

The Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski Family and The Lineage of John Surdinski

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Analysis of church records for the Brześć Kujawski Catholic Parish shows that Michael E. Byczek's 5x-great-grandparents were John and Marianna Surdinski who lived in Pikutkowo. On the balance of probabilities, Balthazar (Baltazar) and Marianna Surdinski are the most likely parents of John. This conclusion is based on the rarity of the Surdinski surname in the Brześć Kujawski Parish, available baptism records, and a pattern of interior church burials for what appears to be three generations of the same family. Therefore, it is reasonable to identify Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski as Michael E. Byczek's 6x-great-grandparents. However, this lineage is not verified. It is possible that the necessary records needed to establish the lineage with certainty may not exist.

The Surdinski surname was also written with numerous variations, including some that are more than mere phonetic alternatives. These include Surdynski, Surdika, Surdikow, Sordcka, Sordyk, Surdyk, Surdik, and Surdyka. For genealogical purposes, the spelling of "Surdinski" is accurate. That was the spelling in a few of the most important documents (highest priority) regarding the family.

Church records during this period did not always include surnames, maiden names, ages, parents, or identity of a spouse. It is not possible to fully reconstruct the entire Surdinski family from these records. Furthermore, online access to digitized baptism records is not available for the Brześć Kujawski Parish between 1753 and 1787 or death records prior to 1753. As a result, there are multiple inconsistencies and uncertainties that cannot be resolved. Due to lack of useful information from church records during the 1700s, it may not be possible to fully reconstruct the entire Surdinski family with absolute certainty.

John Surdinski's parents and age were not listed in any known document. Since his daughter Agnes was born in 1780, John and his wife may have been approximately 30 years old at the time, although this is only a general estimate. A baptism record for a John born in 1741 is therefore somewhat earlier than expected, but the combination of his name, parents, location, and the apparent uniqueness of the John Surdinski family makes it the strongest candidate. The most likely death record for Marianna Surdinski's (John's wife) was in 1793 that showed an estimated year of birth as 1741. This is the same year as the presumed baptism for John Surdinski.

Among the available Brześć Kujawski Parish records, there appears to have been only one John Surdinski from the 1740s through the early 1800s. Furthermore, among the available records, there appears to have been only one Surdinski family in the parish that regularly appears in church records and that could be John's parents. This was the Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski family who lived in Pikutkowo. Marianna's maiden name is unknown. There is only one known Balthazar and Marianna family from the parish, which suggests that records without a surname most likely refer to the correct family. The name Balthazar itself is rare. A baptism record was found for a baby named John, without a surname, who was born in Pikutkowo in 1741. His parents were Balthazar and Marianna. On the balance of probabilities, this is the correct baptism record for the father of Agnes (Surdinski) Piotrowski. The 1741 baptism is particularly compelling because the name, location, parents, and subsequent appearance of John Surdinski in Pikutkowo are consistent with the available evidence.

The death record of Balthazar Surdinski, for Pikutkowo, listed him as 76 years old. This provides an estimated year of birth as 1698. There are multiple death records for a woman named Marianna without a surname who died in Pikutkowo during this period. The best candidate, which is highly probable to be correct, was from 1773 in Pikutkowo. This particular Marianna was buried inside the church just one year before Balthazar Surdinski. This unique common factor is highly suggestive that these two burials represent a husband and wife. Furthermore, the best candidate for their daughter-in-law Marianna Surdinski's death record (John's wife) is from 1793, also in Pikutkowo. That particular Marianna Surdinski was also buried inside the church.

The 1773 death record for Marianna, who is presumed to be Balthazar Surdinski’s wife, listed her age as 50. This provides an estimated year of birth as 1723. If this particular death record is correct for Balthazar’s wife, it’s possible that Balthazar may have been married multiple times. It is also possible that the age of 50 years was a mistake or was underestimated.

A marriage record was found in Pikutkowo for Balthazar Surdinski in 1725. The bride’s name was Marianna without a maiden name. The record did not provide an age for either groom or bride. Since the name Balthazar is rare in the parish, and he would have been about 27 years old in 1725, this marriage record is highly likely to be correct. The earliest baptism records that are available online in digital format start with 1735. It is not possible to determine whether children were born between 1725 and 1735.

However, a second marriage record was found in 1735 for Balthazar and Marianna without surnames or ages. The marriage was listed for the village of Rządka Wola in the Brześć Kujawski Parish. It is possible that Balthazar’s first wife passed away and his second wife’s name was also Marianna. If the age listed in the 1773 death record is correct, that Marianna would have been about 12 years old in 1735 at the time of that marriage. If the age of 50 was an estimate, it is very reasonable to conclude that she may have been at least 52 years old, not 50 as written. This would mean that she was at least 14 years old in 1735, which could indicate these were the same women. Death records prior to 1735 are not available online in digital format. It is not possible, at present, to determine whether Balthazar’s wife from the 1725 marriage may have passed away prior to the 1735 marriage.

