Stanley and Catherine Kapelak

Compiled by Michael E. Byczek
7x-great-grandson

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Michael E. Byczek's 6x-great-grandparents were Adalbert (Wojciech) and Regina Kapelak. Records indicate that they were from the Bytoń Catholic Parish and were most likely married in the mid-1750s.

On the balance of probabilities, Adalbert Kapelak was the son of Stanley (Stanisław) and Catherine (Katarzyna) Kapelak from Stróżewo (Bytoń Parish). Catherine's maiden name is unknown. However, his parents were not identified in any known or verified document. Their surname was also spelled "Kapela" and other phonetic variations, such as "Kopela" and "Kapella". Regina's maiden name is unknown.

Church records from this period did not always contain useful genealogical information, such as surnames or identity of parents. The Kapelak surname is relatively rare in the entire parish. The best estimate for when Adalbert Kapelak was born is between 1731 and 1739. A baptism was found for Adalbert Kapelak who was born in 1737 in Stróżewo. This particular Adalbert was the son of Stanley and Catherine Kapelak. This is the only known baptism in the entire parish for a baby named Adalbert Kapelak during the range for his estimated birth. There were multiple babies named Adalbert who were born during that range without a surname listed in the baptism records.

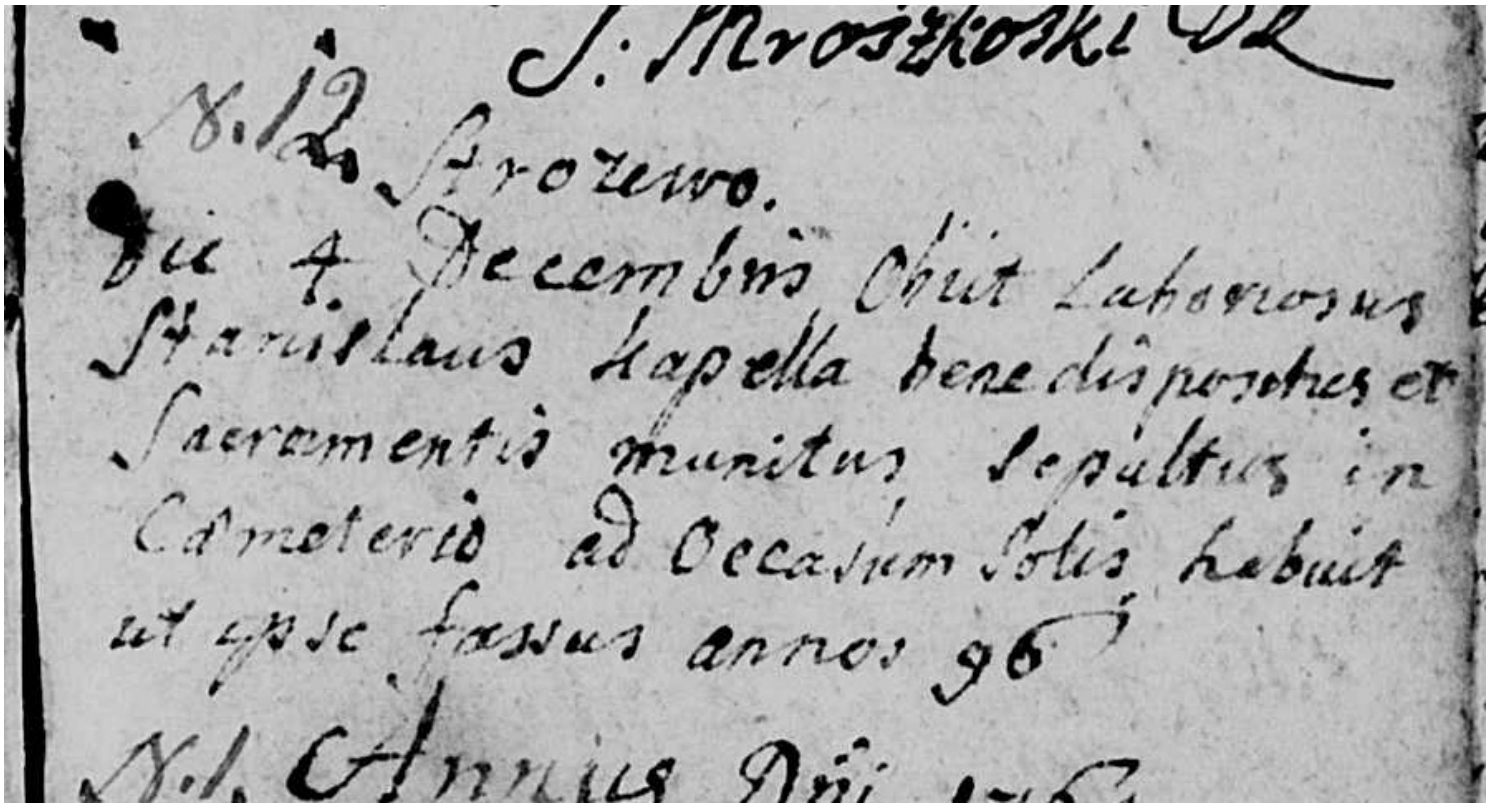
Stanley and Catherine Kapelak had seven known children, all born in Stróżewo. The earliest baptism records did not include surnames, but there appears to have only been one Stanley and Catherine family in Stróżewo during these years.

Child	**Birth**
Hedwig (Jadwiga)	1729
Joseph (Józef)	1733
Adalbert (Wojciech)	1737
John (Jan)	1739
Luke (Łukasz)	1741
Thomas (Tomasz)	1743
Peter (Piotr)	1746

Their son Adalbert Kapelak's wife was Regina. Her maiden name is unknown. They are Michael E. Byczek's 6x-great-grandparents.

Church records prior to Adalbert's baptism in 1737 did not include surnames. A series of records from Stróżewo suggests that Stanley may have been previously married to a woman named Regina. There are two baptism records in the 1720s for children of Stanley and Regina from Stróżewo followed by a couple of death records for a woman named Regina without a surname. It is unknown whether this was the same Stanley or if the Stanley whose wife was Regina had the Kapelak surname. Therefore, these records are strictly included as a possibility, not fact.

There is a death record for Stanley Kapelak who passed away in 1763 while living in Stróżewo. His age was listed as 96 with an estimated year of birth as 1667. There is also a death record for Catherine Kapelak in 1770, also from Stróżewo. Her age was listed as 69 with an estimated year of birth as 1701. These two death records are presumed to be those of Adalbert Kapelak's parents. This particular Stanley and Catherine appear to have been buried together, or at least in the exact same location as described in the records. This further implies that they were married. If their ages are correct, Stanley was 34 years older than Catherine. Even if the age of 96 was overestimated, it would appear that he was quite a bit older than his wife. This implies that he may have been previously married.



1763 death of Stanley Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

His age was listed as 96 with an estimated year of birth as 1667

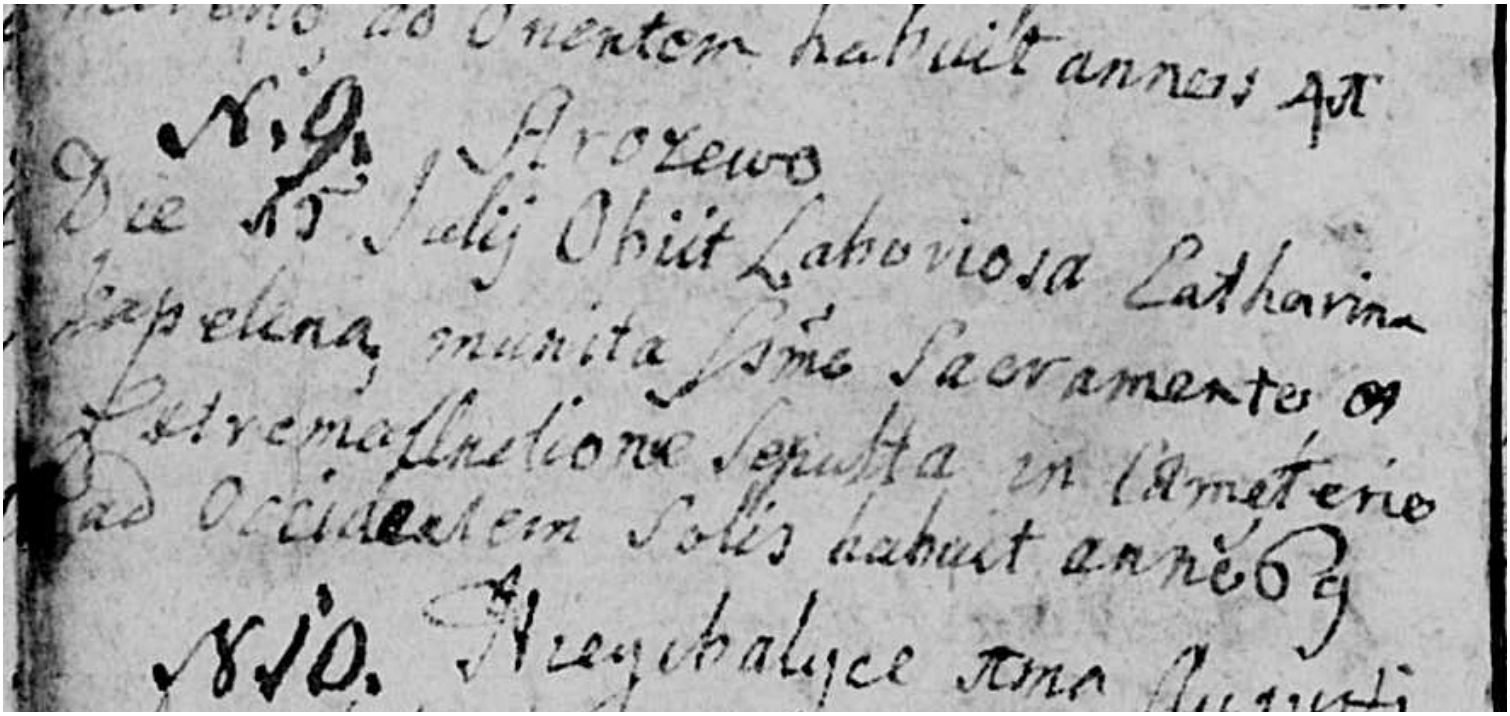
English Translation

No. 12. Stróżewo. [1763]

On the 4th day of December [1763], died the **laboring Stanisław Kapella**, well prepared and fortified with the Sacraments, buried in the cemetery toward the setting sun [west]; he was, **as he himself stated** (*ut ipse fassus*), **96 years old.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)

According to this translation, the age of 96 originated from Stanley Kapelak himself.



