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**PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION IN THE COLLECTION
OF THE WALENTY PATYKIEWICZ ARCHIVES
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CZĘSTOCHOWA
(CURRENT STATE OF RESEARCH AND PROSPECTS)**

Abstract

The article discusses the issue of the state of photographic documentation accumulated in the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa. It is held in two rooms (storeroom number 2 and research room number 2). In the first room, it forms a photograph collection (built up over many years and consisting of 536 albums and 4484 photographs), and in the second one, it is included in five record groups which are the archival legacy of deceased clergymen (15 albums and 1104 photographs, including 175 in a digital version). This documentation is arranged in two sections named: Non-Textual Material and Files of the Clergy, which are part of Department II containing documents and files produced by the institutions of the (archi)diocese of Częstochowa. As a result of the arrangement and inventory work, 881 items were separated and combined into specific groups and collections, for which appropriate inventories were produced. However, many photographs remain unidentified, therefore further stages of inventory work are delayed. Research conducted so far has revealed that all the photographic documentation has been well preserved and its content is of high historical value.

Keywords: the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa; photographic documentation; photography; photograph collection; inventory; archival holdings

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Writing years ago the *Introduction to the Catalogue of Photographs from the Archives of Mechanical Documentation and Other State Archives (Wstęp do Katalogu fotografii z Archiwum Dokumentacji Mechanicznej i innych archiwów państwowych)*, Jan Boniecki stated: “One of the most significant advantages of photography is the substitution of direct contact with reality by its pictorial reflection.”¹ After which he cited a distinctively interesting example:

In the biography of Maximilian Maria Kolbe by Jan Dobraczyński, a photographic portrait of the protagonist is included at the beginning of the work, with which the author begins his analysis of the figure: ‘A man in his prime (...) a high and broad forehead, a firm, deep gaze, a wrinkle between the eyebrows giving the face a somewhat stern expression (...) a large mouth, under a wreath of moustache seems to twitch slightly, as if to smile.’ So much concrete information is derived out of this one photograph!²

It is, indeed, derived, since a photograph is a document understood as “a record ... being a testimony of some fact(s) and phenomena of objective reality or manifestations of human thought,”³ and the entirety of such document is called photographic documentation. Just like file documentation, it is stored in archives. Among the archives boasting numerous photographic collections, the church archives are particularly noteworthy. An evident example is the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa named after Rev. Walenty Patykiewicz (hereinafter: AACz), organizationally separated within the structures of the Częstochowa Archdiocese and having the status of an autonomous scientific and cultural institution. The photographic documentation collected therein is of significant historical importance and includes all the photographs that are in the archival resource.⁴

In discussing the issue of handling photographic documentation in the said Archive, it is first necessary to show the place of this type of documentation in the entire archival resource, followed by a closer look at the process of formation of its collection, along with the organizing and inventory work undertaken on it, which will consequently make it possible, at the end, to make a brief characterization of the stored collection.

The place of photographic documentation in the archival resource

The Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa, which existed prior to 1992 under the name of the Diocesan Archives in Częstochowa, generally consists of an archival resource, including both textual and non-textual documentation, and an archival library, including a rich collection of incunabula, old prints, diocesan

¹ J. Boniecki, *Katalog fotografii z Archiwum Dokumentacji Mechanicznej i innych archiwów państwowych*, Warsaw-Łódź 1989, p. 6.

² Ibidem.

³ *Polski słownik archiwalny*, ed. W. Maciejewska, Warsaw 1976, p. 27.

⁴ J. Kapuściński, *Udostępnianie zasobu Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. W. Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, “Rocznik Wieluński”, 14 (2014) pp. 447–450.

catalogues, lexicographical works and periodicals.⁵ The arrangement of the archival resource has already been modified three times in the past, which took place under successive directors: the Rev. Walenty Patykiewicz Ph.D.,⁶ Rev. Jan Związek, Ph.D.,⁷ and Rev. Stefan Mizera, Ph.D.⁸ Owing to the activities of the last two directors (Rev. Władysław Właźlak, Ph.D. and Rev. Jacek Kapuściński, Ph.D.), this resource has not only been significantly expanded, but also inventoried to a large extent.⁹ Despite such long and extensive work, the process of identifying the entire archival resource had not been completed until early 2021. In this situation, after consultation with Maria Dębowska, Ph.D., an expert in the field of church archives in Poland, a new division of the archival resource was developed, corresponding to the current conditions in the Archives. The division took effect on 30 June 2021.