Seven children have been identified as the children of Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski, all apparently born in Pikutkowo:

Child	Birth	Notes
Rose (Róża)	1738	
Sophia (Zofia)	1740	
John (Jan)	1741	
Paul (Paweł)	1744	A baptism note was added that Paul died, probably as an infant. The baptism also refers to a twin (possibly stillborn).
Constance (Konstancja)	1746	The baptism refers to a twin, who is presumed to have been stillborn.
Maria	1748	
Agnes (Agnieszka)	1750	A note was added to the baptism that Agnes died, probably as an infant.

Their son John Surdinski married a woman named Marianna. Her maiden name has not been verified. They are Michael E. Byczek’s 5x-great-grandparents.

The Surdinski Family of Pikutkowo

On the balance of probabilities, John Surdinski was the son of Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski. They were an established family in the Brześć Kujawski Catholic Parish. Balthazar Surdinski was buried inside the physical church building in 1774, which indicates he held a prominent status in the community. The best candidate death record for his wife, Marianna, also shows that she was buried inside the church, the year before, in 1773.

The 1793 death record of a married woman named Marianna Surdinski from Pikutkowo is the best candidate for the wife of John Surdinski and daughter-in-law of Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski. She was also buried inside the church. It appears that interior church burials ended in the 1790s. This means that Marianna Surdinski may have been amongst the last burials inside the church. Multiple children of John and Marianna Surdinski, who passed away prior to the 1790s, were also buried inside the church.

The common factor of interior church burials, a practice apparently associated with higher-status members of the community, provides additional circumstantial support for the conclusion that these death records concern members of the same extended family of three generations.

The following analysis of church records preserves the surname variations used in the original documents.

Subitanea, Sepulchrum e
Villa Pukutkowo
De 3bris eo[dem] anno Mortuus est Balthazar Surdyka an-
nor[um] circiter 56 sepultus e[st] in Ecclesia Parochiali in choro ma-
jori ad Fores Ecclesie Majores munitus Sacramentis.
Villa mnichowice

1774 Death record of Balthazar Surdyka
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)
Below: AI Translation (Google Gemini)

2. Latin Text

Villa Pukutkowo

d[ie] 3 10bris eo[dem] anno. Mortuus est Balthazar Surdyka annor[um] circiter
56 sepultus e[st] in Ecclesia Parochiali in Choro Majori ad Fores Ecclesiæ
Majores munitus Sacramentis.

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 3rd day of December in the same year [1774]. Died Baltazar Surdyka,
aged around 56 years. He was buried inside the Parish Church in the Main
Choir [Chancel], near the main doors of the Church, fortified with the
Sacraments."

circiter 24^{ta} sepulta e[st] in cæmeterio ad meridionem mu-
 nita sacramentis, 1773.
 Villa Pichutkowo
 die 2da Janu[arii]: Eodem a[n]no mortua e[st] Marianna annor[um]
 circiter 50, sepulta e[st] in Ecclesia Parochiali in Choro
 majori prope columnam ultimam Ecclesie munita
 sacramentis villa stare Brześć

1773 Death of a woman named Marianna without a surname
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)
 Below: AI translation (Google Gemini)

2. Latin Text

Villa Pichutkowo

die 2da Janu[arii]: Eodem a[n]no mortua e[st] Marianna annor[um] circiter 50,
 sepulta e[st] in Ecclesia Parochiali in Choro majori prope columnam ultimam
 Ecclesiæ munita sacramentis.

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 2nd day of January: In the same year died Marianna, aged around 50
 years. She was buried inside the Parish Church in the Main Choir [Chancel],
 near the last column of the Church, fortified with the sacraments."

November
 Villas Piskutkow
 25^{ta} hujus Ego idem qui supra pro
 missis Hujus hujus diebus hujus
 et Festivis coram populo hujus
 audienda congregato quorum ama
 tuit radecima hujus eda fuit ipse
 25^{ta} fuit 25^{ta} iusta missa parati
 alis solemnibus nullis impedimentis
 de hoc honestum Balthazarem
 Surdicka et ancillam nomine Mariannam
 namque bodem hujus illa in facie
 fide in facie hujus mutuo consensu habito
 et hujus hujus hujus hujus hujus
 Imagin de villa hujus hujus hujus
 Acto hujus hujus hujus hujus hujus

1725 Marriage of Balthazar Surdicka and Marianna without a maiden name
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

1. Line-by-Line Latin & Polish-Latin Nuances

- **Header:** *November / Villa Pikutkowo*
- **Date & Banns:**

25ta hujus: Ego idem qui supra præmissis tribus bannis diebus Dominicis et Festivis coram populo ad divina audienda congregato...

