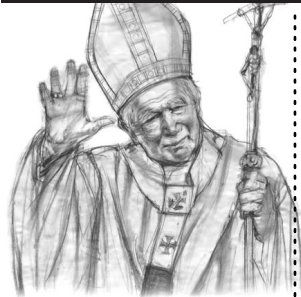


Time line Highlights of Pope John Paul II's life



May 18, 1920

Born Karol Joseph Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland, to his father, Karol, a foundry worker, and mother, Emilia, a schoolteacher; his mother died when he was 9 years old.

Illustration by Janet Hamlin, AP

Nov. 1, 1946

Ordained as a priest.

1964

Installed as bishop of Krakow.

Oct. 16, 1978

Elected pope by cardinals, first Pole ever and first non-Italian in 455 years. Succeeds Pope John Paul I, who died after 34-day papacy.

May 13, 1981

Shot in abdomen by Turkish extremist in St. Peter's Square.

Dec. 1, 1989

Meets with Mikhail Gorbachev at Vatican, first ever meeting between a pope and a Kremlin chief.

May 1, 1991

Issues first encyclical on social issues since fall of communism in Europe, giving qualified approval to capitalism but warning rich against exploiting poor.

Oct. 31, 1992

Formally declares church erred in condemning Galileo.



Oct. 19, 1994

His book, "Beyond the Threshold of Hope," published.

March 1, 1999

Vatican confirms pope has waived five-year waiting period and begun beatification process for Mother Teresa.

March 20-26, 2000

Makes first trip to Holy Land and expresses sorrow for suffering of Jews at Christian hands in note left at Jerusalem's Western Wall.

Sept. 11, 2001

Condemns "unspeakable horror" of Sept. 11 attacks.

April 23, 2002

Meets with U.S. cardinals to discuss sex-abuse scandal; says no place in priesthood for clerics who abuse young.

Source: Associated Press

July 31, 2003

Vatican launches global campaign against gay marriages.

Oct. 16, 2003

At age 83, observes the 25th anniversary of his papacy.

Feb. 1, 2005

Complications from the flu lead to hospitalization twice in February. He undergoes a tracheotomy on Feb. 24 and suffers heart failure March 31.

April 2, 2005

Vatican officials announce the death of Pope John Paul II at age 84.