1770 death of Catherine Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

Her age was listed as 69 with an estimated year of birth as 1701

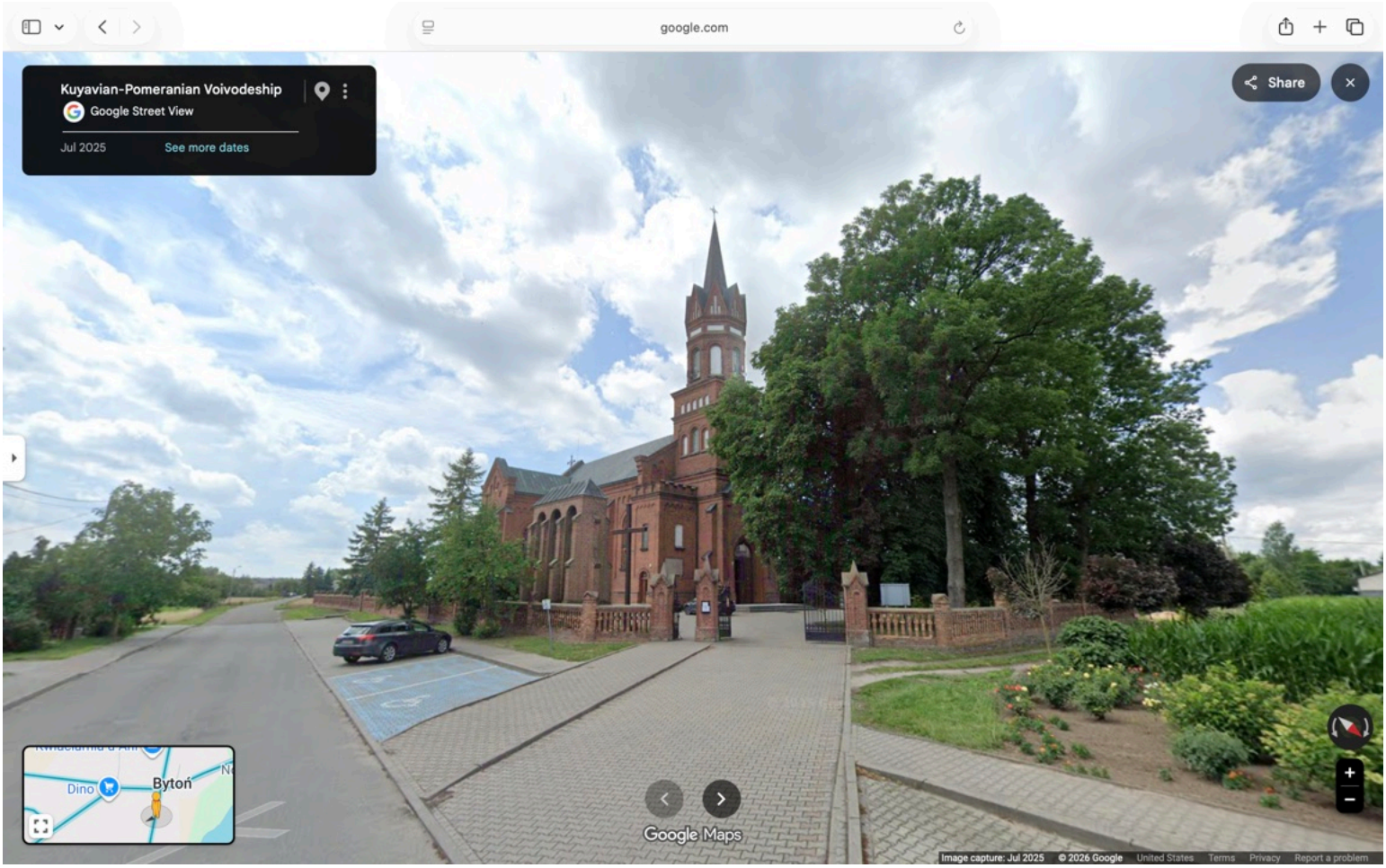
English Translation

No. 9. Stróżewo [1770] 29 copy.jpg

On the 15th day of July [1770], died the **laboring Katarzyna Kapelina**, fortified with the Most Holy Sacrament and Extreme Unction, buried in the cemetery toward the setting sun [west]; she was **69 years old.** 29 copy.jpg

AI translation (Google Gemini)

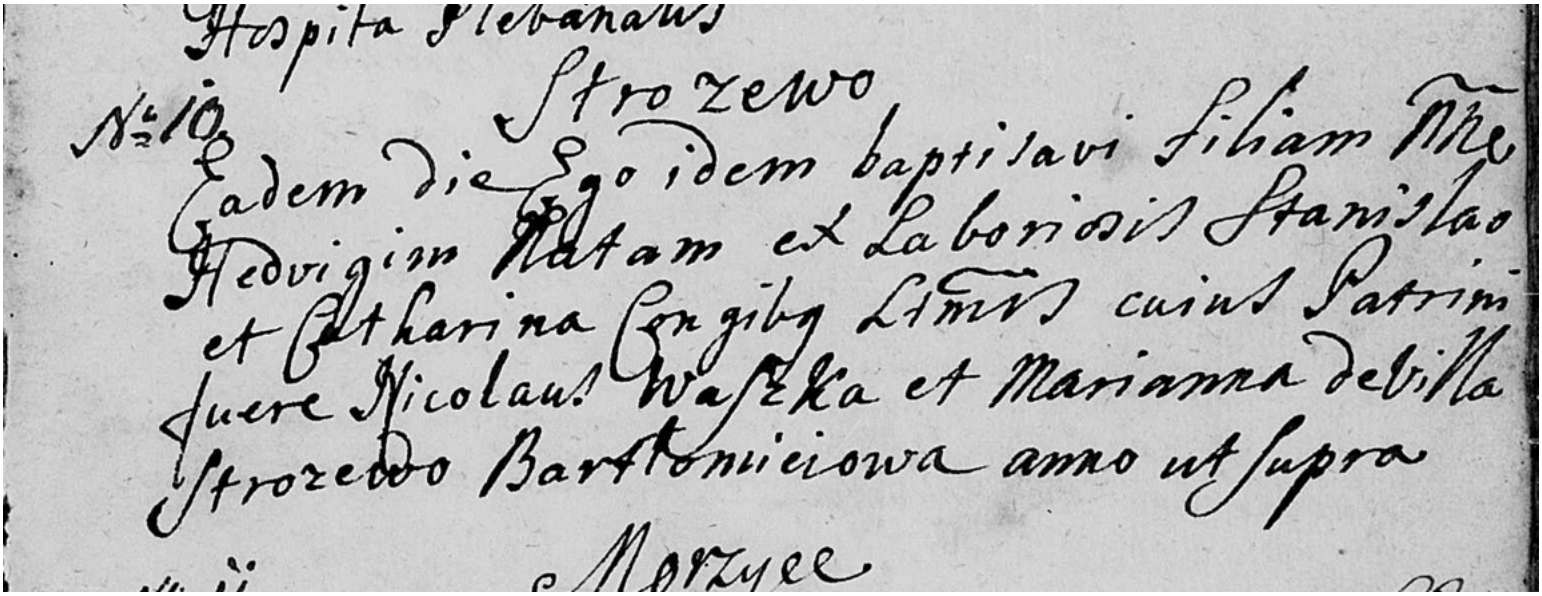
According to this translation, both Stanley and Catherine were buried in the exact same location (“toward the setting sun”)



Present-day Catholic Church in Bytoń
Source: Google Maps (Street View)

Children of Stanley and Catherine Kapelak

Representative documents are shown below.


Hospita Plebanalis
Strozewo
№ 10
Eadem die Ego idem baptizavi filiam Me
Hedvigim Natam ex Laborioso Stanislao
et Catharina Conjugibus Limvs cuius Patrini
fuere Nicolaus Waszka et Marianna de villa
Strozewo Bartłomiejowa anno ut supra
Morzyce

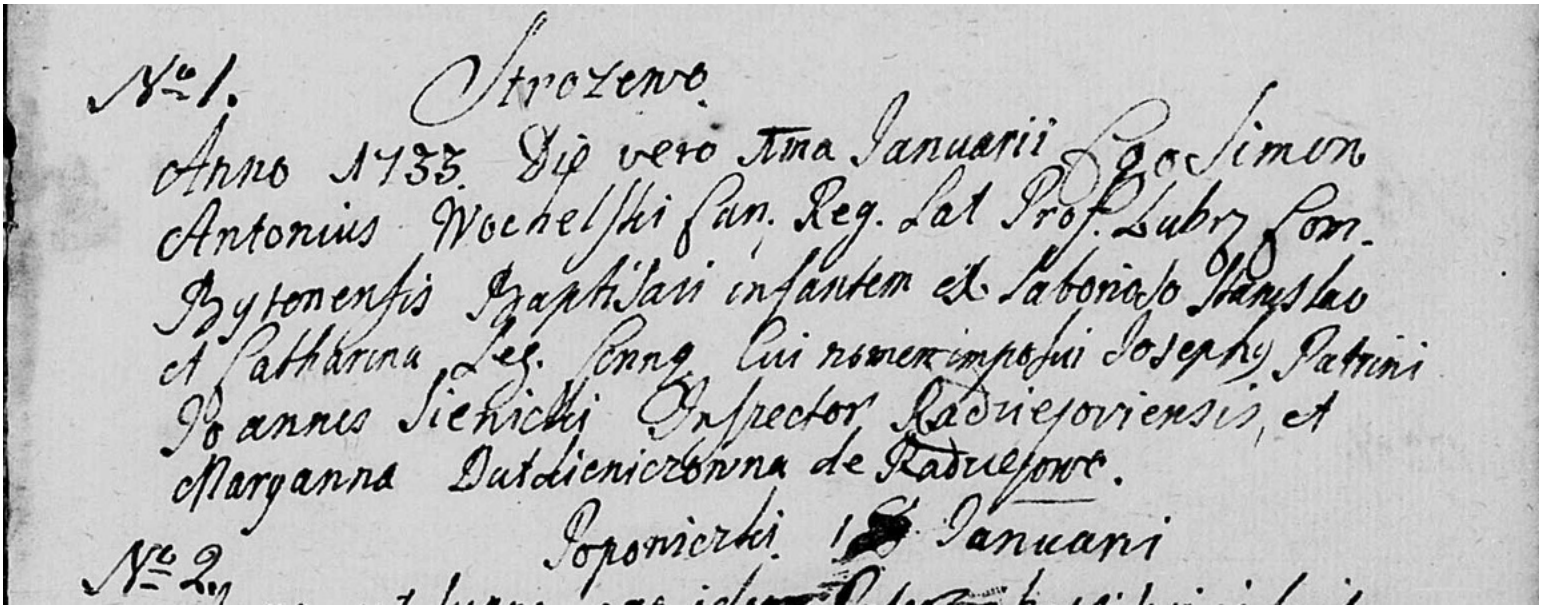
1729 Baptism of Hedwig without a surname
Parents were Stanley and Catherine
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 10. Stróżewo [1729]

On the same day, I, the same [priest], baptized a daughter named **Jadwiga (Hedwig)**, born of the laboring **Stanisław and Katarzyna**, lawful spouses, whose sponsors were **Mikołaj Waszka and Marianna, wife of Bartłomiej (*Bartłomiejowa*), from the village of Stróżewo**, in the year as above [1729].

