

The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni
Vol. 8 No. 2 November 2015

From the Guest Editor's Laptop

Reflections

It has been about a month and one-half since the mid-August gathering of Padua alumni and spouses in Watkins Glen. It was also the 60th anniversary of the graduation of the class of 1955. Ten of us graduated and four were at the reunion: Lenny Dmuchowski, Ed McDonnell, John Uss and myself, and our respective spouses. Ron Wroblewski who spent his freshman through junior years with us, was also present. Several members of our class could not attend for various reasons – distance and time (Alex Maksymowicz in Oregon, Richard Tulko in Wisconsin) and illness (Joe Kurina). We were not able to contact Eugene Szufel and Bob Amrozowicz. And unfortunately, Tom Trella died several years ago.

It was great to see each other again and to see fellow graduates of different years and their spouses. It was great to see and visit with Frank Czajkowski and John Pilch, from the classes of 1953 and 1954, respectively. Conversations at the reunion over the two days or so were alive with memories of our days at Padua. A constant theme was the quality of education, literally and figuratively, that we each received. Favorite subjects and teachers, as expected, varied considerably. Nevertheless, the bottom line was that we were well prepared to face our further education and/or career decisions. Thanks were also expressed for the many priests, brothers and others who made the four years at Padua possible for us, and also for the community of Watkins Glen. Padua was unique, and over the years, the school grew on the community and the community grew on the school! While walking around town with my wife, we were somewhat surprised when several local people we encountered noted the importance of Padua to the community and area. This was the first time that I heard this in my many visits to the area. As the history of Watkins Glen evolves, Padua and its alumni will hold a special place.



Class of '55 L to R
MaryAnn and Len
Dmuchowski, Eva
and Bob Malina,
Anne and John
Uss, Ron
Wroblewski.

Photo by Carol
LaSalle

Unfortunately, the fond memories of the reunion were clouded for the Padua family and specifically the Malina family shortly afterwards. Fellow Paduan (class of 1966) and my brother Tom unfortunately suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and succumbed within a week (7 September). Tom was ever present in organizing activities for the reunions and their success was due largely to his efforts.

Nevertheless, my wife Eva and I were fortunate to spend 10 days, including the reunion, with Tom and Barbara, Theresa and family, and our brother Ed (class of 1970), and part of the time at Tom's place with our sister Mary Ann and husband Lenny Dmuchowski. They were very happy moments, but all too brief, and are now memories for all of us. Nevertheless, we always will treasure these happy moments together. August of 2016 will soon be with us as the class of 1956 will celebrate its 60th anniversary and the class of 1966 will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Hopefully, we all will be able to get together once again for a weekend of camaraderie and memories of our time at Padua, and of course of memories of those who are no longer with us physically but who are always with us!

Robert M. Malina
Class of '55

Reunion 2016

There was some confusion on the dates for the 2016 Reunion. **Please Note** Reunion 2016 will be held **August 12th to the 14th**. The Class of '66 will be celebrating it's 50th and the Class of '56 will be celebrating it's 60th. Other milestone include the class of '61 celebrating their 55th.



Ed McDonnell and Bob Malina
photo by Eva Malina

Reunion Attendees

Class of '53: Frank Czajkowski & Grandson Frank
Class of '54: John Pilch and Isabella
Class of '55: Lenny & Mary Ann Dmuchowski, Bob & Eva Malina, John & Ann Uss, Ed & JoAnn McDonnell, Ron Wroblewski and Granddaughters.
Class of '56: Ed & Barbara Opiola, John Asiello & Laura Jean, Tom Kelly
Class of '57: Joe & Carmen Barstys
Class of '58: Fr. Joel Szydlowski OFM, Michael & June Uss
Class of '60: Ed Drozd and daughter Colleen, Thom Janidlo
Class of '62: John & Carol LaSalle, John & Joyce Mielnik, Walter Kurpiel
Class of '63: Mike & Vivian Asiello
Class of '66 Tom & Barbara Malina
Class of '67: Chris Franzese
Class of '68: Joe & Chris Biernat, Vincent Burcz
Class of '70: Ed Malina



group photo I to r

Front Row: John Mielnik '62, John Asiello '56, Bob Malina, Frank Czajkowski '53, Mike Uss '58, Joe Barstys '56. Middle Row: Mike Asiello '63, John Uss '55. Len Dmuckowski '55, Ed Opiola '56. Fr Joel Szydlowski OFM '58, John Pilch '54. Back Row: Tom Malina '66, Chris Franzese '67, Tom Kelley '56, Walter Kurpiel '62, Joe Biernat '68, John LaSalle '62, Ron Wroblewski '55. Photo by Carol LaSalle

Visit our home website paduaprep.com.

