

● On **15 March 2012**, the National Bank of Poland is putting into circulation coins commemorating Poles rescuing the Jews - The Families of Ulma, Kowalski, Baranek, with the following face values:

**20 zł** struck in proof finish in silver,

**2 zł** struck in standard finish, in Nordic Gold.

## The National Bank of Poland

holds the exclusive right to issue the currency  
of the Republic of Poland.

In addition to **coins and notes for general circulation**,  
the NBP issues **collector coins and notes**.

Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate  
important historic figures and anniversaries, as well  
as to develop the interest of the public in Polish culture,  
science and tradition.

Since 1996, the NBP has also been issuing **occasional 2 złoty**  
coins, struck in **Nordic Gold**, for general circulation.

All coins and notes issued  
by the NBP are legal tender in Poland.

COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012

On **30 March 2012** the National Bank of Poland  
is going to put into circulation the coin "50 Years  
of the Third Programme of the Polish Radio",  
with the face value of **2 zł (Nordic Gold)**.

Information on the issue schedule can be found at the  
[www.nbp.pl/monety](http://www.nbp.pl/monety)  
website.

Collector coins issued by the National Bank of Poland  
are sold in the Kolekcjoner service (Internet auction/Online shop)  
at the following website:

[www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl](http://www.kolekcjoner.nbp.pl)

 **KOLEKCJONER**

and at the NBP regional branches.

The coins were struck at the Mint of Poland in Warsaw.  
Edited and printed: NBP Printing Office

# NBP

National Bank of Poland

# COINS



Poles rescuing the Jews -  
The Families  
of Ulma, Kowalski, Baranek

# Poles rescuing the Jews - The Families of Ulma, Kowalski, Baranek

● Of all crimes committed by the genocidal Nazi regime in occupied Europe, murders of civilians (children, women, elderly people and whole families) were particularly vicious. During the World War II, nearly 6 million Jews were murdered. However, German occupiers frequently applied the method of inhumane, collective responsibility to the Poles as well: they would pacify villagers for helping the partisans, residents of Warsaw during the uprising of 1944, and Polish families daring to provide help for persecuted Jews.

● Already in October 1941, death penalty for Jews escaping from ghettos and those providing help for them was introduced at the territory of the General Government. The German policemen were taking the decision on execution at their own discretion and the victims were usually killed on the spot. Death penalty started to be applied towards Poles providing help for Jews beginning from the last months of 1942. Alongside exterminations in ghettos, the Jewish who managed to hide were being hunted down. According to comprehensive documentation, in the years 1942-1945 about 700 Poles were killed for attempting to help Jews, and in at least 40 cases this "collective guilt" was attributed to whole families: adults and children.

## The Kowalski family from Ciepeliów near Radom

● In the autumn of 1942, Adam and Bronisława Kowalski sheltered two Jewish neighbours (Elka Cukier and Berek Pineches) in their house. Jews were also hiding in other houses in Ciepeliów.

On 6 December 1942, German military policemen, informed by local Volksdeutsche, surrounded suspected houses. Members of the Kowalski family (not only parents but also children aged from 1 to 16: Tadeusz, Henryk, Stefan, Zofia and Janina) were burnt alive in a wooden house belonging to the Obuchiewicz family, together with their neighbours and the hiding Jews. On the whole, 31 Poles and an unknown number of Jews were murdered in Ciepeliów on that day.

## The Baranek family from Siedliska near Miechów

● On 15 March 1943, during an inspection carried out by Sonderdienst (German auxiliary police) in the house of Wincenty and Łucja Baranek, two shelters were discovered with four Jews, most likely from Goldfinger family. The Jews were immediately killed, and Wincenty and Łucja Baranek, together with their sons (9-year-old Tadeusz and 13-year-old Henryk), were shot in the back of their heads. Germans ordered the villagers, under the threat of massive repression, to bring Łucja's absent mother, Katarzyna Kopeć, to Miechów the next day. She was shot there.