("25th of this month: I the same as above, after three banns were announced on Sundays and Feast days before the people gathered to hear divine services...")

- **The Groom & Surname:**

...Honestum Balthasarem dicto Surdika...

(Honest Baltazar, called Surdyka)

- **Title:** *Honestus* indicates he was not a landless serf (*laboriosus*), but a man of recognized status or independent standing in Pikutkowo even in 1725.

- **The Bride:**

...et ancillam nomine Mariannam ambo de præsentī villa...

(...and the maid servant named Marianna, both from the present village [Pikutkowo]...)

- **Title:** *Ancilla* (household/parish servant).
- Because she was an *ancilla*, her parental surname was omitted—a very standard practice in early 18th-century registers when recording parish/manorial servants.
- **Witnesses (*Testibus*):**

...Testibus Adalberto Casimir[o] Smagay de villa Szafarnia...

(Witnesses: Wojciech Casimir Smagaj from the village of Szafarnia...)

AI translation (Google Gemini)

depresenti civitate
Villa Rządka Wola
Zoma mensis Januarij idem quod
Benedixit Matrimonium pro
his tribusannis diebus hominibus
A Jstivis quodamama Jst 2ama
mensis Januarij 2da Jst 2ta Jst 3ta
it Zoma intra mense Parochia 2do
lemnia coram populo addisina audien
da Congregato inullo impedimento
recto Laboriosum Balthazarem
A Mariannam anullam anullam
presenti villa in facie fides
Lutogadi omnia og lenda tubito
Vbi Jst Laboriosum Luc 2da Jst
natis ante de present

1735 Marriage of Balthazar and Marianna without surnames
Rządka Wola (Brześć Kujawski)

Transcription & Translation

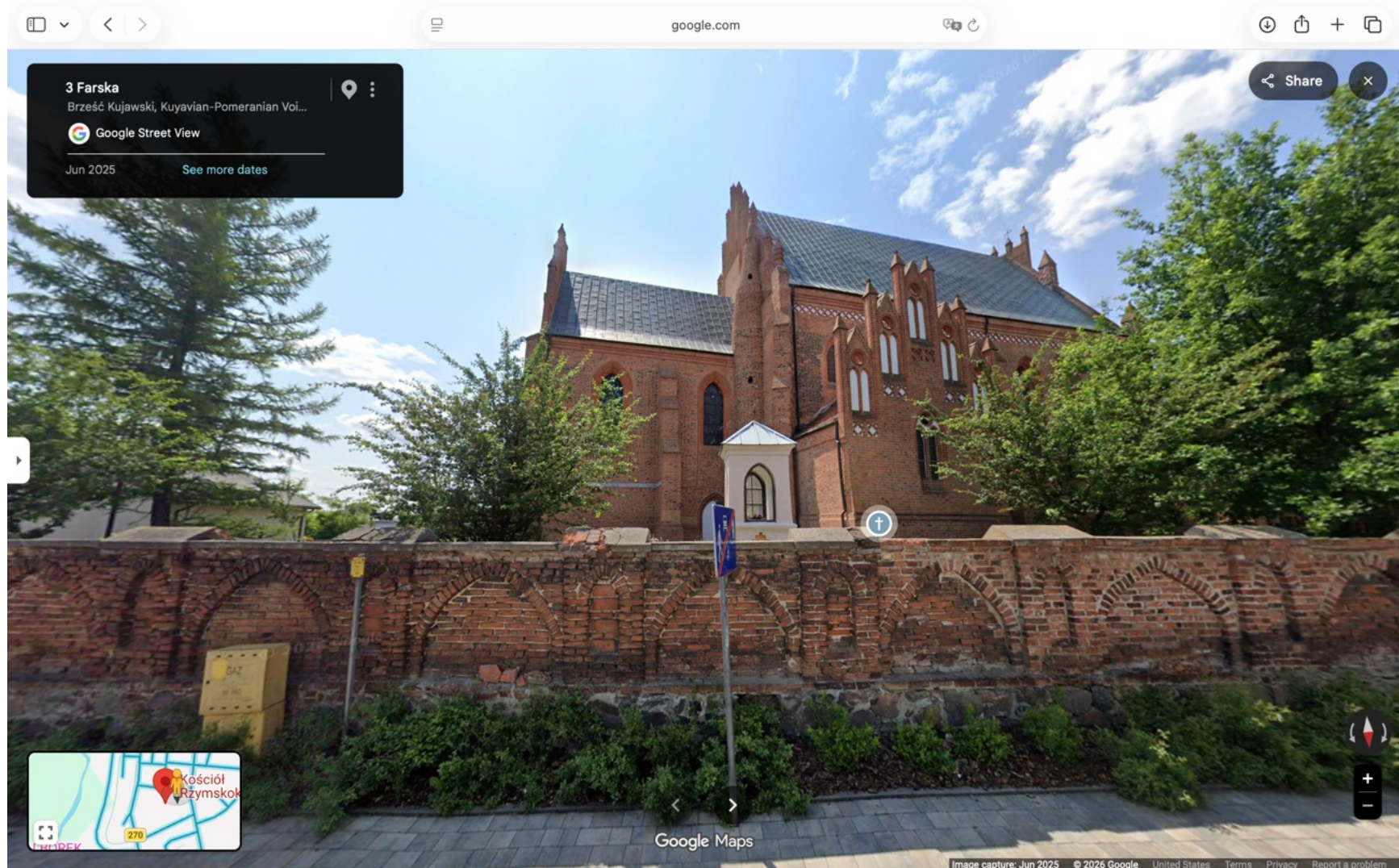
- **Location:** *Villa Rządka Wola*
- **Date:** *30ma mensis Januarij* (January 30)
- **Latin Text:**

