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(FRIEND OF THE KASHUBIAN PEOPLE)

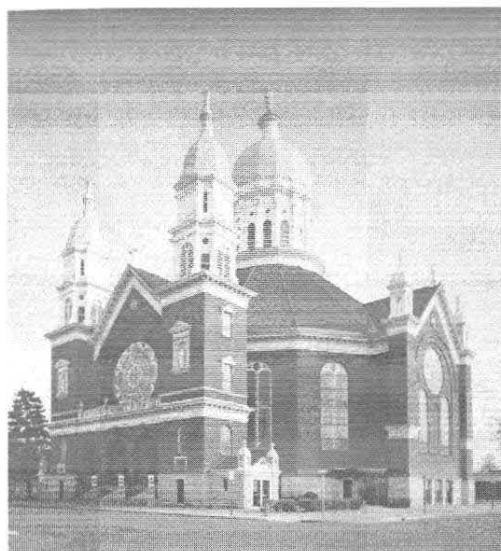
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BASILICA OF ST. STANISLAUS KOSTKA, WINONA, MINNESOTA

MINNESOTA NOW HAS TWO MINOR BASILICAS

By Ron Galewski

In 2010, 1588 Roman Catholic Churches bore the title of basilica. The first church in the United States to be recognized as a basilica is the Basilica of Saint Mary in Minneapolis, MN. On November 10, 2011, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in Winona, MN was named the 70th Basilica in the United States.

In 2010, Winona Diocese Bishop John M. Quinn, approved the beginning of a process to apply for basilica status. In May 2011, Bishop Quinn sent a petition to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, an office of the Vatican, asking that Saint Stanislaus Kostka Church, Winona, be raised to the status of "Minor Basilica."

This reply came from the Vatican.

"By virtue of the special faculties granted by the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI, the *Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments* bestows upon the parish church dedicated to God in honor of Saint Stanislaus Kostka in the City of Winona . . . the title and dignity of "Minor Basilica". The designation as a basilica emphasizes the special bond that the parish has with the Pope and with the whole Catholic Church".

This Decree was issued on November 10, 2011 and announced to the congregation on December 17, 2011.

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