

# Singer to croon in many tongues for sisters' retirement collection

By LIZ URBANSKI  
Staff Writer

Poland's answer to Barbra Streisand has scheduled a concert to benefit the Sisters' Retirement Fund.

After hearing the testimony of a religious sister at a recent Sunday Mass at St. Adalbert's Church in Schenectady, Irena Jarocka decided to put her vocal skills to work for the nuns.

An internationally acclaimed singer with 25 years of performances, pop hits, movies and performances all over Europe, Australia and Polish venues in the U.S. and Canada, Ms. Jarocka was so moved by the appeal that "I immediately wanted to help," she told The Evangelist. "The sisters are so poor now. How can they have enough money to survive in retirement? If I can help, it's a pleasure for me."

The singer enjoys holiday concerts, she said, because "it's a beautiful time of year to gather together with families,

when the most important thing is love between people."

Ms. Jarocka has recorded more than 10 albums in Polish, German, French, English and Italian, three of which have gone gold. She began her singing career in the cathedral choir in the northern Poland seaport city of Gdansk and moved to the Capital District with her husband and daughter only about three months ago.

At the benefit concert for the Sisters Retirement Fund, she will perform 20 holiday carols in Polish, English and other European languages. She plans to perform "Silent Night" in French, English, German and Polish.

**(Irena Jarocka's concert is scheduled for Dec. 29, 7:30 p.m., at the Church of St. Adalbert, Schenectady. Suggested donations are \$10 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. For more information, contact the Church of St. Adalbert, 346-4204.)**



Irena Jarocka