The site is rich in Padua History. In addition to a bulletin board, picture gallery and blog it has all the Siquaeris yearbooks and back issues of the Paduan. It is a great source to help you recall those memories of our days spent there. Webmaster Chad Orlowski '65 has updated the guestbook. Spamming was an issue and hopefully the reformatting will solve the spam problem.

We are also on Facebook:

[St Anthony Of Padua, Watkins Glen NY](#)

Obituaries

Class of '53

Condolences and prayers to Frank Czajkowski and family on the loss of his wife Cecilia June 20, 2015.

Class of '61

Condolences and prayers to George Uss and Family on the loss of his wife Joyce September 27, 2015.

Class of '62

Rev. Canon Joseph L. Sredzinski, 71, a retired priest of the Diocese of Greensburg, died unexpectedly in his sleep Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015, while visiting Krakow, Poland, with Padua Prep classmates John LaSalle and John Mielnik. He was a priest for 45 years. Father Sredzinski was born March 19, 1944, in Connellsville, to the late Louis and Josephine Ann (Kois) Sredzinski

As a child, he attended the former St. Joseph School and St. Anthony of Padua High School in Watkins Glen, N.Y. He earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Mich., and a master's of divinity from SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake.

He was ordained a priest by Bishop William G. Connare on May 9, 1970, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. Father Sredzinski also did graduate work at the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C., and the Pontifical North American College, Rome.

He served as a deacon with St. John Paul II at Orchard Lake, Mich., and also met with him at the Vatican. He was named an honorary canon of Lublin Cathedral in Lublin, Poland, by Archbishop Joseph M. Zycinski on July 23, 2007. Cardinal Adam J. Maida, the archbishop of Detroit, announced this honor in the U.S. during a ceremony at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, Washington, D.C.

"He was a priest forever," said his sister, Patricia Brensy. He loved his work and sharing it with people, and he also enjoyed traveling and experiencing new adventures, she said. "And he kept his ties, and he always knew where his roots were from," Brensy said. She noted that her brother was the first priestly vocation from St. Joseph Parish, Uniontown. "My parents were so very proud of him," she said. "He loved his mother and his dad, and the faith that they instilled in (Father Sredzinski) filled him with an everlasting love for his God," Brensy said.

Father Sredzinski served as associate pastor at St. Margaret Mary Parish and its former mission, St. John Bosco, Lower Burrell (1970-72); the former Holy Rosary Parish, Republic (1972-74); St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington (1974-79); and St. Peter Parish, Brownsville, and its former mission, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Newell (1979-84).

Father Sredzinski was pastor of the former St. Stanislaus Parish, Calumet (1984-89); St. Joseph Parish, Everson (1989-1999); and St. Hubert Parish, Point Marion (1999-2007). He also had pastoral responsibilities at Sacred Heart and Ascension parishes, both in Jeannette (2010-retirement.) Father Sredzinski served as chaplain at St. Emma Monastery and the State Correctional Institute (2007-10), and Westmoreland Manor (2007-retirement), all in Greensburg. In addition, he served as Deanery VIII representative to the Priests' Council. He had served as national chaplain to the Polish Falcons of America since 1981.

Father Sredzinski also served on the board of the Polish American Priests' Association and initiated a Polish Heritage Club in Uniontown where he served as chaplain. He spoke three additional languages: Polish, Italian and French. Brensy said Father Sredzinski enjoyed broadcasting his weekly WMBS (Uniontown) radio program, "That You May Believe," to more than 6,000 listeners over the Internet and local radio stations. Father Sredzinski retired from all pastoral and chaplain responsibilities July 1, 2015.