According to the diagram posted below, the archival resource is grouped in Sections I–IV. In Section I, archival materials are grouped into four segments. The first includes records produced by church chancelleries in the period before the creation of the Diocese of Częstochowa, i.e. before 1925. Since they represent the institutional and territorial heritage of this diocese, they have been consolidated into four segments under the names: Consistory books (11 groups: Consistory General of Kalisz, Consistory General of Kielce, Consistory General of Kraków, Consistory General of Łowicz, Consistory General of Włocławek, District Consistory of Pilica, District Consistory of Piotrków, District Consistory of Radomsko, District Consistory of Wieluń, Vicariate General of Wrocław, Commissioner of Siewierz), Deanery books (10 groups: Będzin Deanery, Brzeźnica Deanery, Częstochowa Deanery, Krzepice Deanery, Piotrków Deanery, Radomsko Deanery, Siewierz Deanery, Tuszyń Deanery, Wieluń Deanery, Wieruszów Deanery), Record Books (from 118 parishes) and Parish Books (from 100 parishes).¹⁰

⁵ Idem, *Naukowy wymiar Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. W. Patykiewicza w Częstochowie (Komunikat)*, “Wiadomości Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej”, 86 (2012) issue 2, pp. 99–100.

⁶ W. Patykiewicz, *Powstanie Archiwum Diecezjalnego w Częstochowie*, “Częstochowskie Wiadomości Diecezjalne”, 43 (1969) p. 94.

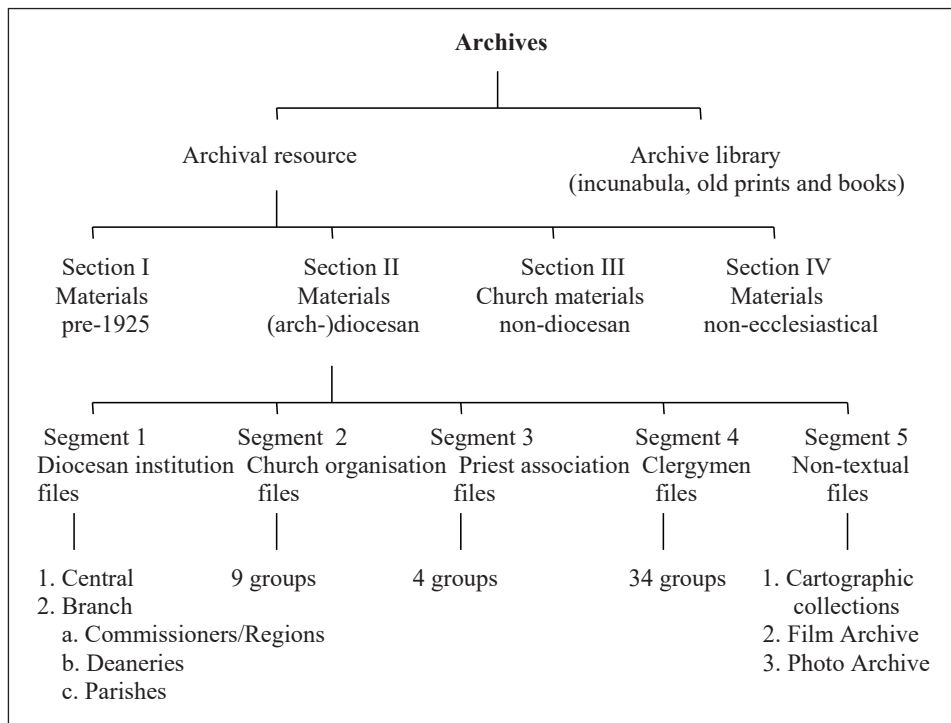
⁷ J. Związek, *Archiwum Diecezjalne w Częstochowie*, “Archiwa, Biblioteki i Muzea Kościelne”, 53 (1986) pp. 44–47.

⁸ *Archiwa Kościoła katolickiego w Polsce. Informator*, ed. M. Dębowska, Kielce 2002, pp. 28–29.

⁹ W.P. Właźlak, *Działalność Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie w latach 1992–2012*, “Wiadomości Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej”, 86 (2012) issue 1, pp. 179–182; Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa named after Rev. Walenty Patykiewicz in Częstochowa (hereinafter: AACz), Archives’ Registry, no ref., Reports on the activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa from 2012–2020.

¹⁰ J. Kapuściński, *Archiwum*, in: *Dla życia. Księga jubileuszowa z okazji XX-lecia istnienia Katolickiego Stowarzyszenia Lekarzy Polskich (1994–2014)*, ed. J. Kapuściński, Częstochowa 2014, pp. 53–54; J. Kapuściński, M. Terka, *Inwentarz ksiąg metrykalnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej w Częstochowie (część III)*, “Veritati et Caritati”, 11 (2018) pp. 457–458; W.P. Właźlak, *Inwentarz ksiąg parafialnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, “Rocznik Towarzystwa Genealogicznego Ziemi Częstochowskiej” (hereinafter: “RTGZCz”), 2 (2011) pp. 139–176; <http://www.aacz.czystochowa.pl/art.php?id=1477330253,1477330337&lang=pl> (accessed on: 20.06.2021).