## The Ulma family from Markowa near Łańcut

● Józef Ulma, together with his wife Wiktoria, sheltered 8 Jews from the Schall and Goldman families in the attic of their house for 18 months. On 24 March 1944, upon denunciation by a local Blue policeman, all members of the Ulma family (including six children

aged from eighteen months to eight years: Władysław, Stanisława, Marian, Franciszek, Barbara, Antoni), along with the Jews, were killed on the spot by officers of the German military police and of the General Government police forces. In 1995, Wiktoria i Józef were posthumously awarded the medal "Righteous among the Nations" by the Yad Vashem Institute in Israel. In 2003, the Catholic Church began the beatification process for the whole family.

● The tragedy of these families is the best illustration of an awful price that many people had to pay during the Holocaust if their courage and heroism were equal to those of the battlefield heroes. Many of those who offered help perished, but it is thanks to such people that about 30-40 thousand Jews survived the occupation of Poland. We will never find out how many people were involved in rescuing people of Jewish extraction in Poland, but their number was certainly several times higher than the number of survivors. And although most of our fellow citizens did not know how to, or were unable to, resist the crimes, the accomplishments of the noblest and bravest people should give us the strength to cope with difficult problems in our history. The memory of those who were rescuing other people when doing so was almost a superhuman act cannot pass away.

**Jerzy Halbersztadt**

**Former Director of Museum of the History of Polish Jews  
President of the Partnership in Culture Foundation  
(Fundacja Partnerstwo w Kulturze)**

COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012 COINS ISSUED IN 2012



FACE VALUE **20** ZŁ

metal Ag 925/1000 (oxidised) ■ finish standard ■ diameter 38.61 mm  
weight 28.28 g ■ mintage (volume) 40,000 pcs

**OBVERSE:** At the top, on the right, an image of the Eagle established as the state emblem of the Republic of Poland. On the right of the Eagle, diagonally, the notation of the year of issue, 2012. Below the Eagle, on a separate plane, stylised image of a cottage and trees. Below, an inscription: 20 zł. On the left, diagonally from bottom to top, an inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA (Republic of Poland). On the right, left and at the bottom separate planes depicting stylised wooden planks. Against them, on the right, at the bottom, an inscription: CIEPELIÓW 6.12.1942/SIEDLISKA 15.03.1943/MARKOWA 24.03.1944. The Mint's mark, M/W, below the Eagle, on the right.

**REVERSE:** At the bottom, stylised figures of a woman, a man and children. On the right and left, diagonally, an inscription: RODZINY ULMÓW, KOWALSKICH, BARANKÓW [The Families of Ulma, Kowalski, Baranek]. At the bottom, on the left, a stylised outline of a fragment of a figure holding a German machine gun pointed at a group of people. At the top, an inscription: POLACY/RATUJĄCY ŻYDÓW (Poles rescuing the Jews).

Coin designer: **GRZEGORZ PFEIFER**



FACE VALUE **2** ZŁ

metal CuAl5Zn5Sn1 alloy ■ finish standard ■ diameter 27.00 mm  
weight 8.15 g ■ mintage (volume) 800,000 pcs

**OBVERSE:** An image of the Eagle established as the state emblem of the Republic of Poland. On the sides of the Eagle, the notation of the year of issue: 20-12. Under the Eagle, inscription: ZŁ 2 ZŁ. Along the rim, inscription: RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA (Republic of Poland), preceded and followed by six pearls. The Mint's mark: M/W, under the Eagle, on the right hand side.

**REVERSE:** Centrally, a stylised image of a woman holding a child. Above, an inscription: POLACY/ratujący (Poles rescuing), and on the right, perpendicularly, an inscription: ŻYDÓW (the Jews). At the bottom, on the right, a stylised image of a bust of a man. At the top, in semicircle, an inscription: RODZINY ULMÓW, KOWALSKICH, BARANKÓW (THE FAMILIES OF ULMA, KOWALSKI, BARANEK).

**ON THE EDGE:** The inscription: NBP, repeated eight times, every second one inverted by 180 degrees, separated by stars.

Obverse designer: **EWA TYC-KARPIŃSKA**  
Reverse designer: **GRZEGORZ PFEIFER**