...Laboriosum Balthazarem et Mariannam ancillam ambo de præsenti villa...

- **English Translation:**

"...the workingman **Baltazar** and **Marianna**, a maid servant, both from the present village [Rządka Wola]..."

AI translation (Google Gemini)



Present-day Catholic Church in Brześć Kujawski

Świętego Stanisława Biskupa i Męczennika
Source: Google Maps (Street View)

It would appear that Balthazar Surdinski, his wife Marianna, and daughter-in-law Marianna are buried inside this building.
Analysis of the possible interior burial locations, with AI-assistance from Google Gemini, is shown on the next page.

Does the Church Still Exist?

Yes, the church absolutely still stands!

The parish church for Pikutkowo is the **Church of St. Stanislaus the Bishop and Martyr** (*Kościół św. Stanisława Biskupa i Męczennika*) in Brześć Kujawski.

- **Its History:** The church's brick Gothic core was originally constructed in the **14th century** under King Casimir III the Great (and Prince Casimir I of Kuyavia before that).
- **Disasters & Rebuilds:** It suffered severe fires and war damage over the centuries—including during the Swedish Deluge in 1657.
- **The 19th-Century Collapse:** Not long after Marianna (1793), Baltazar (1774), and Marianna (1773) were buried inside, the church fell into structural ruin. In **1806**, just four years after Jan died in 1802, the roof/vaulting collapsed, and the building was closed (even serving as a military warehouse for Napoleon's French troops in 1812).
- **Renovations:** It underwent major renovations between **1819–1830** and a large neo-Gothic restoration in the early 20th century. Today, the restored 14th-century Gothic brick structure remains the active parish seat of Brześć Kujawski.

What Happened to the Remains Buried Inside?

During the 18th century, prominent parishioners like Baltazar and the two Mariannas were placed in brick-lined vaults or earthen crypt pits directly beneath the church floor—specifically near or in the choir/chancel (*in Choro Majori*).

When churches across Poland underwent major renovations in the 19th century—or suffered vault collapses like the 1806 ruin in Brześć Kujawski—interior interments were handled in one of a few ways:

1. Sealing in the Sub-Floor Crypts (Most Likely)

In most Polish brick Gothic churches that were renovated rather than completely demolished, the underground crypts and vault spaces beneath the nave and chancel were left intact. When new floorings (such as marble or tile) were laid over the older earth or brick sub-floors during the 1819–1830 repairs, the old graves remained in place under the floorboards/tiles. It is very likely their remains are **still resting beneath the floor of St. Stanislaus Church today**.

2. Consolidation into an Ossuary

If floor excavations or structural rebuilding required clearing out decaying earthen graves under the chancel floor, the parish priests typically gathered the disinterred bones and moved them into a collective **parish crypt/ossuary** (*krypta zbiorowa*) beneath the church floor or relocated them to a common plot in the newly established extramural graveyard (such as the *Holy Spirit / Piaski* cemetery where Jan was buried in 1802).

Visiting Today

If you ever travel to Brześć Kujawski, you can physically visit the **Church of St. Stanislaus**. While individual grave markers inside the church from the 1700s rarely survived the 1806 roof collapse and 19th-century repaving, standing in the chancel means standing in the exact sacred space where Baltazar and his family were interred!

1. Physical Building vs. Exterior Churchyard: Vocabulary Distinction

The register uses two entirely distinct technical Latin terms that completely rule out "interior" meaning the church grounds or an exterior yard:

- *In Cœmeterio* (In the Cemetery / Churchyard):
 - Refers to outdoor ground burials.
 - Scribes meticulously note directional position and proximity to external structures, e.g., *in Cœmeterio ad meridiem* ("in the cemetery to the south"), *ad aquilonem* ("to the north"), *ad orientem* ("to the east"), or *prope offarium* ("near the ossuary").
- *In Ecclesiâ* (Inside the Church):
 - Refers explicitly to subterranean crypt, vault, or floor burials **inside the physical church building**.
 - Scribes note internal architectural features, e.g., *in horo Majori* (in the main choir/chancel), *ad fores Ecclesiæ Majores* (near the main church doors), *prope altare* (near the altar), or *in fornice* (in the crypt/vault).

