face.

After many wars and pests, the forgotten image was found by two girls working with hay (about a half of 16th c). Parish priest from Kiwity informed about the event, went with the procession to the place of the find and carried the figure ceremoniously to the church.

During the times of Warmian bishop Stanisław Hozjusz, the parish priest from Kiwity, where Stoczek belonged to, built a chapel for the figure. In the times of Reformation the chapel was desecrated and the figure destroyed. Despite the fact, it was still the place of Marian cult.

Establishing the sanctuary (in present form) is related with Polish political situation in 17th century (wars with Russia, Turkey and Sweden) and exceptional Marian cult of bishop Mikołaj Szyszkowski (1633–1643). Seeing, how his diocese suffered from Protestant Swedish people and how fragile and unreliable the truce of the Polish Republic was, he promised to build in his diocese a temple devoted to The Mother of God, if desired peace came.

On 12th September 1635 in Sztumska Wieś, 26-year truce with the Swedish army was signed. Bishop Mikołaj Szyszkowski fulfilling his vow erected between 1639 – 1641 a round temple with a dome, similar to Roman basilicas, as a votive offering to The Queen of Peace. In 1640 he brought from Rome a copy of the painting showing The Mother of God „Salus Populi Romani”.

The fact that it was Stoczek which was designed for the seat of the Sanctuary was decided by miraculous healing of an ill son of the mayor of Lidzbark – Szymon Saphun.

During bishop Michał Radziejowski's office, the Picture famous for its miracles was covered with a silver dress, which was a votive offering for the victory of John Sobieski at Vienna battle. The temple was consecrated by bishop Andrzej Żałuski, on 16th July 1700.

Between 1708–1711 the church was extended and surrounded with four-winged cloister with corner chapels: St. Cajetan, Nepomucene, Valentine and the Holy Cross. The cloister vaults, covered with polychrome with the Old Testament scenes was made by Maciej Meyer from Lidzbark Warmiński in 1736. The Stations of the Cross were made by Tyrolean sculptor Krzysztof Perwanger (1742).

Custody of the Sanctuary was passed on the Franciscans from Barczew, for whom bishop Mikołaj Szyszkowski built a wooden monastery, which soon turned out to be too small and in 1666, commemorating 700 year anniversary of the Baptism of Poland, Warmian bishop Jan Wydźga erected a new, brick monastery. Thousands of pilgrims visited The Sanctuary every year and many miracles were noted, mainly healings from fatal and incurable diseases: epilepsy, blinding headaches, ear diseases, blindness and deafness, pests and recoveries from disabilities.

During the partition period, the temple in Stoczek experienced difficult times., e.g. about 15 years holy masses were not celebrated, the Sanctuary was closed (1826), but the pilgrimages still were continued.

The revival of the Sanctuary starts from 1841. In the second half of 19th c and the beginning of 20th c the monastery served as the retreat center, with such intensity that one more floor was added (about 1909). After WW II Stoczek and the whole Warmia returned to Poland.

Primate Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński was a great venerator and benefactor of the Mother of God and Stoczek. Interned by the communist authorities and imprisoned in desolated and cold monastery (1953-1954) on 8th December 1953 he declared the Act of Personal Consecration to the Mother of God, which he later expanded on the whole nation in form of Jasna Góra Vows. Here in Stoczek he had an idea of the Great Novena before the Millennium of Baptism of Poland. In 1977 he offered a primate votive offering – an amber rosary. The monastery has a 'memorial room' to honor Primate – his prison cell and his prison chapel, and the church has a bronze relief founded by Primate of Poland Cardinal Józef Glemp.

Custody of the Basilica in Stoczek since 1957 has been in the hands of The Congregation of Marian Fathers, who for many decades have been laboriously re-decorating the monastery and the church after destructions, robberies of war times. There has been a long process of preparing for the miraculous painting of the Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of Peace coronation, which ceremony took place in Jasna Góra by the Pope John Paul II on 19th June 1983. During the ceremony The Holy Father offered the Congregation a rosary and said: 'Plead for peace in the whole world'. Faithful in our vocation, we wish to fulfill our mission the best we can and we entrust all our efforts to the Mother of Peace.