AI translation (Google Gemini)



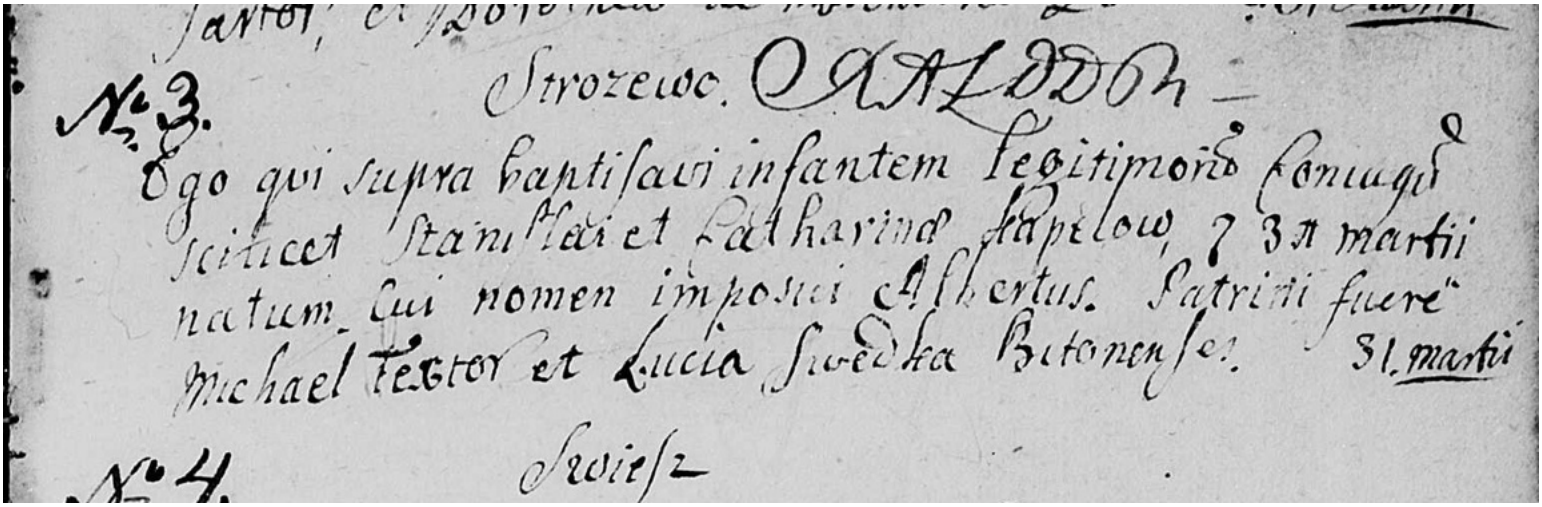
1733 Baptism of Joseph without a surname
Parents were Stanley and Catherine
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 1. Stróżewo. [1733] 31 copy.jpg

In the year 1733, on the 11th day of January, I, Szymon Antoni Wochelski, Canon Regular of the Lateran, Professed of Lubraniec, Commendatory of Bytoń, baptized an infant of the laboring **Stanisław and Katarzyna**, lawful spouses, to whom I gave the name **Józef (Joseph)**. Sponsors: **Jan Sienicki, Inspector of Radziejów, and Marianna Dutkiewiczówna from Radziejów.** 31 copy.jpg + 1

AI translation (Google Gemini)



1737 Baptism of Adalbert Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

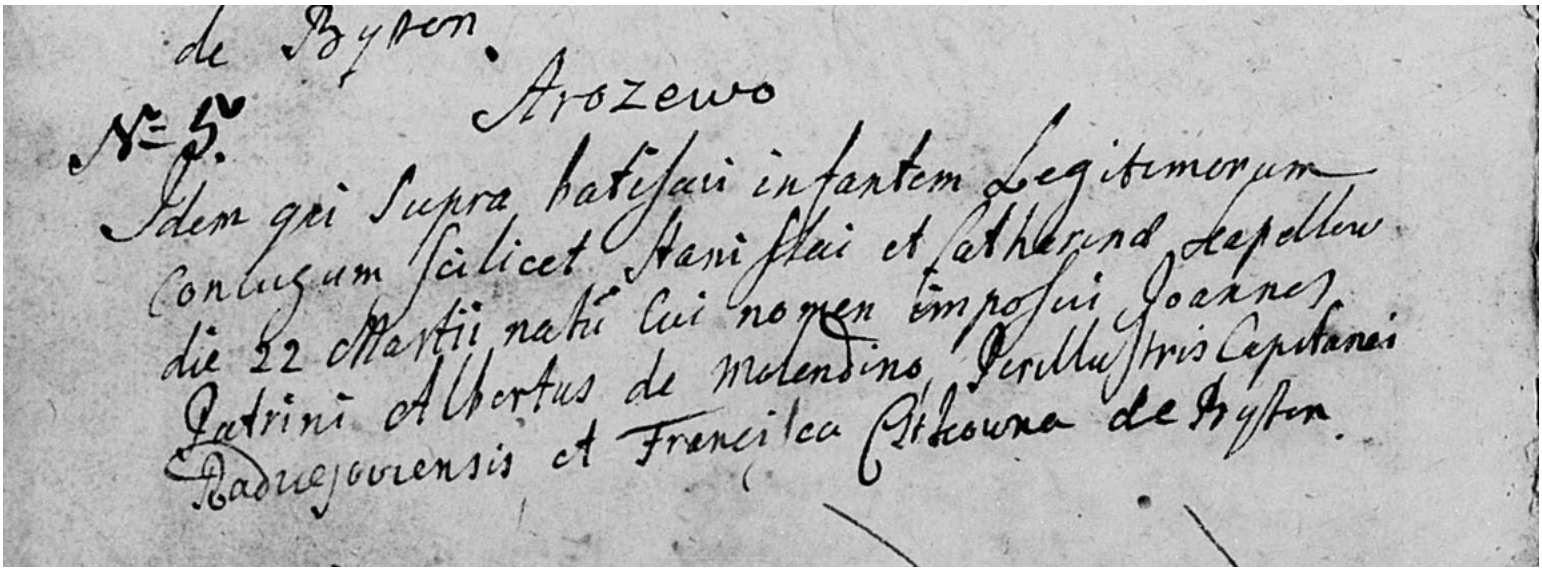
This is the earliest baptism record for this particular family in which the Kapelak surname appears (written as “Kapelow”).

2. English Translation

No. 3. Stróżewo. [1737]

I, [the priest] who am above, baptized an infant of the lawful spouses, namely **Stanisław (Stanley) and Katarzyna (Catherine) Kapela** [*Kapelow*], born on March 31 [1737], to whom I gave the name **Albert (Wojciech)**. Sponsors were **Michał the weaver** (*Michael Textor*) and **Łucja Swedka**, residents of Bytoń (*Bitonenses*).

AI translation (Google Gemini)


de Bytom.
Nro 5.
Strozewo
Idem qui Supra baptizavi infantem Legitimorum
Conjugum scilicet Stanislai et Catherinæ Kapellow
die 22 Martii nati cui nomen imposui Joannes
Patrini Albertus de Molendino Perillustris Capitanei
Radziejoviensis et Francisca Sikowna de Bytom.

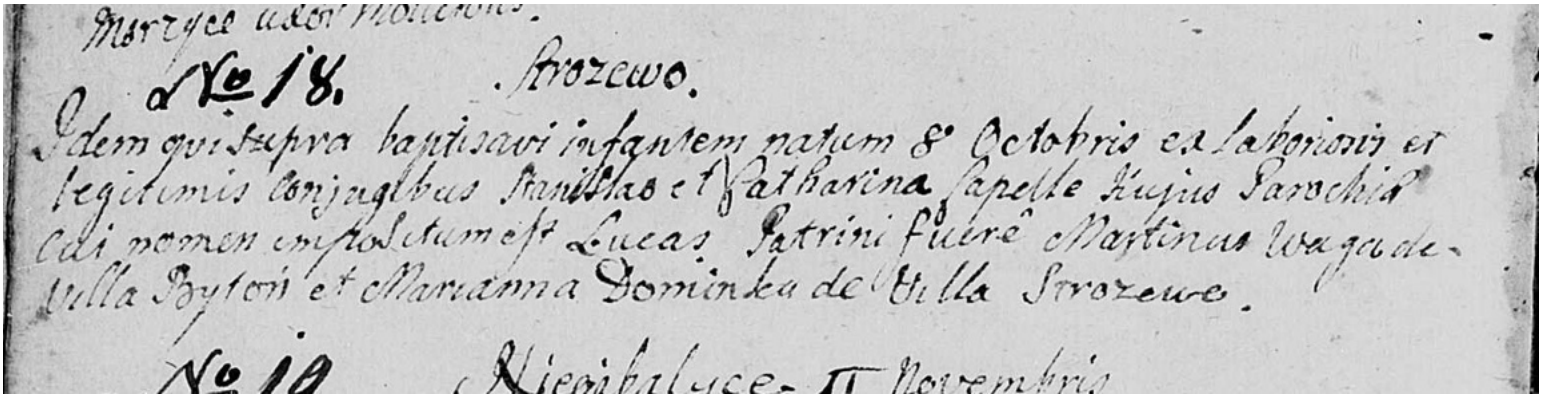
1739 Baptism of John Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 5. Stróżewo [1739]

I, the same [priest] who is above, baptized an infant of the lawful spouses, namely **Stanisław and Katarzyna Kapela** [*Kapellow*], born on the 22nd day of March, to whom I gave the name **Jan (John)**. Sponsors: **Wojciech (Albert) from the Mill of the Most Illustrious Starosta (Captain) of Radziejów, and Franciszka Sikówna [Cikówna] from Bytoń.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)



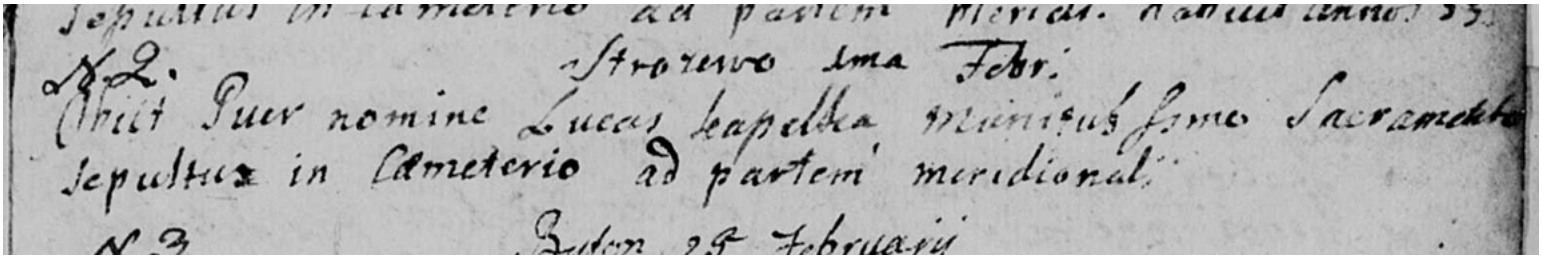
1741 Baptism of Luke Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 18. Stróżewo. [1741]