When Baltazar Surdyka was buried on November 3, 1774, the entry reads:

"...sepultus est in Ecclesiâ Parochiali in horo Majori ad Fores Ecclesiæ Majores..."

("...was buried **in the Parish Church**, in the main choir/chancel near the main church doors...")

This precise spatial detail explicitly places his grave **inside the physical interior of the church building**.

AI analysis (Google Gemini) of multiple burial records for additional insight into Baltazar Surdinski's burial inside the church.

1. The Space Paradox: Grave Recycling & Crypt Rotations

Churches did not treat interior graves as permanent, undisturbed plots in the way modern cemeteries do. Instead, they relied on dynamic space management:

Under-Floor Earth Rotations (Dirt/Tile Floors)

- **Rapid Decomposition:** Earth floors inside churches allowed bodies wrapped in simple linen shrouds (or light wooden coffins) to decompose within 10 to 20 years.
- **Layering & Clearing:** Scribes and undertakers regularly reopened floor plots. Older bones (*ossua*) were cleared out and moved to a parish **ossuary** (*offarium* or *ossa rium*, which appears several times in your register entries!), freeing up the floor space for new interments.
- **Multiple Depths:** Single pit locations held several family members stacked vertically over time.

Vaults and Crypts (*In Fornice*)

- **Coffin Stacking:** Brick crypts beneath chapels or main aisles were spacious rooms designed to stack dozens of coffins along wall niches or in central chambers.
- **Periodic Cleansing:** When a crypt filled up, bones were collected into stone ossuary chests or transferred to secondary crypts to clear room for fresh burials.

AI analysis (Google Gemini) of what happened to the remains of those buried inside the church

Children of Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski

Representative documents are shown below.

et Catharina Organum obit
 Villa Piikutkovo et hanc
 etiam Augusti 1738 Penquidu
 pro Baptizavit Eliam nomine
 Rodam Laboliosi Baltazaris dicti
 Surdyka et contestes eius Marian
 na Legitimiortus Paktini fueru
 Hincetus Josephus Faber de villa
 presente et Janata Marianna
 Sabona Civita Pnieten
 Villa Leacha Wola

1738 Baptism of Rose Surdyka
 Piikutkovo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo Stawisko.

On the 3rd of August 1738, the same [priest] as above baptized a daughter named **Róża [Rose]**, [child] of the workingman **Baltazar** called **Surdyka** and his spouse **Marianna**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were the honest **Józef Faber** [or Józef the Blacksmith] from the present village, and the well-born/famous **Marianna Dębska** from the City of Brześć."

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Victoria Kosowka
 Villa Poluska Major
 22da May 1740 Baptizatus Quis Mi.
 Michael Surdinski Vicarius Ecclesiae
 Parochialis Brzeskensis Filium
 nomine Sophiae Lubowicki Baptizatus
 dicto Surdicki et Confortis eius
 Madriand Legitimi Atque Patrimi
 Invere Laboratus Syonius Sutorum
 uak et Tamata Teresia Cymelmonenda
 vidua Cirilla Brzeskensis
 Villa Lubosa Major.

1740 Baptism of Sophia Surdicka
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Greater Pikutkowo.

On the 22nd day of May 1740, the Reverend Michał Budziński, Vicar of the Parish Church of Brześć, baptized a daughter named **Sophia [Zofia]**, [child] of the workingman **Baltazar called Surdyka** and his spouse **Marianna**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were: the workingman **Dionizy [Dyonisius] called Dycjak**, and the well-born/reputable **Teresa Cymermanowa [Zimmermann]**, widow, from the City of Brześć."

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Villa. Pikutkowo.
 Adra mensis Juny 27 41 Ego
 Reginus Pichostendier Sacerdos
 ordinis Praedicatorum Baptiza-
 vi Filium nomine Joannem
 Labovicki Baltasari et Consorti
 ejus Marianna Legitimi or-
 tus Patrimoni Honustus
 Albertus Piegonski Molitor
 de mola Lawa da et Labo-
 vicka Lophia Kapustiana de
 villa pikutkowo.
 Villa Zaberek