Chart 1. Diagram of the Walenty Patykiewicz Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa as of 30 June 2021



Source: AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Diagram of the Walenty Patykiewicz Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa as of 30 June 2021, p. 1.

The last two segments also contain archival units belonging to Section II, where documents and records produced within the structures of the diocese and, since 1992, the archdiocese of Częstochowa are kept. This section, in addition to books from individual parishes, consists of five segments bearing the names: Diocesan institution files (central – 9 groups: Diocesan Curia, Major Seminary, Institute of Higher Religious Culture, Theological Institute, Licentiate Section, Bishop's Grammar School, Children's Home, Catholic Adoption and Care Centre and *Niedziela* Catholic Weekly; branch – 3 collections: Commissioners/Regions, Deaneries and Parishes), Church organisation files (9 groups: Circles of Polish Catholic Intelligentsia, 'Caritas' Charitable Union, Catholic Action, Eucharistic Crusade, Sodality of Our Lady, Association of Christian Workers, Association of Polish Exiles, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, and Confraternity of Polish Doctors and Catholic Doctors-Dentists at the Miraculous Chapel of Our Lady at Jasna Góra), Priest association files (4 groups: the Apostolic Union, Priests' Self-Help Association, Diocesan Circle of Priests Prefects and Priests' Scientific Seminary), Clergymen files (2 groups: Patykiewicz's and Kołodziejczyk's portfolios, and 32

groups of archival legacies of deceased priests), and Non-textual files (Cartographic collections, Film Archive and Photo Archive).¹¹

The third section includes four groups of files created by church institutions and organizations outside the area of the (Arch-)Diocese of Częstochowa (Polish Pastoral Centre in Giessen, Polish Pastoral Centre in Kaufbeuren, 4th World Youth Day and Catholic Association of Polish Physicians).¹²

The fourth section includes only archival materials that do not have ecclesiastical provenance. They are divided into four groups of files (Polish Educational Society, Polish Welfare Committee, Grygosiński's files and the 6th World Youth Day, produced by the office of the Provincial Organizing Committee) and a collection with the unfortunate name of Village and City Books.¹³

The vast majority of the archival resource is already inventoried (8041 archival units), microfilmed and digitized, resulting in developed inventories¹⁴ and catalogues.¹⁵ All archival materials in storage are equal to 354.5 linear metres, including Section I – 199.5 m, Section II – 130 m, Section III – 12 m and Section IV – 13 m. As can be seen from the description of the Archives' resource, photographic documentation, housed within the Photo Archive and archival legacies of deceased

¹¹ The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

¹² The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

¹³ The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

¹⁴ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref. Inventory of the archive group of the Catholic Association of Polish Physicians, Częstochowa 2014, pp. 1–64; W.P. Właźlak, *Inwentarz ksiąg metrykalnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 1 (2011) pp. 11–581; idem, *Inwentarz akt personalnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 2 (2011) pp. 11–42; idem, *Inwentarz ksiąg biskupich i kurialnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 2 (2011) pp. 43–70; idem, *Inwentarz ksiąg dziekańskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 2 (2011), pp. 71–110; idem, *Inwentarz ksiąg konsystorskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 2 (2011) pp. 111–138; idem, *Inwentarz ksiąg parafialnych*, pp. 139–176; idem, *Inwentarz ksiąg wójtowskich i miejskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 2 (2011) pp. 177–186; idem, *Inwentarz filmów Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 3 (2012) pp. 267–269; J. Kapuściński, *Stan badań nad Tekami Grygosińskiego w Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, in: *Blisko i daleko V. Sympozjum regionalistów – Praszka 2019*, eds. Z. Szczerbik, Z. Włodarczyk, D. Kasprzyk, Wieluń 2020, pp. 108–111.

¹⁵ W.P. Właźlak, *Katalog mikrofilmów najstarszych ksiąg metrykalnych z terenu diecezji częstochowskiej*, Kraków 2011; idem, *Katalog zdigitalizowanych ksiąg wójtowskich i miejskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 3 (2012) pp. 271–277; idem, *Katalog zdigitalizowanych ksiąg metrykalnych z terenu diecezji częstochowskiej (1581–1910)*, "RTGZCz", 4 (2012) pp. 9–299; idem, *Katalog zdigitalizowanych ksiąg dziekańskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 5 (2013) pp. 9–33; idem, *Katalog zdigitalizowanych ksiąg konsystorskich Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 5 (2013) pp. 35–60; idem, *Katalog zdigitalizowanych ksiąg parafialnych Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej im. ks. Walentego Patykiewicza w Częstochowie*, "RTGZCz", 5 (2013) pp. 61–73.

