



The Rosary Hour logo outside of the Rosary Hour Building is made of stainless steel created by Marian Owczarski of Orchard Lake, MI.

The Rosary Hour Friary and chapel were built between 1969 and 1970 by Fr. Cornelian Dende (1915-1996) the direct successor to Fr. Justin Figas, OFMConv. Fr. Justin established this Catholic radio program which became known as the Fr. Justin Rosary Hour in 1931 in Buffalo NY on WEBY with a network of telephone connections to Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Cleveland, Wilkes-Barre, New York City (1932), Hazelton, PA (1936, Boston, MA, New Bedford, MA, Waterbury, CT, Springfield, MA (1937) Lowell and Lawrence, MA, Philadelphia, PA (1938), Baltimore MD (1939), Fall River, MA, New Haven, CT, Toledo, OH, Milwaukee, WI, Ashtabula, OH (1940), Wisconsin Rapids, WI (1941), Montreal, Quebec, Canada (1964) Vancouver, BC (1972), Edmonton, AB, Winnipeg, MB, Sault Ste Marie, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Melfort, SASC, Canada (1980)...

The first radio programs were transmitted from the local stations in Buffalo, NY: WEBR and later WBNY. From 1937, the program was transmitted from our church of Corpus Christi in Buffalo. From 1945, the work of Fr. Justin Rosary Hour was carried out in the St. Francis High School Chapel in Athol Springs, NY.

The Rosary Hour funded the building of the faculty house of St. Francis High School in 1964-65. The architect was Antonio Genovese, who also designed the Rosary Hour Building, as well as the Vatican Pavilion in NYC for the World's Fair.

The Rosary Hour building was dedicated and blessed on September 25, 1970 by Fr. Edmund Szymkiewicz, Minister Provincial. The chapel and friary are dedicated to St. Anthony of Padua, because of his Franciscan way of spreading the Word of God. Attached to the chapel is the studio where the tapes are recorded and sent to radio stations.

The quadrangle and one of the workrooms in the Rosary Hour Center facility also serves as a friary in which the franciscans reside.





# ROSARY HOUR CHAPEL—DETAILS OF COPPER PLATES

Images of the Blessed virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. Francis and St. Anthony were designed and forged with a hammer on copper (tin) plate and designed by Polish professor Joseph Slawinski who did his doctoral dissertation at the University of Warsaw



East view of chapel showing two of the copper images



Tabernacle lamp designed by Joseph Slawinski





Upon entering the chapel one is greeted by a faithful reproduction of the miraculous *Cross of St. Damian* of Assissi which was executed by the American artist, Hal English. Centuries ago Christ spoke from that miraculous cross in Assisi to St. Francis when he was but a youth: „Go repair my house, which, you see is falling into ruin.” From the time of the Second Vatican Council, these words became the motto of the Rosary Hour whose programs lead to a true rebuilding of the Church through the conversion of Polonia’s hearts in the spirit of the Council Fathers.



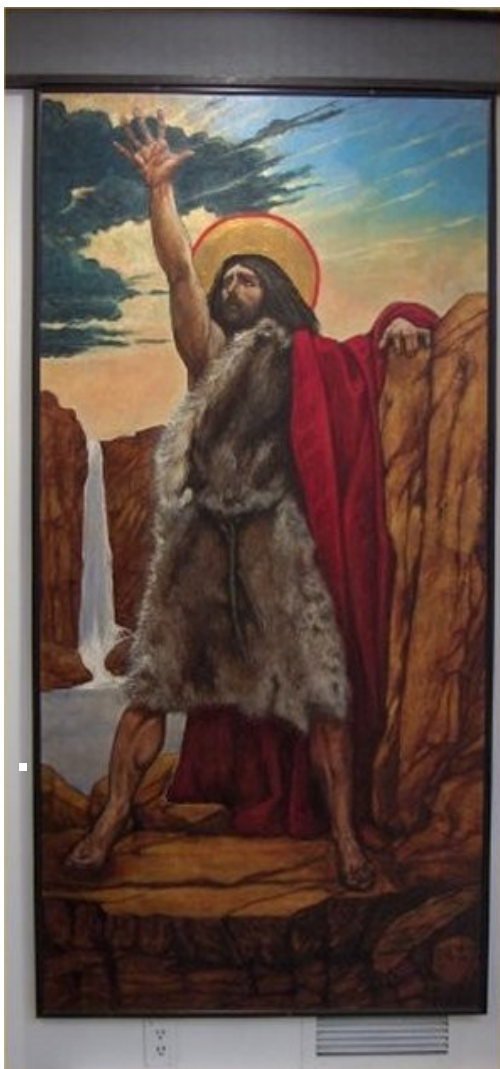
**LEFT:** Sacristy and Studio One from which broadcasts of the Father Justin Rosary Hour originate.

**RIGHT:** Studio Two with a view of the chapel. This room houses equipment which is used in preparing the broadcasts.





The chapel of the Rosary Hour Center house six large works of the world renowned Polish artist, Professor Jan Rosen. Rosen had decorated the Armenian Cathedral in Lwow, the Papal Chapel of Castel Gandolfo, and the Chapel in Kahlenberg near Vienna, commemorating the Viennese victory of the Polish King Jan III Sobieski in the mortal struggle with the Turks. In the United States, he decorated the National Sanctuary of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. and the cupola of St. Louis Cathedral in St. Louis, MO., which is the largest mosaic of Christ in the world. Rosen also designed countless stained glass windows, painted *genre* paintings, battle scenes and portraits. The chapel of the Rosary Hour Center houses six of his oil paintings on canvas.



**John the Baptist** is calling for conversion and penance, symbolizing the fearless courage with which the Holy Father proclaims the Word of God. This painting commemorates the visit of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, John Paul II, to the Rosary Hour Center.



**St. Francis, Patriarch of the Poor** is receiving the stigmata in a unique vertical version. The impression of the stigmata of passion occurred among the brown hills of Alvernia.



**Blessed Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom.** The crowned virgin sits on a throne and on her breast is a medallion of the Christ child, Jesus, who is the source of all wisdom. At the foot of our Lady is St. Francis of Assisi and St. Anthony of Padua, her two great venerators.





**Christ, King of the Universe.** The facial features are youthful, full of strength and his gaze is towards space and time. In his left hand above His head, Christ holds the terrestrial globe. He stretches out His other hand to the galaxy and the nebula in a formative gesture of creating the world.



**St. Bonaventure, Doctor of the Church** and celebrated Franciscan. He wears a cardinal's hat, but is clad in a franciscan habit. He leans on a lectern on which are stacked his theological and mystic treatises.



**The Conversion of Saint Paul.** This painting, as well as the painting of John the Baptist on the other side of the chapel commemorates Cardinal Wojtyla's (John Paul II) visit to the Rosary Hour Center.



Portraits of Fr. Justin Figas, originator of the Rosary Hour, Fr. Cornelian Dende, his immediate successor and Fr. Marion Tolczyk, third Director. These portraits were executed by local artist, English Hall.



Mementos of his visit with the Polish army in England, WWII.

A collection of personal items belonging to Fr. Hyacinth Fudzinski, including a bullet, a snuff box, a medal, a pen, and a Silver Cross.

Fr. Hyacinth Fudzinski's snuff box

A memento from his visit with the Polish Army in England, WWII

MEMBER

Fr. Justin's pen

Silver Cross given to Fr. Justin  
By Bishop Gawlina Bishop of Polish Armed Forces