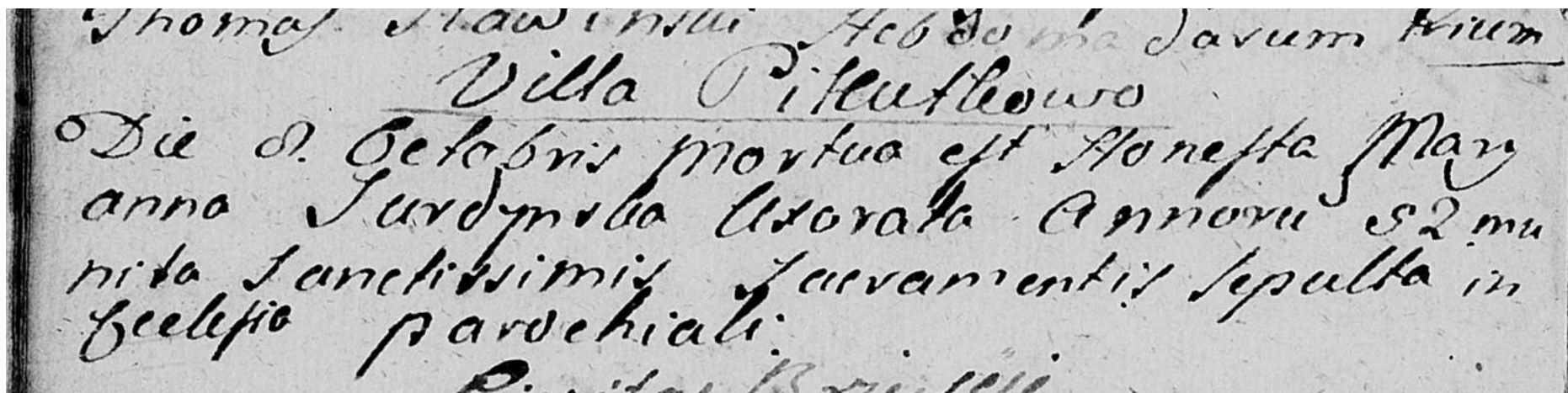
1741 Baptism of a child named John without a surname
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 15th day of the month of June 1741, I, Giles Piekoszewicz, priest of the Order of Preachers [Dominicans], baptized a son named **Joannes [Jan / John]**, [child] of the workingman **Baltazar** and his spouse **Marianna**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were: the honest **Wojciech [Adalbertus] Piegoński, Miller** from the Zawada mill, and the workingwoman **Zofia Kapuścina** from the village of Pikutkowo."

AI translation (Google Gemini)



Death record of Marianna Surdynska
Died 10/8/1793
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

Listed as 52 years old with an estimated year of birth as 1741

Below: AI translation (Google Gemini)

2. Latin Text

Villa Pikutkowo

Die 8. Octobris mortua est Honesta Marianna Surdyńska Uxorata Annoru[m] 52 munita Sanctissimis Sacramentis sepulta in Ecclesia parochiali.

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 8th day of October, died the honest Marianna Surdyńska, married woman [wife], aged 52 years, fortified with the Most Holy Sacraments, buried inside the parish church."

ac abj Villa Piikutkowo
 Diet. gliz quem qui supra premij
 sis in fide fulefia Sieb. Festivi
 coram populo pro fivim Andij ten
 gregatu hioz Bonny pruvio Exam
 nes pruvia sacramentali Confessio
 ne ac Sacratissima Communione
 nullus reperto impedimento tam
 canonico quam civili, mutuo deniq
 partium consensu Benedixi Matrimo
 nium inter Henr. Joannem Sur
 dynski viduum et Agnethem =
 Sieczkowska defloratam virgi
 nem festis fide digni fuere testimi
 ny Gabronski Antoniy Sieczkow
 ski ac abj multi
 Villa Pradkowsko

1801 Marriage between John Surdyski and Agnes Sieczkowska
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

John Surdyski was listed as a widower.

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 11th day of November, the same [priest] as above, after three banns were announced in the face of the Church on Feast days before the people gathered to hear divine services, with prior examination, prior Sacramental Confession, and Most Holy Communion, and finding no canonical or civil impediment, with the mutual consent of the parties, I blessed the marriage between the honest **Jan Surdyński, widower**, and **Agnieszka Sieczkowska, maiden/virgin**. Trustworthy witnesses were **Kazimierz Jabłoński, Antoni Sieczkowski**, and many others."

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Filius & 26 diebus obiit sacer in camera
na Piaskach. Villa Pikutkowo
Anno ut supra & 30 Augusti obiit labor Johannes Surdinski
sibi Patris Omnia Sacramenta Monitus Sepultus in ce
meterio s. Spiritus & 1. Septembris na Piaskach.

1803 Death record of John Surdinski
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)
Died on 8/30/1803 (age not listed)

Below: AI translation (Google Gemini)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

In the same year as above, on the 30th day of August [1802], died the workingman Jan Surdyński, fortified with all the Sacraments of Salvation. He was buried in the Cemetery of the Holy Spirit on the 1st day of September at Piaski [na Piaskach]."

na 20 mg
 Villa Pukthow
 20^{to} Februarij 1744 quidam
 Baptizavit Filium Paulum
 Genitum Laboriosi Battista
 v. Sordika et Consortis ejus
 Mariannae Legitimi ortus P.
 trini fuer. Pater Casimi
 rus Kudrinski^{us} vicu Gu
 zlin et Amata Dorothaea
 Gradonoka C. A. obiit
 o Villa Bratka v. d.