priests, is part of Section II, where it belongs within two segments: Non-textual files and Clergymen files. Digital photographs are stored on a hard drive located in the Archives' registry.¹⁶

The creation of photo archive

The first confirmed information in the scientific circulation about the photographic documentation stored in the Archives' collection dates back to 1969, cited in an article published at the time by Rev. Walenty Patykiewicz, Ph.D., the creator and first head of the Archives. While describing the structure of the archival resource, he detailed photographs, which, along with resumes, certificates, and letters, were part of a section called Personal Files.¹⁷ These included albums and collections of photos left after deceased priests, including those of Bishop Teodor Kubin (11 albums), Bishop Zdzisław Goliński (2 albums), Rev. Franciszek Gryglewicz (16 photos), Rev. Kazimierz Secomski (1 album and 66 photos) and Rev. Jan Placek (123 photos). The resulting small collection of photographs can be considered the nucleus of the current archival photo library.

Table 1. Acquisition of photographic documentation to the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa from 2012 to 2021

Date of acquisition	Creator/owner of photographic collection	Number	
		albums	photos
4 Sep 2014	Archbishop Stanisław Nowak (materials taken from the Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Częstochowa)	127	–
19 Jun 2015	Archbishop Stanisław Nowak	2	–
25 Apr 2018	Diocesan Curia – Commission for the Construction of New Churches and Renovation of Churches and Chapels (materials taken from the Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Częstochowa)	255	–
25 Apr 2018	Bishop Teodor Kubina (materials taken from the Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Częstochowa)	5	97
22 Jun 2018	Bishop Teodor Kubina (materials taken from the Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Częstochowa)		40
19 Dec 2018	Parish of Przyworów		4
15 Feb 2021	Rev. Marian Duda, Ph.D.		48
12 May 2021	Parish of Kamienica Polska		1
Total		389	190

Source: AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Reports on the activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa from 2012–2020; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., archival calendars from 2012–2021.

¹⁶ The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

¹⁷ W. Patykiewicz, *Powstanie Archiwum Diecezjalnego w Częstochowie*, p. 94.

Over time, more photographs began to arrive from the priests' private collections. They ended up there after their deaths, sometimes along with a legacy of files that the Archives took over. A sizeable number of albums were received on 4 February 1999, thanks to Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, who donated 80 copies from his library from the late Bishop Stefan Bareła.¹⁸ The state of the photographic documentation collected in this way was not captured in numbers until 2012, and was reported at the time in an article concerning the Archives' activities in the previous two decades. It mentioned the existence of a collection of photographs called Album Books, which at the time numbered 5.6 linear metres and included 151 units (138 albums and 13 boxes of photos).¹⁹ It should be added that there were many more photos in the archive resource, but they still remained partially unidentified. Since then, thanks to the preserved data from the Archives' Registry, it is possible to reconstruct with great precision the process of growth of photographic materials in subsequent years.

The data in the table shows that between 2012 and 2021, photographic documentation increased by 389 albums and 190 photos. These materials came from the collections of two living clergymen (Archbishop S. Nowak, Rev. M. Duda) and three archdiocesan institutions (Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Częstochowa, Parish of Kamienica Polska and Parish of Przyrów). At that time, while organizing the uninventoried part of the resource, the Archives' personnel found numerous photographic collections, which were then incorporated into the Photo Archive thus created.

Summarizing the quantitative state of photographic documentation, it should be said that in mid-2021 the Photo Archive, which forms a physically compact whole, included a total of 536 albums and 4484 photographs. It is housed in one storeroom, where it occupies 13 linear metres on the shelves.²⁰ In addition to the Photo Archive, the archives' resource includes photographs that are part of five archive groups (a total of 15 albums and 1104 photos, 175 of which are digital), housed in a segment titled Clergymen files. As an archival legacy of the deceased priests, they depict events in the lives and activities of the five priests: Zenon Mońka, Bronisław Preder, Grzegorz Ślężak, Stanisław Włodarczyk and Zygmunt Zaborski.²¹

Organizing and inventory work

No information has survived in the Archives' office ledgers about the first organizing works carried out on the collected photographic documentation, but it was undoubtedly done before 1969, as evidenced by the identification notes deposited on one box and two envelopes with photo collections taken over from the deceased priests J. Placek and K. Secomski. Particularly interesting is the note on the box that came from Rev. W. Patykiewicz, which would mean that this

¹⁸ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., List of albums by numbering from the period of pastoral activity of the 3rd Bishop of Częstochowa Stefan Bareła, Częstochowa 1999, pp. 1–10.