I, the same [priest] who is above, baptized an infant born on October 8 of the laboring and lawful spouses **Stanisław and Katarzyna Kapela** [*Kapelle*] of this parish, to whom the name **Łukasz (Luke)** was given. Sponsors were **Marcin Waga from the village of Bytoń and Marianna Dominka from the village of Stróżewo.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)



1755 Death of Luke Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

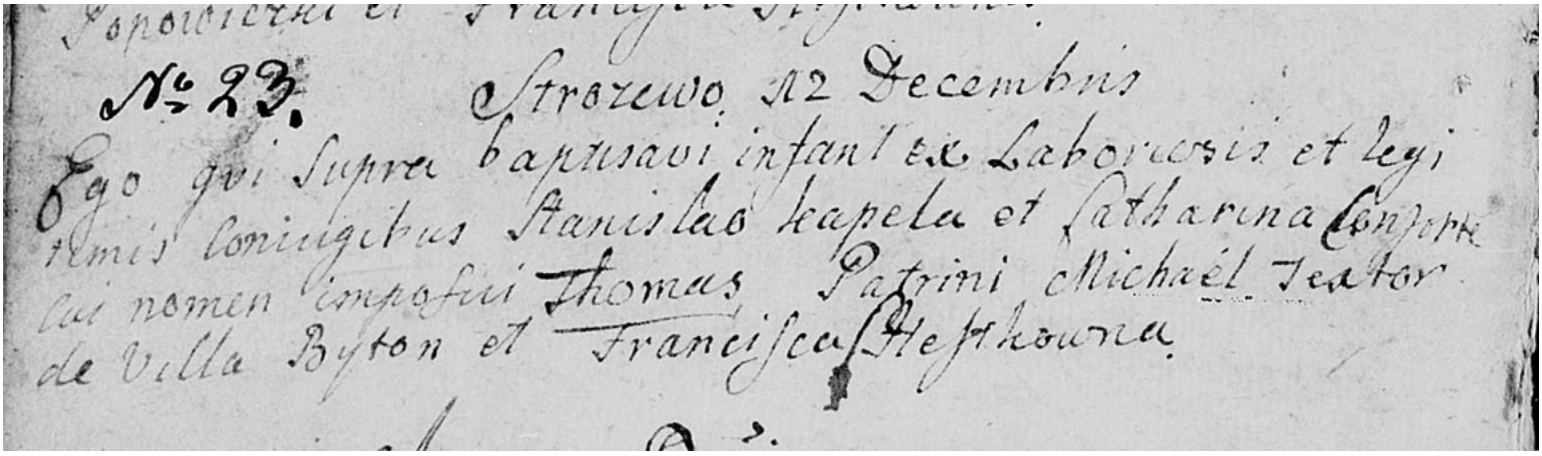
It is possible, but unverified, that this death record is for the son of Stanley and Catherine

2. English Translation

No. 2. Stróżewo, February 1 [1755]

Died a **boy named Łukasz (Luke) Kapelka**, fortified with the Most Holy Sacrament [Extreme Unction], buried in the cemetery toward the southern side.

AI translation (Google Gemini)


№ 23. Strozewo 12 Decembris
Ego qui supra baptisavi infantem ex Laboriosis et legitimis coniugibus Stanislao Kapela et Catharina conjuge cui nomen imposui Thomas Patrini Michaël Textor de Villa Byton et Francisca Hestkowna.

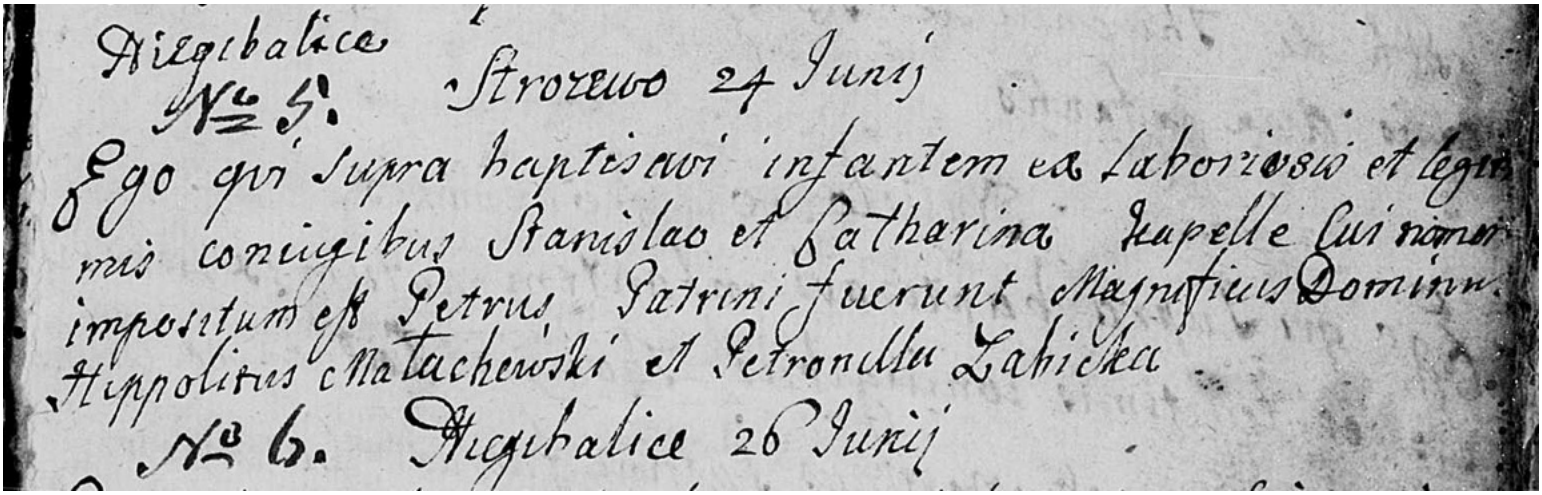
1743 Baptism of Thomas Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 23. Stróżewo, December 12 [1743]

I, [the priest] who am above, baptized an infant of the laboring and lawful spouses **Stanisław Kapela and Katarzyna [his] consort**, to whom I gave the name **Tomasz (Thomas)**. Sponsors: **Michał the weaver from the village of Bytoń** (*Michael Textor de Villa Byton*) **and Franciszka Hestkówna** [Sieskówna].

AI translation (Google Gemini)


Niegibalice
№ 5. Strozewo 24 Junij
Ego qui supra baptisavi infantem ex Laboriosis et legitimis conjugibus Stanislao et Catharina Kapelle cui nomen impositum est Petrus. Patrini fuerunt Magnificus Dominus Hippolitus Małachowski et Petronella Łabicka
№ 6. Niegibalice 26 Junij

1746 Baptism of Peter Kapelak
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 5. Stróżewo, June 24 [1746]

I, [the priest] who am above, baptized an infant of the laboring and lawful spouses **Stanisław and Katarzyna Kapela** [*Kapelle*], to whom the name **Piotr (Peter)** was given. Sponsors were **the Magnificent Lord Hipolit Małachowski and Petronella Łabicka** [Zabicka].

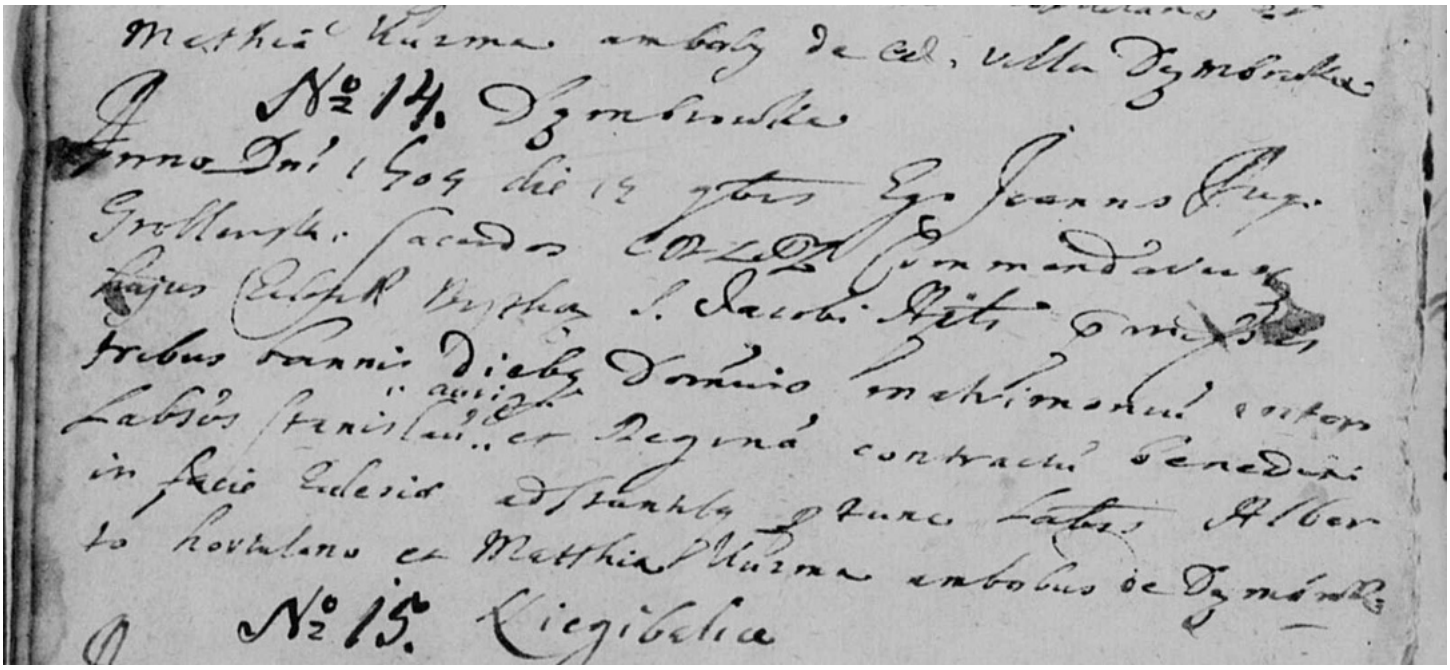
AI translation (Google Gemini)

Stanley and Regina Kapelak from Stróżewo

There was a Stanley and Regina family, without a surname, who lived in Stróżewo just prior to the earliest known baptism for children of Stanley and Catherine Kapelak. It is possible that Regina was Stanley Kapelak's first wife, but this is unverified.