1744 Baptism of Paul Sordika
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

On the 2nd day of February [1744], the same [priest] as above baptized a son **Paweł [Paul]**, [born as a twin / twin child], of the workingman **Baltazar Surdyka** and his spouse **Marianna**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were: the honest **Kazimierz Budziński** from the village of Guźlin, and the well-born/famous **Dorota Gradońska** from the City of Brześć. [Marginal note: **died / obiit**]"

AI translation (Google Gemini)

Villa Pichutkow
 Anno corq d 24 Januarij
 Id qui supra baptizavi f.
 mellam Constantiam Bal-
 thazaris & Mariannae Sordy-
 korow D. L. C. C. Patrini fue-
 runt A. F. Franciscus Bra-
 zczynski u. Barbara Waf-
 ska River Presto Cujus
 Villa Balborz

1746 Baptism of Constance Sordyk
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

In the same year on the 24th day of January [1746], I the same as above baptized the twin **Constancia [Konstancja]**, [child] of **Baltazar** and **Marianna Surdyk**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were the honest and reputable/famous **Franciszek Bruszczyński** with **Barbara Wałęcka**, citizens of Brześć Kujawski."

AI translation

Ha ex villa. cap. Jap...
 Villa Pichutkovo
 Anno Dni 1748 d 22 Maji De
 qui supra baptizati Mariam Ma-
 galenam de Patris Balthasaris
 & Mariannae Sordykow Legiti-
 moru Conjugu. Patris suae
 Jam Jacobo Lomienkisi viri Br-
 cum Marianna Laborowska
 Villa Pradka Wola

1748 Baptism of Maria Magdalena Sordyk
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo.

In the Year of the Lord 1748 on the 22nd day of May, I the same as above baptized **Maria Magdalena de Pazzis**, [daughter] of **Baltazar** and **Marianna Surdyk**, legitimate spouses. The godparents were the well-born/reputable **Jakub Łomżyński**, citizen of Brześć, with **Marianna Zborowska**."

AI translation (Google Gemini)

nepta wa garzborna
 Pikutkowo
 Anno eod q 21 Januarii
 baptizavi Agnetem Bal-
 thazaris & Mariannae
 Gordyskow, Patrisi pater

136
 Josephus Fabrycki cum
 Sophia Kapusina de ead
 villa ^{Obit}
 Popowiczki
 Anno Domini 1750 d

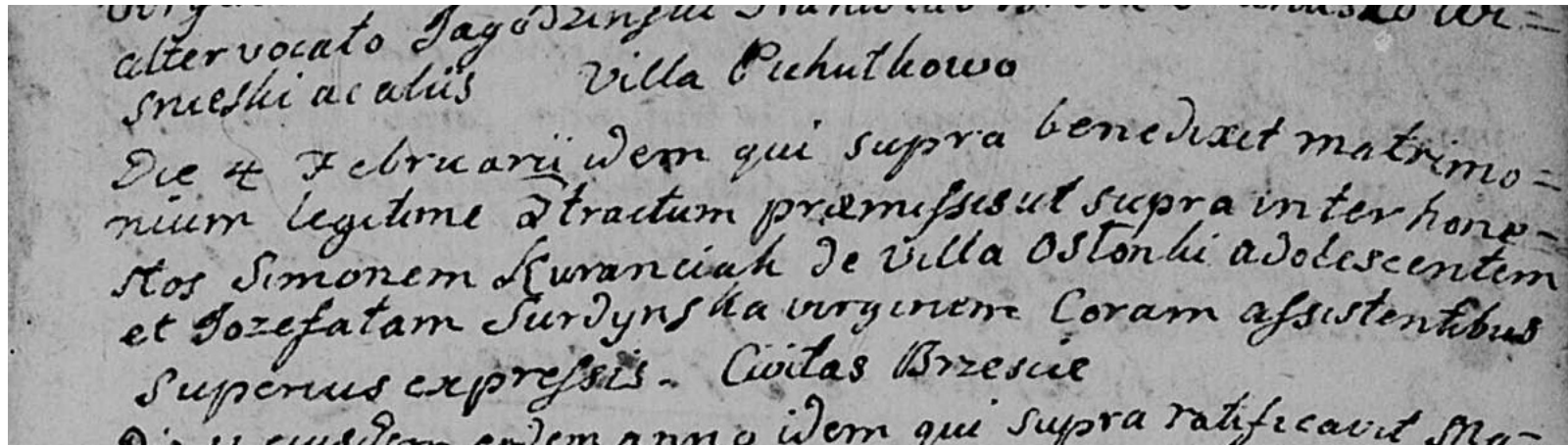
1750 Baptism of Agnes Sordyk
 Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

3. English Translation

"Pikutkowo.