¹⁹ W.P. Właźlak, *Działalność Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej*, p. 180.

²⁰ The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

²¹ The organizational state of the archival resource as of 30 June 2021.

priest, before publishing his article on the establishment of the Archive, undertook organizing work in the photographic collection. By 1980, in addition to the aforementioned 3 archival units, he had at least managed to identify and describe 5 more units (Rev. J. Pluciński and Żabkowice, Rev. J. Pluciński, Rev. A. Jatowtt, [Parish] Wójcin, Photographs of the Mother of God in Sączów and priests), and create two collections under the names based on the stored materials under the titles: Photographs of priests of the Diocese of Częstochowa (57 units, including 76 photos) and Photographs of images of the Mother of God in the Diocese of Częstochowa (15 units, including 17 photos). In addition, he compiled an inventory of archival units for the latter collection.

All these achievements, however, became forgotten when, in 1994, the entire archives' resource was moved to rooms located in the building of the Higher Seminary of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa.²² Until 2012, this body of work remained in the unrecognised part of the archival resource, hence neither Rev. S. Mizera, Ph.D. (director of AACz in 1987–2002) nor Rev. W. Właźlak, Ph.D. (director in 2003–2012) were able to use it in the operations of the Archives. During the latter's reign, it was possible to merge photographic documentation under the name Album Books. In 2012, individual archival units were assigned a reference number (KA 1-151), and the collection thus created contained 151 units,²³ including 138 albums and 13 boxes of unordered photographs. While the classification of the photo albums here does not raise any objections, it seems problematic to treat the 13 boxes with photos as archival units of the resulting collection, since many of the boxes contained various documents, postcards and devotional pictures in addition to photographs. It was also impossible to compile a working inventory for the whole, so only the inventory of the first 80 units (Bishop S. Bareła's collection), which was compiled at the time of the transfer of the albums to the Archives, remained in circulation.²⁴

The next phase of organizing work was undertaken between 2012 and 2021. First of all, all photographs from the unrecognised part of the archival resource were gathered in one place, which also made it possible to find the aforementioned inventory work of Rev. Patykiewicz.²⁵ At the same time, the Album Books collection was renamed into the Photo Archive, while excluding 13 units (boxes of photos mixed with various other archival materials) and qualifying them for successive organizing. For the remaining 138 units, on the basis of the above-mentioned list of 80 albums from the collection of Bishop Bareła, an Inventory of archival units of the Photo Archive (albums) was compiled to make it easier to navigate

²² *Archiwa Kościoła katolickiego w Polsce. Informator*, p. 28.

²³ W.P. Właźlak, *Działalność Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej*, p. 180.

²⁴ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., List of albums by numbering from the period of pastoral activity of the 3rd Bishop of Częstochowa Stefan Bareła, pp. 1–10.

²⁵ J. Kapuściński, *Wieluń i okolice w Tekach Patykiewicza przechowywanych w Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej w Częstochowie*, in: *Blisko i daleko II. Symposium regionalistów – Praszka 2016*, eds. Z. Szczerbik, Z. Włodarczyk, Wieluń 2017, p. 122.

through the entire photographic documentation.²⁶ As a result of these works, several groups became visible in the organized part of the Photo Archive (including the Collection of photographs of Bishop Teodor Kubina, the Collection of photographs of Bishop Zdzisław Goliński, the Collection of photographs of Bishop Stefan Bareła, the Collection of photographs of Rev. Kazimierz Secomski, Collection of photographs of Rev. Alojzy Jatowtt, Collection of photographs of Rev. Augustyn Kańtoch, Collection of photographs of Rev. Stanisław Okamfer), which, as it were, outline the framework for the systematization of photographic documentation and the inventory of the Photo Archive to be developed in the future. In 2016, 8 units found in the archival collection (Album of the Catholic Univeristy of Lublin – 2 volumes, [Parish of] Wójcin, Bishop Stefan Bareła, Parish in Borowno, Penitential Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Częstochowa to Jasna Góra 25–26 IX 1964, Album donated to Rev. Augustyn Kańtoch on 28 May 1931, Calvary of Divine Mercy in Blanowice, School Building in Zawiercie in 1907–2007), and an inventory of archival units for the collection Photographs of Priests of the Częstochowa Diocese created by Rev. Patykiewicz.²⁷

In 2017, the staff managed only to collect framed photographs (54 photos) in one box. They have varying provenance, but are easy to determine due to the content and inscriptions.²⁸

After the acquisition of new photographic documentation in 2014–2018, two groups were created from it (Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, Collection of photographs of wayside shrines and crosses in the Diocese of Częstochowa from 1974–1976), after which they were incorporated into the Photo Archive. The first group, comprising 129 units, came entirely from the collection of Archbishop Nowak, accumulated between 1984 and 2012. The second, consisting of 255 units, was created on the initiative of the Commission for the Construction of New Churches and Renovation of Churches and Chapels, operating within the Diocesan Curia in Częstochowa, which recommended that an inventory of wayside shrines and crosses be carried out in all parishes in the diocese. The guides to these groups are two inventories of archival units, which were compiled in 2020.²⁹ It should be mentioned that the inventory of archival units of the Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak was compiled on the basis of the inventory taken over with the album collection, which already has working references (SSN 1–127).³⁰ It was also possible to merge and organize 18

²⁶ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Inventory of archival units of the Photo Archive (albums), Częstochowa 2015, pp. 1–15.

