100 years ago, after 123 years of occupation, Poland reclaimed its rightful place as a free and independent member of the community of nations. On November 11, 1918 Polish leaders such as Józef Piłsudski, Roman Dmowski, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Wincenty Witos, Wojciech Korfanty and Ignacy Daszyński, of differing backgrounds and political opinions, united to lead Poland to freedom just as our namesake, General Casimir Pulaski, did in the War of American Independence.

The 81st Annual Pulaski Day Parade, the "Greatest Manifestation of Polish Pride in America," begins on Fifth Avenue at 12:30 pm on Sunday, October 7, 2018 and will be led by the Honorable Thomas J. Duch, Esq., the City Manager of Garfield, NJ and a prominent supporter of Polonia throughout his community and beyond.

Tonight, you will meet the contingent Marshals, their Miss Polonias and Junior Miss Polonias. Without the contingents, our Parade wouldn't be. And remember, this Banquet is merely an appetizer for our most important event, the Pulaski Day Parade.

Begin the morning of Parade Day with a solemn Celebration of the Liturgy at 9:00 am at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Our celebrant this year is His Excellency Auxiliary Bishop Witold Mrozewski of Brooklyn who is our 2018 Honorary Grand Marshal. Then join us at the Pulaski Parade Breakfast at the 3 West Club at 10:30 am.

Finally, display your pride in our noble heritage and celebrate the centennial of Poland's Independence by participating in the largest gathering of Polonia in America, the Pulaski Day Parade.

Niech żyje Polonia!