Father Lawrence L. Hoppe, a retired priest of the Diocese of Greensburg, was one of Father Sredzinski's closest friends. "He always dressed as a priest, and I admired that in him," Father Hoppe said, noting this reflected Father Sredzinski's great love for the priesthood. "He was always out to help others in whatever way he could," he said, whether it was helping immigrants or men recently released from prison. "And he loved all the sacraments and things relating to the Polish culture," adding that Father Sredzinski traveled to Poland nearly 20 times in his lifetime.



Father Sredzinski is survived by brothers, James (Patricia) Sredinski and Charles Sredinski, of Naples, Fla.; and sisters, Patricia (Michael) Brensy and Sister Jolenta Sredinski, Sisters of the Holy Spirit, Pittsburgh. In addition, he is survived by many nephews and cousins, two uncles, one niece, great-nephews and a great-niece.

Class of '66

Thomas Matthew Malina Age 66, of Montour Falls, NY, flew to our Lord's arms on Sept. 7, 2015 surrounded by his loving family. Tom was born in Williamsburg, Brooklyn March 8, 1949 and attended Our Lady of Consolation Elementary School in Brooklyn, then St. Anthony of Padua Minor Seminary and Preparatory School in Watkins Glen. He was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds, but chose to attend Ithaca College on a full athletic scholarship.

Tom entered the wholesale wine industry as a salesman and progressed steadily to become a regional manager for Banfi International overseeing eight states.

In 1992, he chose to stay close to his family and became the proprietor of Castel Grisch Estate Winery & Restaurant for over 20 years. As an active member of St. Mary's of the Lake he could be seen every Sunday in the front row holding a child. He also organized the Padua Alumni reunions. Tom's favorite activity was coaching baseball for Schuyler County Little League, and teaching and playing with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Barbara; daughters, Carrie (Rodney) Phelps of West Palm Beach, FL, Theresa (Dewayne) Butler of Watkins Glen; 8 brothers and sisters, Dr. Bruce (Diane) Malina of Omaha, NE, Dr. Joseph (Ida) Malina of Austin, TX, Dr. Robert (Eva) Malina of Bay City, TX; Mary Ann (Leonard) Dmuchowski, Eastnorth Port, NY; Christina Malina Scherer, Bay Side, NY, Barbara Malina (Scott Wachter) of Berkeley, CA, Edward (Elaine) Malina of Burdett, and Dr. Joanne Malina (Charles Thompson) of Montrose, NY; 7 grandchildren, Shana, Ryan, Kayly, Kelsey, and Kody Phelps, Daine and Malina Butler; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Tom was athletic, very intelligent and easy going. He always seemed to have a smile on his face. In our sophomore year I was competing with Frank Trestka '65 and Tom for catcher on the varsity baseball team. I realized then there was no way in hell I would ever pass Tom's skill level. Tom had a great bat and a laser throw to second base. In our senior year at one of the home games, scouts from 4 different major league teams scouted Tom. They all sat in their Lawn chairs on the hill, I think Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati were three of the four teams represented. I can't remember what Tom did at bat that game, but on at least two occasions Tom homered over the hill in left field and that measured 330 ft.

Tony Specian '66



Barbara and Tom Malina photo by Bob Malina

Things to do when visiting Watkins Glen

By [John Mielnik](#)

How far and how much will it cost to Drive to [Watkins Glen](#)?

Yes the [Glen](#) is still there and open.

Museums: [Corning Museum of Glass](#), [Glenn Curtiss Museum](#)

Cruises: [Captain Bill's Seneca cruises](#)

Shopping: [The Windmill](#), [Waterloo Premium Outlets](#),

[Finger Lakes Connection](#)

Places to Dine: [Montage at Glen Motor Inn](#), [Seneca Harbor Station](#)

Places to Stay: [Villager Motel](#), [Idlwilde Inn](#), [Glen Harbor Hotel](#), [Longhouse Lodge](#)

Contributors: John LaSalle '62, Bob Malina '55, John Mielnik '62, Chad Orłowski '65, Barbara Malina '66, Tony Specian '66

If you have any milestones, anniversaries, interesting hobby, new family additions, or travel you would like to share with your alumni friends please consider submitting an article or a short comment for class notes. Volunteers or contributors are always welcome. Please email me at: paduan5370@gmail.com