²⁷ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Inventory of archival units of the collection: Photographs of priests of the Częstochowa Diocese, Częstochowa 2015, pp. 1–3.

²⁸ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Archival calendar for 2017.

²⁹ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, Częstochowa 2020, pp. 1–8; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of wayside shrines and crosses in the Diocese of Częstochowa from 1974–1976, Częstochowa 2020, pp. 1–10.

³⁰ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Inventory of the contents of the albums in the guest room by numbering (numbered stickers), Częstochowa 2018, pp. 1–8.

units found in the unrecognized part of the archival resource. They include photographs that were certainly grouped in folders and envelopes before 1999, most of them already described. An index of these archival units, including working names, temporary signatures and the number of images, has been compiled for a more complete orientation throughout the Photo Archive. Over time, two more units were added to these 18, with working titles “Priests of the Przyrów parish” and “Polish and foreign clergy during church ceremonies.”³¹

The aforementioned group – the Collection of photographs of Bishop Teodor Kubina – should be expanded in the future with 5 albums and 137 photographs, which were added to the Archives’ resource in 2018, as they undeniably come from the collection of Bishop T. Kubina. Currently, they are assembled in one box (5 albums and 97 photos) and a folder (40 photos).³²

The organization of 13 boxes, previously classified as archival units and containing photos mixed with other archival materials, has recently begun.³³ After separating the photographs and identifying them, it was determined that 301 of the photos came from the collection of Rev. Augustyn Kańtoch, so they should be included in the aforementioned Collection of Photographs of Rev. Augustyn Kańtoch in the future. Further organizing works followed two directions; the first, a continuation of Rev. Patykiewicz’s intentions to expand the collection of photographs of priests in the Diocese of Częstochowa; and the second, classifying the photographs by of churches and parish buildings in the Diocese of Częstochowa. By mid-2021, the collection of photographs of priests had grown by 117 units (183 photos), and arranged by individual parishes, the collection of photographs of churches and parish buildings now contains 134 units (1,100 photos).³⁴

Finally, it remains to mention the photographic documentation, which is still waiting to be sorted out and inventoried. At present, it is stored in four boxes and has a total of 1,709 photographs.³⁵ Only by finalizing this work will it be possible to obtain a proper overview of all photographic documentation within the Photo Archive, necessary for its systematization according to archival standards. It will then be possible to give the photographs signatures, describe them and compile an archival inventory of the Photo Archive. At the moment, as the above findings show, the photographic documentation stored in the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa is actually at the stage of organizing work.

³¹ AACz, Archives’ Registry, no ref., List of archival units in the uninventoried part of the resource of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa (photographic documentation), Częstochowa 2020, p. 1. Cf. Table 1.

³² Cf. Table 1.

³³ AACz, Archives’ Registry, no ref., Report on the Activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa for 2019, p. 2; AACz, Archives’ Registry, no ref., Report on the Activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa for 2020, p. 2.

³⁴ AACz, Photo Archive, no ref., Collection of new photographs of priests of the diocese of Częstochowa (117 units); AACz, Photo Archive, no ref., Collection of photographs of churches and parish buildings in the diocese of Częstochowa (134 units).

³⁵ As of 30 June 2021.

Characteristics of photographic documentation

At the outset, it is worth noting that the photographic documentation is preserved in good condition, partly due to the poor insolation of the archival storage facilities. It consists of the Photo Archive (built from the collection of archive groups and the collection of archival units housed in storage room 2) and photographs belonging to five groups of files, which are the archival legacies of deceased clergymen (currently deposited in research room 2). In the latter case, the photos are stored together with the file documentation within a specific archive group; nevertheless, thanks to the fact that they are in albums, envelopes and on a hard drive, it is possible to determine their place in the collection without too much trouble. In the case of the Photo Archive, on the other hand, it is clear that albums are its, by far, the largest physical portion. The rest of the photographs are sorted into boxes, folders and envelopes. This section also includes framed photographs, usually portraits and group photos.³⁶