In the same year [1750] on the 21st day of January, I baptized **Agnieszka** [Agnes], [daughter] of **Baltazar** and **Marianna Surdyk**. The godparents were **Józef Fabrycki** with **Zofia Kapuścina** from the same village. [Marginal note above/beside line: **Died / Obiit**]"

AI translation (Google Gemini)



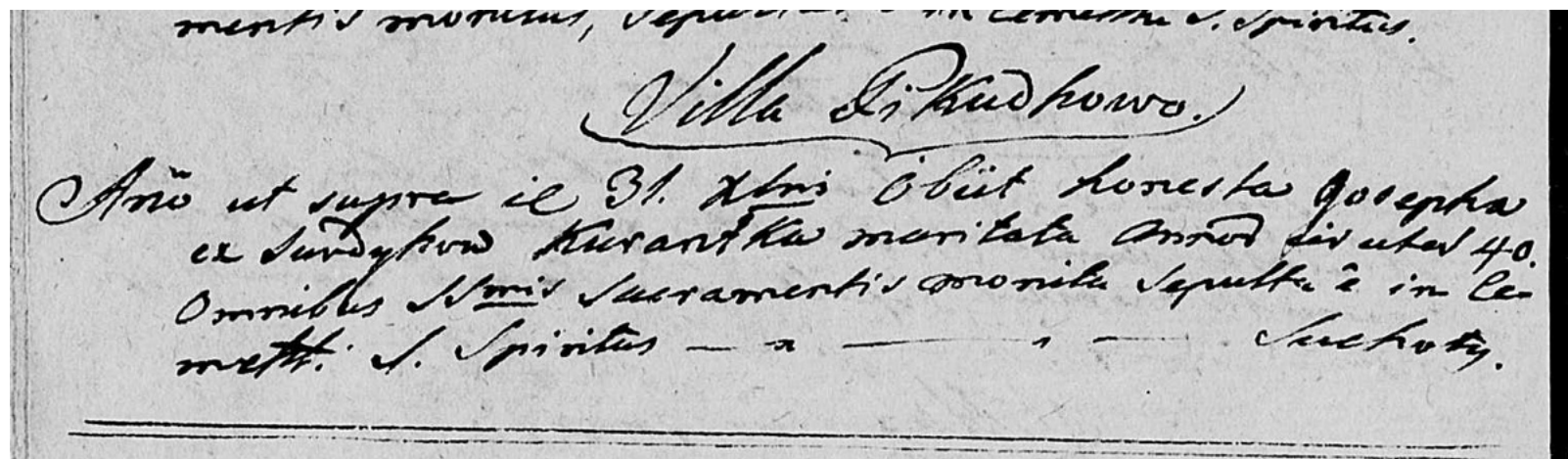
1787 Marriage of Simon (Szymon) Kuran/Kuranciak and Josephine (Józefa) Surdynski
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

Below: AI translation (Google Gemini)

2. English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo

On the 4th day of February, the same [priest] as above blessed the marriage legitimately contracted, banns having been proclaimed as above, between the honest **Szymon Kuranciak** [or *Kurańczak*] from the village of **Ostońki**, a youth [bachelor], and **Józefata Surdynska**, a virgin [spinster], in the presence of the witnesses listed above."



1808 Death of Josephine (Surdyk) Kurant
Pikutkowo (Brześć Kujawski)

Listed as 40 years old with an estimated year of birth as 1768

Below: AI translation (Google Gemini)

English Translation

"Village of Pikutkowo

In the year as above, on the 31st day of December [1808], died the honest Józefata Kurańska, born Surdyk (ex Surdyków), a married woman, aged approximately 40 years. Fortified with all the Most Holy Sacraments, she was buried in the Cemetery of the Holy Spirit — [Cause of death:] Consumption / Tuberculosis (Suchoty)."

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.

Balthazar and Marianna Surdinski are Michael E. Byczek's 6x-great-grandparents. Their son John Surdinski (5x-great-grandfather) and his wife Marianna had a daughter Agnes (4x-great-grandmother). She married Rocco Piotrowski in 1801 in Brześć Kujawski. Their son Ignatius Piotrowski (3x-great-grandfather) married Marciana Zaparucha in 1845 in Dabie. Their son Joseph Piotrowski (2x-great-grandfather) married Victoria Nowakowski in 1876 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 in Chicago. They have two children. Michael E. Byczek is the eldest and was born in the Bridgeport neighborhood.

Google Maps (Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship, in north-central Poland)

- Pikutkowo is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Brześć Kujawski, within Włocławek County
- Brześć Kujawski is a town in the administrative district of Gmina Brześć Kujawski, within Włocławek County

Revision History:

8/21/2026

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