There are possible death records for Regina in 1728 and 1729. However, these records did not include a surname. It is possible that Stanley, a widower, married Catherine in 1728 or 1729.

Representative documents are shown below.



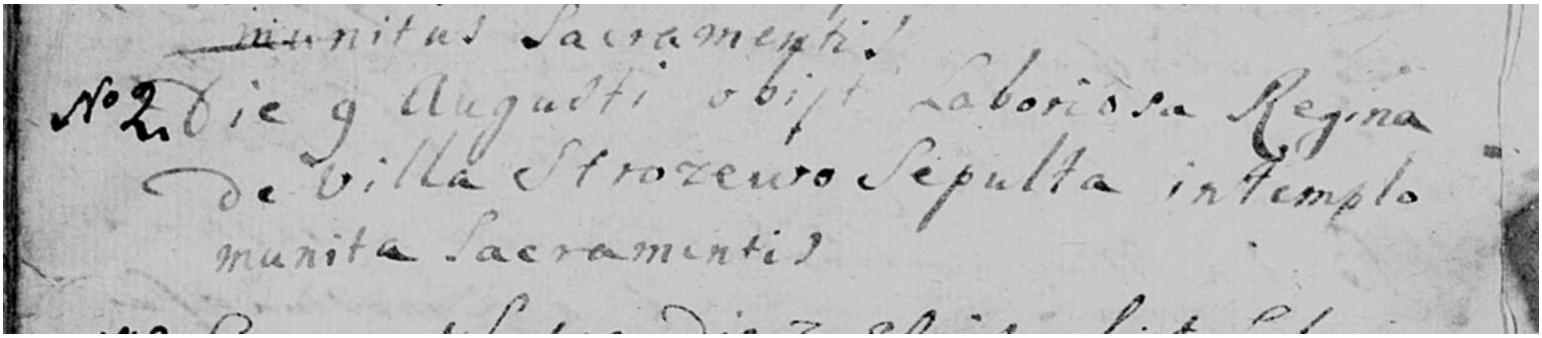
1707 Marriage of Stanley and Regina (without surnames)
Bytoń Parish
The village is illegible, but could be Dąbrówka

2. English Translation

No. 14. Dąbrówka [1707] 287.jpg

In the Year of the Lord 1707, on the 14th day of November, I, Jan Augustyn Grotkowski, Priest, Canon Regular of the Lateran, Commendatory of this Church of St. James the Apostle in Bytoń, after three banns were announced on Sundays, blessed in the face of the Church the marriage contracted between the laboring **Stanisław the coachman (*aurigam*) and Regina**. Present as witnesses were the laboring **Wojciech (Albert) the smallholder/cottager (*hortulano*) and Maciej Kuźma, both from Dąbrówka.** 287.jpg + 1

AI translation (Google Gemini)


munitus Sacramenti.
№2 Die 9 Augusti obiit laboriosa Regina
de villa Strozewo sepulta in templo
munita Sacramentis

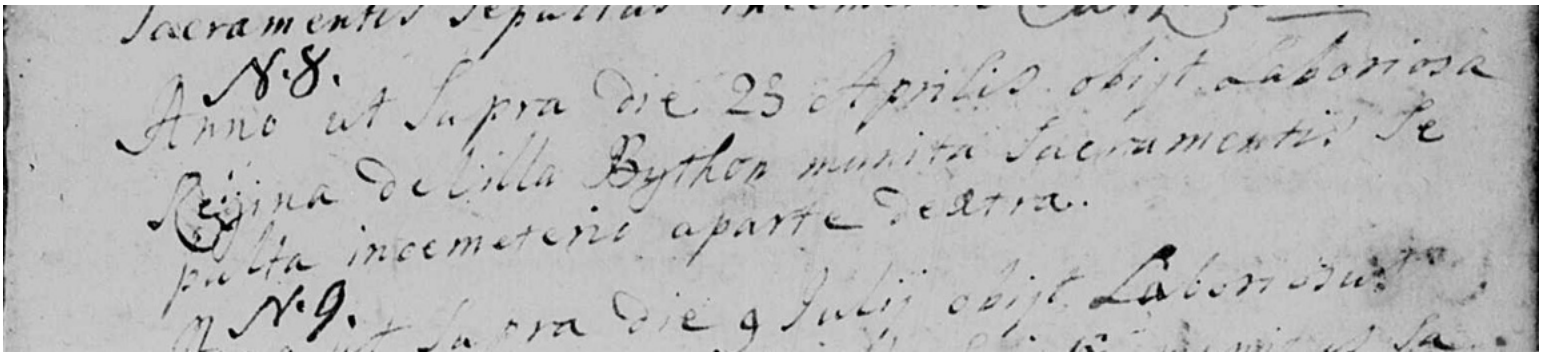
1728 death of Regina without a surname
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 2. [1728]

On the 9th day of August [1728], died the **laboring Regina from the village of Stróżewo**; she was buried inside the church (*in templo*), fortified with the Sacraments.

AI translation (Google Gemini)



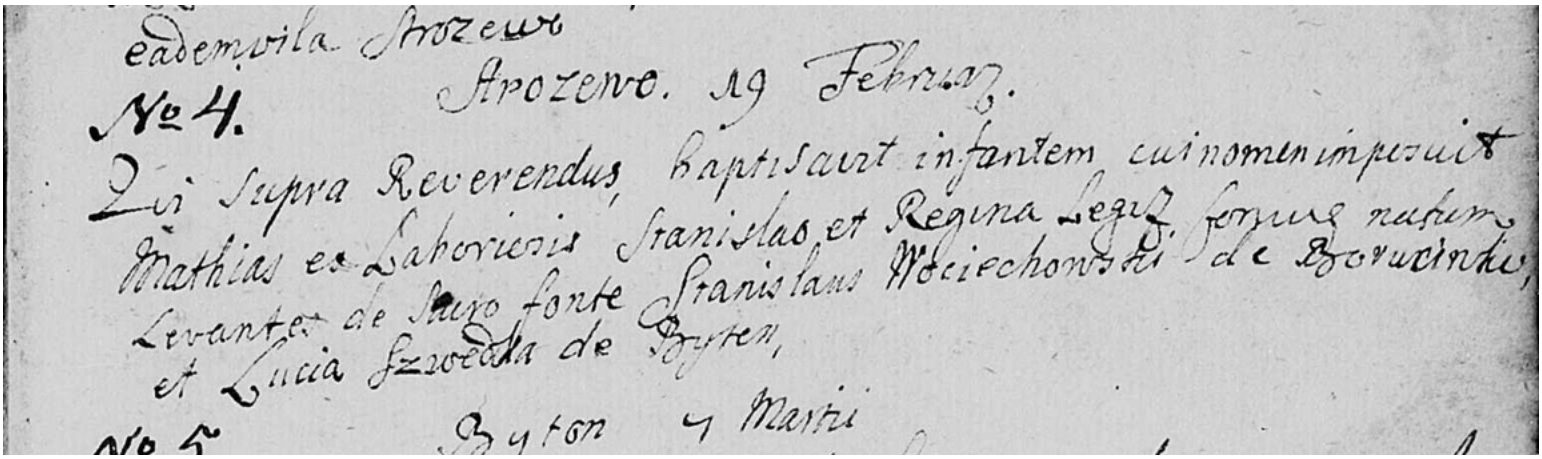
1729 death of Regina without a surname
Bytoń (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 8. [1729] 25 copy.jpg

In the year as above [1729], on the 23rd day of April, died the **laboring Regina from the village of Bytoń**, fortified with the Sacraments; she was buried in the cemetery on the right-hand side. 25 copy.jpg

AI translation (Google Gemini)


eademvila Strozewo
Strozewo. 19 Februar.
№ 4.
Qui supra Reverendus, baptisavit infantem cui nomen imposuit
Mathias ex Laboriosis Stanislao et Regina Legit. sponsis natum
Levante de sacro fonte Stanislaus Wojciechowski de Borucinku,
et Lucia Szwedka de Byten,
№ 5 Byton 4 Martii

1724 baptism of Matthias without a surname
Parents were Stanley and Regina

Stróżewo (Bytoń)

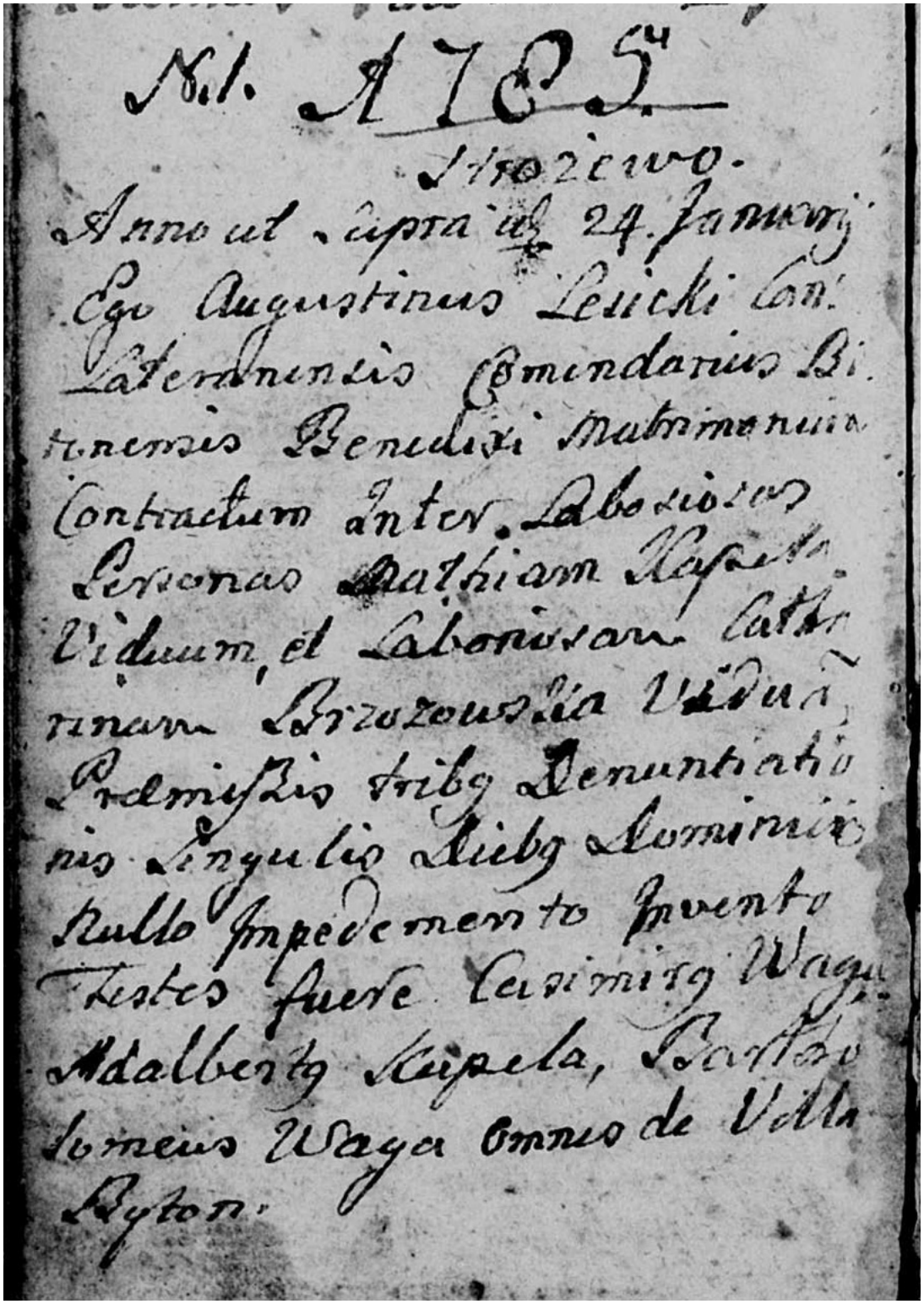
The godmother was Lucy Szwedka from Bytoń.
She appears to have been the same godmother for Adalbert Kapela in 1737.
This is a strong indication that this particular Stanley, without a surname, was married twice (Regina and Catherine).