The arrangement of the Photo Archive's collection on the shelves makes the numerous albums, stacked side by side and bearing similar signatures, catch the eye first. In terms of size, the largest item is the two-volume Album of the Catholic University of Lublin (500 mm × 420 mm), and the smallest (140 mm × 100 mm) is the album from the Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, kept under provisional reference SNN 117. This latter is also the smallest in terms of volume (10 pages). Towering above it in volume is an album from the Collection of photographs of Bishop Teodor Kubina, with provisional reference KA 99, comprising 180 pages. In terms of provenance, albums from the Collection of photographs of wayside shrines and crosses in the Diocese of Częstochowa from 1974–1976 (255 copies), the Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak (128 copies), the Collection of photographs of Bishop Stefan Bareła (81 copies) and the Collection of photographs of Bishop Teodor Kubina (16 copies) dominate in terms of number.³⁷

While analyzing the dimensions of individual photographs, it should be noted that in terms of overall dimensions, the framed portrait photograph of Rev. Zygmunt Sędzimir is the largest (750 mm × 59 mm), while the identity photograph of Rev. Stanisław Kończyk (45 mm × 35 mm) is the smallest. The collection of individual photos also includes the oldest photographs, dating back to the end of the 19th century (Rev. Jan Placek's photo collection). The most recent digital photographs were probably taken around 2012. All told, in quantitative terms, the largest number of individual photos was collected by Rev. Kańtoch (301 photographs). Mostly they are situational photographs, including those from the periods of Second Republic, World War II and the People's Republic of Poland, taken with his camera. Interestingly, of the Częstochowa clergy in the interwar period,

³⁶ As of 30 June 2021.

³⁷ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of wayside shrines and crosses in the Diocese of Częstochowa from 1974–1976, pp. 1–10; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, pp. 1–10; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, pp. 1–8; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Inventory of archival units of the Photo Archive (albums), Częstochowa 2015, pp. 1–15.

Rev. Ludwik Gietyngier (since 1999 blessed) also had his own camera, but not many photographs have survived from his collection.³⁸

In terms of content, the collected photographs are of inestimable value, as they document important church events of the 20th and 21st centuries. on a world scale (the Second Vatican Council, celebrations of canonization and beatification, the 6th World Youth Day, the 11th World Youth Day, the synods of bishops, the peregrination of the statue of Our Lady of Nazareth), on a European scale (meetings of the Council of Conferences of European Bishops, the German episcopate at Jasna Góra), on a national scale (pilgrimages of Pope John Paul II to Poland, meetings of the Polish Bishops' Conference, celebrations of the Millennium of the Baptism of Poland, Sacrosong, activities of Catholic universities, Mariological and Marian congresses, the ministry of Primate Stefan Wyszyński, the ministry of Primate Józef Glemp, pilgrimages of priests – former prisoners of concentration camps during World War II, pilgrimages to Jasna Góra) and on a diocesan scale. In the latter case, they form a quite detailed chronicle of the history of the (Arch-)Diocese of Częstochowa, showing over the years its personal dimension (diocesan bishops, auxiliary bishops, deans, parish priests, vicars, the faithful), institutional (chapters, the Higher Seminary, Catholic schools, the “Święta Puszcza” Centre for Spirituality of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa, the “Betania” Charitable Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts, the Home for Single Mothers and Children), associational (Catholic Action, the “Emaus” Catholic Academic Union, the “Mamre” Family Covenant Community, Union of Catholic Laity, Catholic Association “Civitas Christiana”), pastoral (Confirmations, parish indulgences, celebrations of Corpus Christi, wafer meetings, retreats, pilgrimages abroad and to Jasna Góra, peregrination of a copy of the image of Our Lady of Jasna Góra, peregrination of the image of Merciful Jesus) and material (churches, chapels, statues and wayside crosses, parish buildings). Among the more important events in the life of the Church of Częstochowa, they also record the celebration of Eucharistic congresses, the 50th anniversary of the diocese, the proceedings of the First Synod of the Diocese of Częstochowa, the course of the millennium celebrations, episcopal and priestly ordinations, major ceremonies in the cathedral, coronations of images and statues, canonical visitations of parishes, consecrations of churches, dedication ceremonies of chapels, bells and monuments. Finally, it should be added that they also present content on religious (Pauline, Salesian, Congregation of Missionaries of the Precious Blood) and missionary themes.³⁹

The unusually wide panorama of content recorded in the photographic documentation makes it often used as illustrative material for scientific and popular

³⁸ J. Kapuściński, *Korespondencja ks. Ludwika Gietyngiera z lat 1928–1941. Przyczynek do biografii bł. ks. Ludwika Rocha Gietyngiera*, “Veritati et Caritati”, 11 (2018) pp. 123–124.

³⁹ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Inventory of archival units of the Photo Archive (albums), Częstochowa 2015, pp. 1–15; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., List of archival units in the un-inventoried part of the resource of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa (photographic documentation), Częstochowa 2020, p. 1; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of wayside shrines and crosses in the Diocese of Częstochowa from 1974–1976, pp. 1–10; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Collection of photographs of Archbishop Stanisław Nowak, pp. 1–8.

publications, especially on historical topics. In 2018, some photographs were loaned to a popular science exhibition entitled *Wielokulturowa Częstochowa w okresie dwudziestolecia międzywojennego* (Multicultural Częstochowa in the Interwar Period), organized by the Jan Długosz University of Humanities and Sciences in Częstochowa. At present, photographs are being completed for a virtual exhibition on the repressions of the communist authorities against the Polish clergy, which is being prepared by the the Museum of Cursed Soldiers and Political Prisoners of the Polish People's Republic in Warsaw.⁴⁰

Conclusion

This paper discusses the status of photographic documentation held at the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa. Its contents currently consist of 536 albums and 4484 photographs, which make up the Photo Archive (13 linear metres) built up over the years, as well as 15 albums and 1104 photos (175 of which are digital), integrally related to five groups of files, which are the archival legacies of deceased clergymen. In the archival resource, all of the photographic documentation falls into two segments, called Non-textual files and Clergymen files, which are part of Section II, which contains documents and records produced within the structures of the (Arch-)Diocese of Częstochowa. While the provenance of the photographs from the archival legacies of deceased clergymen is obvious, the ordering according to the archival principles of the Photo Archive poses many difficulties, as a result of the lack of identification of all the photographs. For this reason, organizing and inventory work in the last decade has focused exclusively on the Photo Archive. So far, 881 units were identified, consolidated into archival groups and collections, for which appropriate inventories have been drawn up. There are still 1,709 photographs awaiting identification, and only after this work is done will it be possible to proceed with systematization, inventory and development of the catalogue. Nevertheless, it can already be said at this stage of work that the photographic collection is preserved in good condition and has a high historical value in terms of content, as it documents important events in the life of the Catholic Church in the 20th and 21st centuries on a global, European, national and diocesan scale. As regards the latter, it provides a quite detailed chronicle of the history of the (Arch-)Diocese of Częstochowa, so it is not surprising that many of these photographs have already been used in academic and popular publications.

⁴⁰ AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Report on the Activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa for 2018, p. 3; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Report on the Activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa for 2019, p. 3; AACz, Archives' Registry, no ref., Report on the Activities of the Archives of the Archdiocese of Częstochowa for 2020, p. 3.

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**DOKUMENTACJA FOTOGRAFICZNA W ZASOBIE
ARCHIWUM ARCHIDIECEZJI CZĘSTOCHOWSKIEJ
IM. KS. WALENTEGO PATYKIEWICZA W CZĘSTOCHOWIE
(AKTUALNY STAN BADAŃ I PERSPEKTYWY)**

Streszczenie

W artykule omówiono problematykę stanu dokumentacji fotograficznej zgromadzonej w Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej. Przechowuje się ją w dwóch pomieszczeniach (magazyn nr 2 i pracownia naukowa nr 2), gdzie w pierwszym tworzy Fototekę (budowaną przez lata i obejmującą 536 albumów i 4484 zdjęcia), a w drugim wchodzi w skład pięciu zespołów akt, będących spuściznami archiwalnymi po zmarłych duchownych (15 albumów i 1104 zdjęcia, w tym 175 w wersji cyfrowej). W zasobie archiwalnym zajmuje ona miejsce w dwóch Segmentach, nazwanych: Dokumentacją pozaaktową i Aktami osób duchownych, które współtworzą Dział II, zawierający dokumenty i akta wytworzone w strukturach (archi)diecezji częstochowskiej. W wyniku przeprowadzonych do tej pory działań porządkowych i inwentaryzacyjnych udało się wydzielić 881 j.a. i scalić je w konkretne zespoły i kolekcje, do których sporządzono odpowiednie spisy. Wciąż wiele fotografii pozostaje jeszcze niezidentyfikowanych, dlatego opóźniają się dalsze etapy prac inwentaryzacyjnych. Na podstawie dotychczasowych badań można stwierdzić, że całość dokumentacji fotograficznej zachowana jest w dobrym stanie i pod względem zawartości treściowej ma dużą wartość historyczną.

Słowa kluczowe: Archiwum Archidiecezji Częstochowskiej; dokumentacja fotograficzna; fotografia; fototeka; inwentaryzacja; zasób archiwalny

Spuścizna fotograficzna ks. prof. Tadeusza Stycznia SDS w zasobie w Archiwum Instytutu Jana Pawła II – stan uporządkowania