English Translation

No. 4. Stróżewo, February 19 [1724]

The Reverend [priest] who is above baptized an infant to whom he gave the name **Maciej (Mathias)**, born of the laboring **Stanisław and Regina**, lawful spouses. Lifting from the sacred font [godparents]: **Stanisław Wojciechowski** from Borucinek, and **Łucja Szwedka from Bytoń.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)


No. 1785

Stroźewo.

Anno ut supra die 24. Januarij
Ego Augustinus Lecki Con.
Laterdunensis Comendarius Bi.
tunensis Benedixi matrimonium
Contractum inter Honestos
Personas Mathiam Kapelo
Vidum, et Laborosam Catha
rinam Brzozowska Viduam
Premissis tribus Denuntiatio
nis Singulis diebus Dominicis
Nullo Impedemento Invento
Testes fuere Casimirus Wagn
Adalbertus Kapela, Bartho
lomeus Waga Omnes de Vollu
Byton.

1785 Marriage of Matthias Kapelak (widower)
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

Adalbert Kapelak was a witness

It is not verified whether this particular Matthias Kapelak is the same baby who was born in 1724.
Since this Matthias was a widower, it is possible that he was 61 years old.

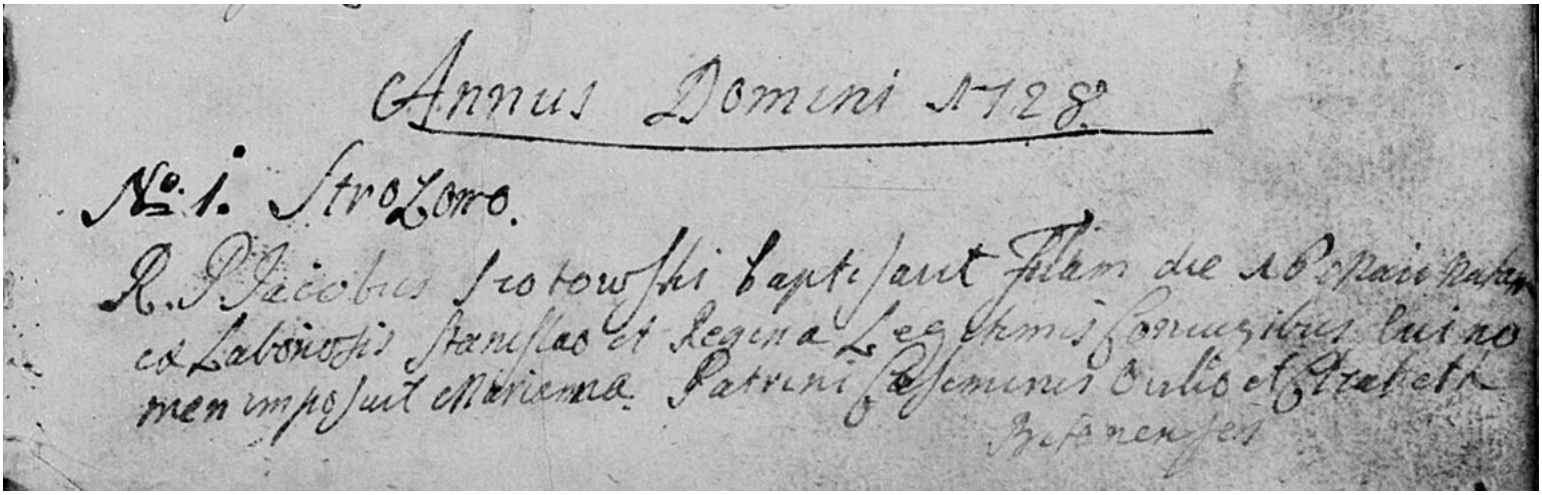
2. English Translation

No. 1. 1785.

Stróżewo.

In the year as above, on the 24th day of January [1785]. I, Augustyn Lesicki, Canon of the Lateran, Commendatory of Bytoń, blessed the marriage contracted between the laboring persons **Maciej (Mathias) Kapela**, widower, and the laboring **Katarzyna Brzozowska**, widow, after three banns were announced on individual Sundays and no impediment having been discovered. Witnesses were **Kazimierz Waga, Wojciech (Adalbert) Kapela**, and **Bartłomiej Waga**, all from the village of Bytoń. 9 copy.jpg + 2

AI translation (Google Gemini)



1728 baptism of Marianna without a surname
Parents were Stanley and Regina

Stróżewo (Bytoń)

English Translation

Year of the Lord 1728. 27 copy.jpg

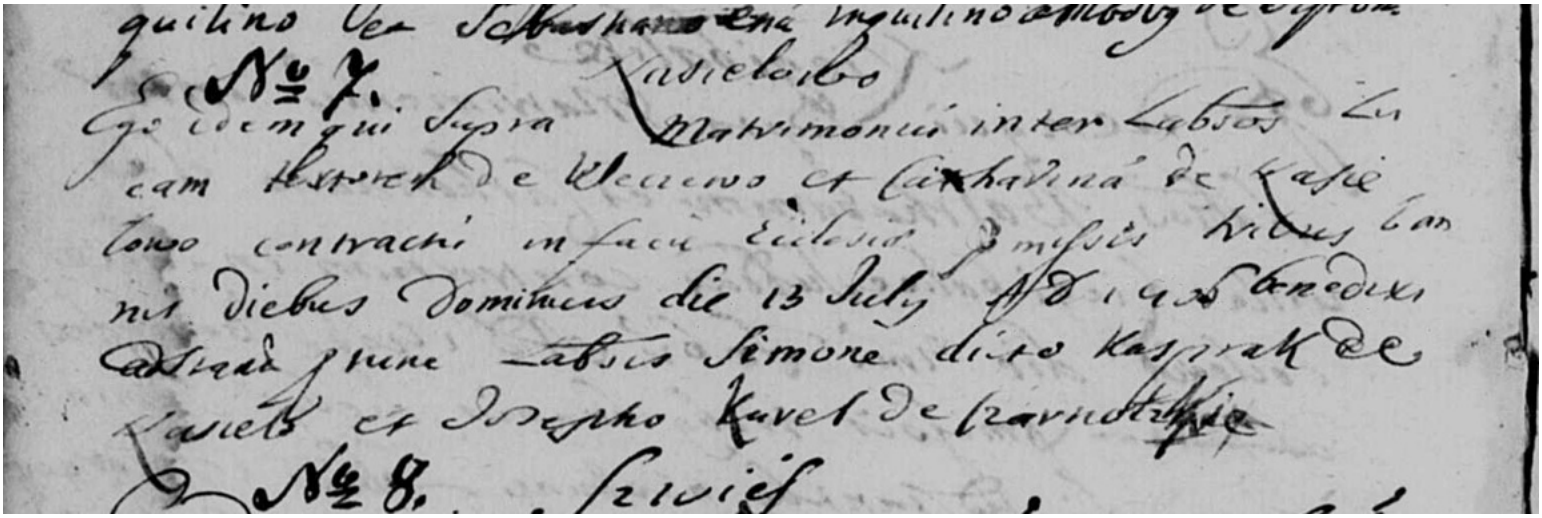
No. 1. Stróżewo. 27 copy.jpg

Reverend Father Jakub Srokowski [Srotowski] baptized a daughter born on the 16th day of January of the laboring **Stanisław and Regina**, lawful spouses, to whom he gave the name **Marianna**. Sponsors: **Kazimierz Dulis** [or *Oulis*] **and Elżbieta, residents of Bytoń** (*Bitonenses*). 27 copy.jpg + 1

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Luke and Catherine Kapelak from Bytoń and Stróżewo

There was a Luke and Catherine family without a known surname. They appear to have been associated with both Stróżewo and Bytoń. They had a son Adalbert who was born in 1727. Representative documents are shown below.



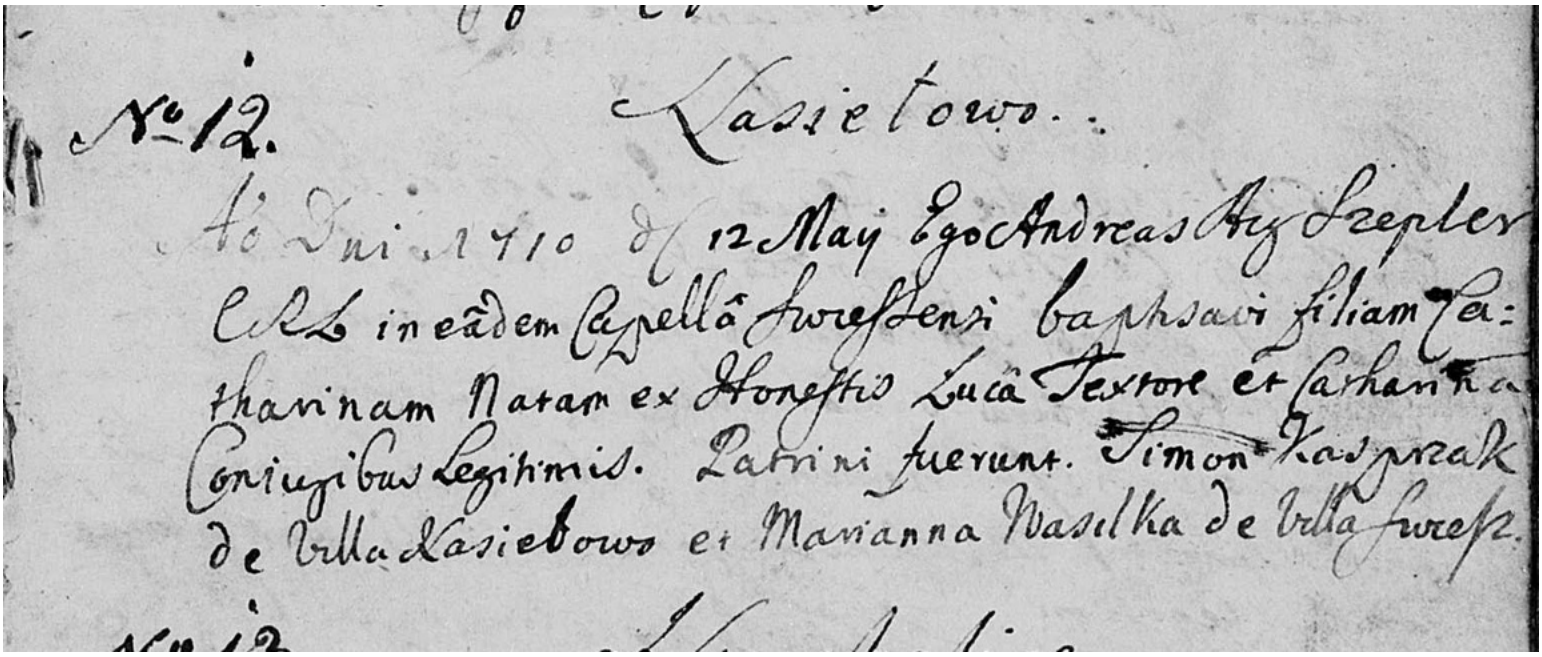
1706 Marriage of Luke and Catherine (without surnames)
Bytoń Parish

2. English Translation

No. 7. Kasiekowo [1706]

I, the same [priest] who am above, on the 13th day of July in the year 1706, blessed in the face of the Church, after three banns were announced on Sundays, the marriage contracted between the laboring **Łukasz the Weaver (*Lucam textorem*) from Kleczewo and Katarzyna from Kasiekowo**. Present as witnesses were the laboring **Szymon called Kasprzak from Kasiekowo and Józef Kurel from Czarnocice.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)



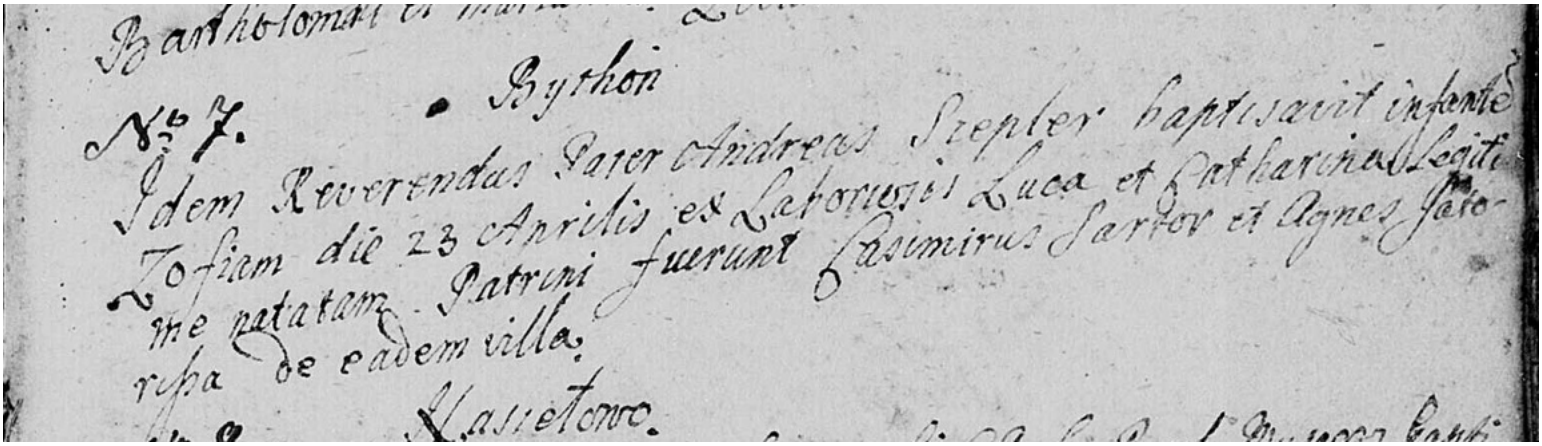
1710 Baptism of Catherine without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Bytoń Parish
The village name is illegible

English Translation

No. 12. Kasiekowo.

In the Year of the Lord 1710, on the 12th day of May, I, Andrzej Antoni Szepler, Canon Regular of the Lateran, in the same Chapel of Świesz, baptized a daughter **Katarzyna (Catherine)**, born of the **honorable Łukasz the Weaver (*Luca Textore*) and Katarzyna**, lawful spouses. Sponsors were **Szymon Kasprzak from the village of Kasiekowo and Marianna Wasilka from the village of Świesz.**

AI translation (Google Gemini)



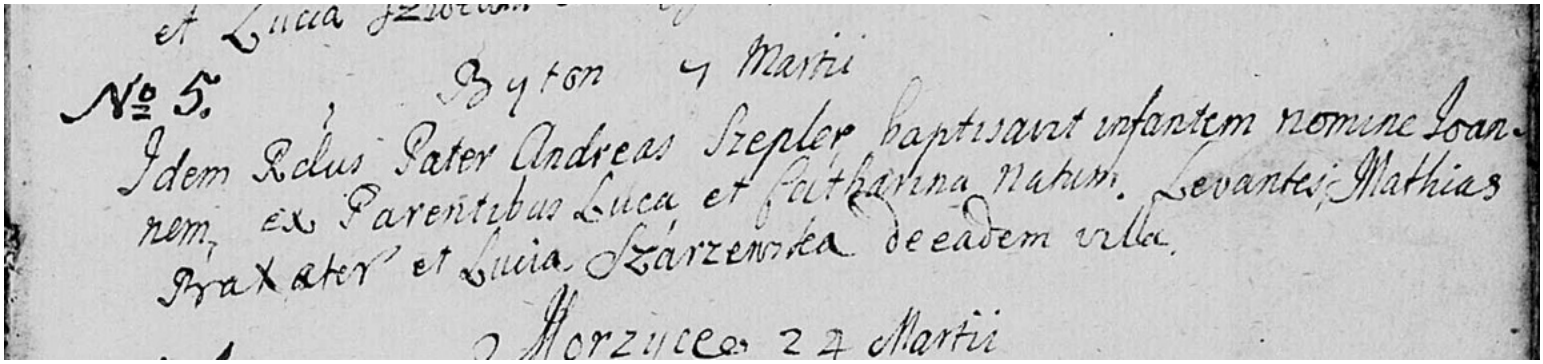
1722 Baptism of Sophia without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Bytoń (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 7. Bytoń [1722]

The same Reverend Father Andrzej Szepler baptized an infant **Zofia (Sophia)** on the 23rd day of April, lawfully born of the **laboring Łukasz and Katarzyna**. Sponsors were **Kazimierz the Tailor (*Casimirus Sartor*) and Agnieszka Jatorepa** [Satarepa] from the same village.

AI translation (Google Gemini)


et Lucia
№ 5. Byton 7 Martii
Idem Rdus Pater Andreas Szepler baptisavit infantem nomine Joan-
nem, ex Parentibus Luca et Catharina Natum. Levantes; Mathias
Braxator et Lucia Szarzewska de eadem villa.
Morzyce 22 Martii

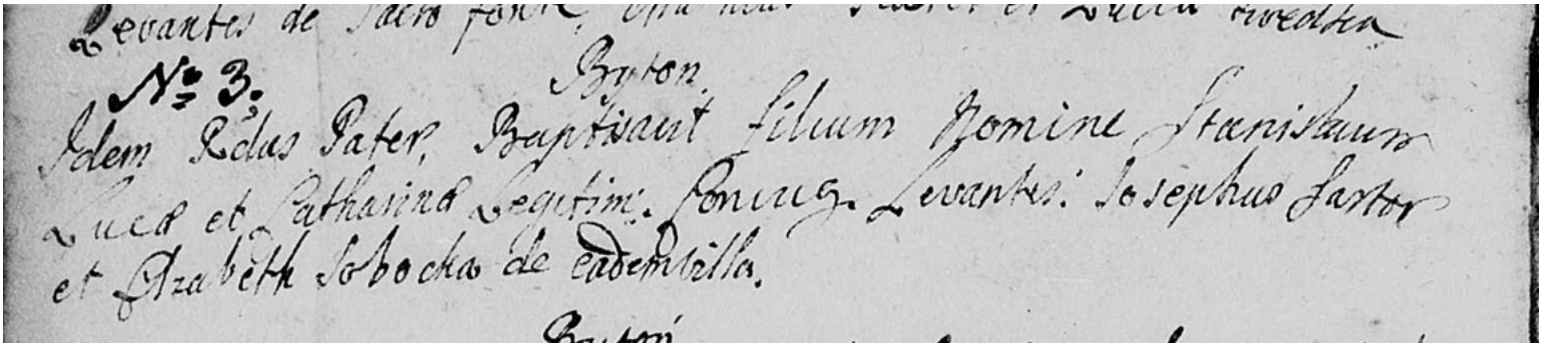
1724 Baptism of John without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Bytoń (Bytoń)

English Translation

No. 5. Bytoń, March 7 [1724]

The same Reverend Father Andrzej Szepler baptized an infant named **Jan (John)**, born of the parents **Łukasz (Luke) and Katarzyna (Catherine)**. Godparents: **Maciej the Brewer** (*Mathias Braxator*) **and Łucja Szarzewska** from the same village.

AI translation (Google Gemini)



1725 Baptism of Stanley without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Bytoń (Bytoń)

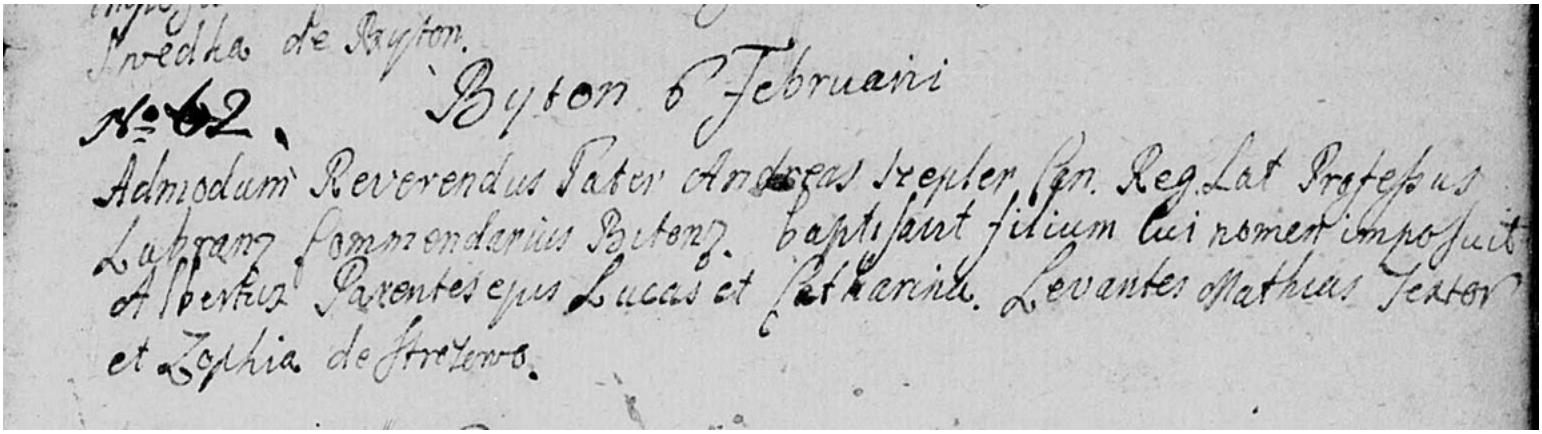
2. Stanley (Stanislaus) — 1725 (`21 copy.jpg` **)**

Latin Transcription

No. 3. Byton. [1725]

Idem R[everen]dus Pater Baptisavit filium Nomine **Stanislaum Lucæ et Catharinæ** Legitim[orum] Conjug[um]. Levantes: **Josephus Sartor et Elizabeth Sobocka** de eadem villa.

AI translation (Google Gemini)



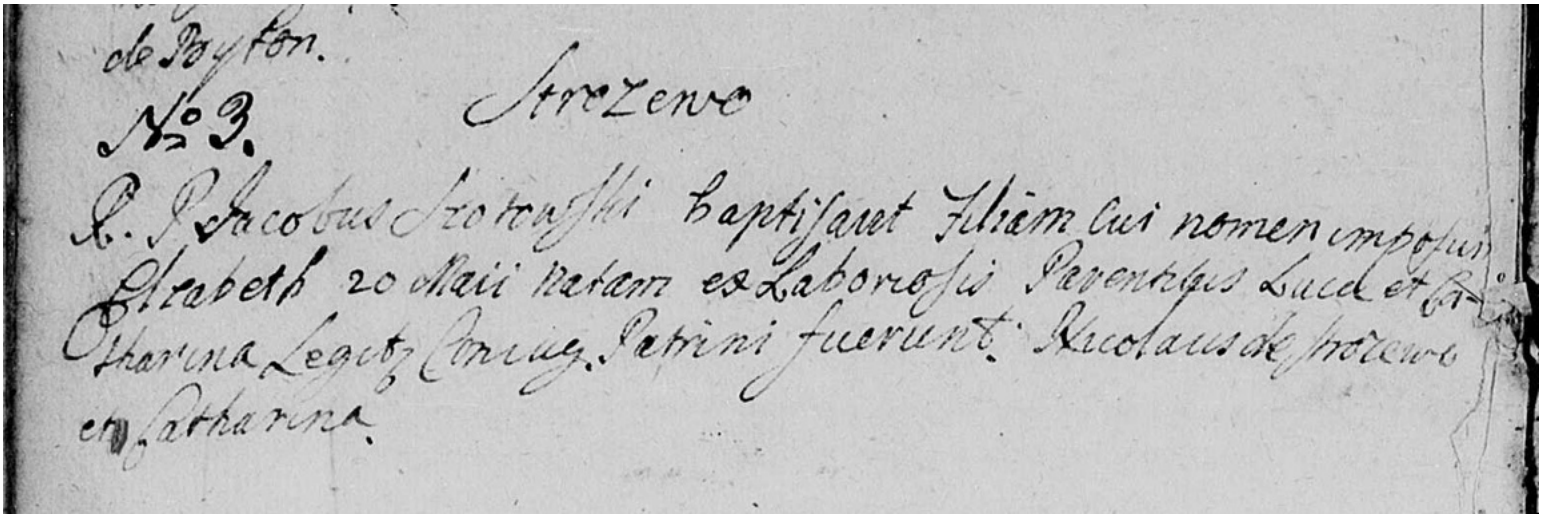
1727 Baptism of Adalbert without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Bytoń (Bytoń)

2. English Translation

No. 62. Bytoń, February 6 [1727]

Very Reverend Father Andrzej Srepter [Szepler], Canon Regular of the Lateran, Professed of Lubraniec, Commendatory of Bytoń, baptized a son to whom he gave the name **Albert (Wojciech)**. His parents: **Łukasz (Luke) and Katarzyna (Catherine)**. Godparents: **Maciej the weaver** (*Mathias Textor*) and **Zofia from Stróżewo**.

AI translation (Google Gemini)


de Bytom.
№ 3. Strzezewo
R. Jacobus Srotowski baptisavit filiam cui nomen impositum
Elzabeth 20 Maii natam ex Laboriosis Parentibus Luca et Ca-
tharina Legob Conjug. Patrini fuerunt Nicolaus de Strzezewo
et Catharina.

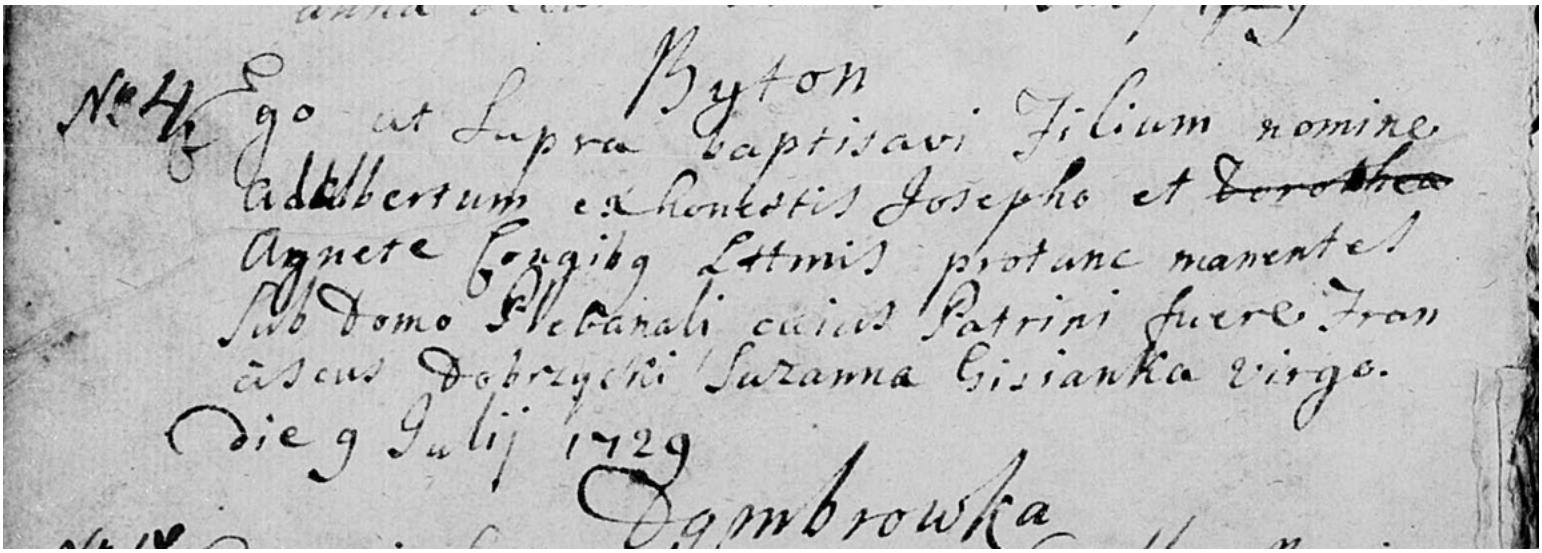
1728 Baptism of Elizabeth without a surname
Parents were Luke and Catherine
Stróżewo (Bytoń)

2. English Translation

No. 3. Stróżewo [1728]

Reverend Father Jakub Srotowski [Srokowski] baptized a daughter to whom he gave the name **Elżbieta (Elizabeth)**, born on May 20 of the laboring parents **Łukasz (Luke) and Katarzyna (Catherine)**, lawful spouses. Sponsors were: **Mikołaj from Stróżewo and Katarzyna**.

AI translation (Google Gemini)


Nro 4 Ego ut supra Byton baptisavi Filium nomine Adalbertum ex honestis Josepho et ~~Dorothea~~ Agnete Conjugib Ettmis pro tunc manentes sub domo Plebanali cuius Patrini fuere Franciscus Dobrzycki Suzanna Gisianka Virgo. die 9 Julij 1729 Dombrowka

1729 Baptism of a child named Adalbert without a surname
Parents were Joseph and Agnes
Bytoń (Bytoń)

2. English Translation

No. 4. Bytoń [1729]

I, as above, baptized a son named **Wojciech (Adalbert)**, born of the **honorable Józef (Joseph) and ~~Dorota~~ Agnieszka (Agnes)**, lawful spouses, residing at that time at the rectory house (*pro tunc manentes sub domo Plebanali*), whose sponsors were **Franciszek Dobrzycki and Zuzanna Gisianka, maiden**, on the 9th day of July 1729.

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Additional Information

Michael E. Byczek, an Illinois attorney and managing real estate broker, has compiled original records for genealogy since 1992. Research and analysis have been published on family websites for over 30 years. A project to compile comprehensive digital, print, and video documentaries for every direct blood ancestor began in September 2024 for accurate online genealogy.

Stanley and Catherine Kapelak are Michael E. Byczek's 7x-great-grandparents. Their son Adalbert Kapelak's (6x-great-grandfather) wife was named Regina. Their daughter Agnes Kapelak (5x-great-grandmother) married Benedict Kocinski in 1788 in Bytoń. Their son Valentine Kocinski (4x-great-grandfather) married Elizabeth Lasocki in 1828 in Piotrkow Kujawski. Their daughter Catherine Kocinski (3x-great-grandmother) married John Nowakowski in 1857 in Radziejow. Their daughter Victoria Nowakowski (2x-great-grandmother) married Joseph Piotrowski in 1876, also in Radziejow. Their daughter Margaret Piotrowski (great-grandmother) married Joseph Bykowski in 1907 in Witowo prior to settling in Chicago, IL. Their son Roman Bykowski (grandfather) arrived in the United States when he was three years old. The family lived in the Bucktown neighborhood of Chicago. Roman married Antoinette Murzynowicz/Marynowski in 1936 at St. Stanislaus Kostka in the Pulaski Park neighborhood. Their daughter Betty A. Bykowski (mother) married Michael M. Byczek in 1974 at St. Helen's on Augusta and Oakley. They have two children. Michael E. Byczek is the eldest and was born in the Bridgeport neighborhood of Chicago.

Google Maps

Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship in north central Poland:

- Bytoń is a village in Radziejów County and seat of the gmina called Gmina Bytoń.
- Stróżewo is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Bytoń within Radziejów County

Revision History:

11/21/2026

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