

FR. PETER SEMENENKO CR



Born: 29 June 1814
in Dzieńciołów, Poland

Died: 18 November 1886
in Paris, France

Biography part 1



- Schooled in Tykocin.
- In 1830 he started his studies at the University of Wilno (Department of Philosophy).
- Participant of the November Uprising (1830) – 16 years old
- Emmigrated to France (1832).

- He met Bogdan Jański in 1833, who soon became his spiritual director and master.
- He lives with B. Jański since January 1835.
- 17 February 1836 r. – Jański's House.

Biography part 2



- 1836-37: College Stanislas in Paris.
- From October 1837 moves to Rome.
- 1837-41: Collegium Romanum.
- 5 December 1841 – ordained to the priesthood.
- 27 March 1842 – religious vows in the catacombs of St. Sebastian.
- 1840-1845 – superior of the Community.
- 1847 – in Tunisia.

- Died on 18th November 1886 in Paris, France.



Wladimir Semenuk

Merits for CR



- **First superior of the Community.**
- **Author of the first Rule (1842) and principal editor of the following ones (1850 - 1880).**
- **Creator of the main spiritual ideas of the Congregation (Resurrectionist School of Spirituality).**
- **He laid the foundation for the Resurrectionist system of education.**
- **SUPERIOR GENERAL: 1840-1845 and 1873-1886.**

Polish Pontifical College

in Rome – for priest formation



- Founded: 1865 (1866).
- The founder and first rector (president).
- Many alumni of the College (1865-1938) accepted and adopted resurrectionist spirituality and became outstanding:
 - priests (W. Granat, J. Czuj, J. Dąbrowski),
 - bishops and archbishops (22),
 - cardinals (A. Kakowski, E. Dalbor, A. Sapieha),
 - some have even been canonized and beatified (Saint Bishop Józef Sebastian Pelczar, Saint Bishop Józef Bilczewski and Blessed Father Jan Balicki).

Labors for the Holy See



- Actively collaborated with the Holy See.
- The expert on Polish and Eastern matters.
- He was regarded as one of the most scholar members of the Church in the second part of the XIX Century, and because of his knowledge he was held in high esteem by popes.
- Worked as a consultor for the Sacred Congregations:
 - of the Index (since 1857),
 - the Holy Office (since 1873) [Doctrine of Faith].

*His works were highly evaluated,
and his statements were taken as final on regular basis.*

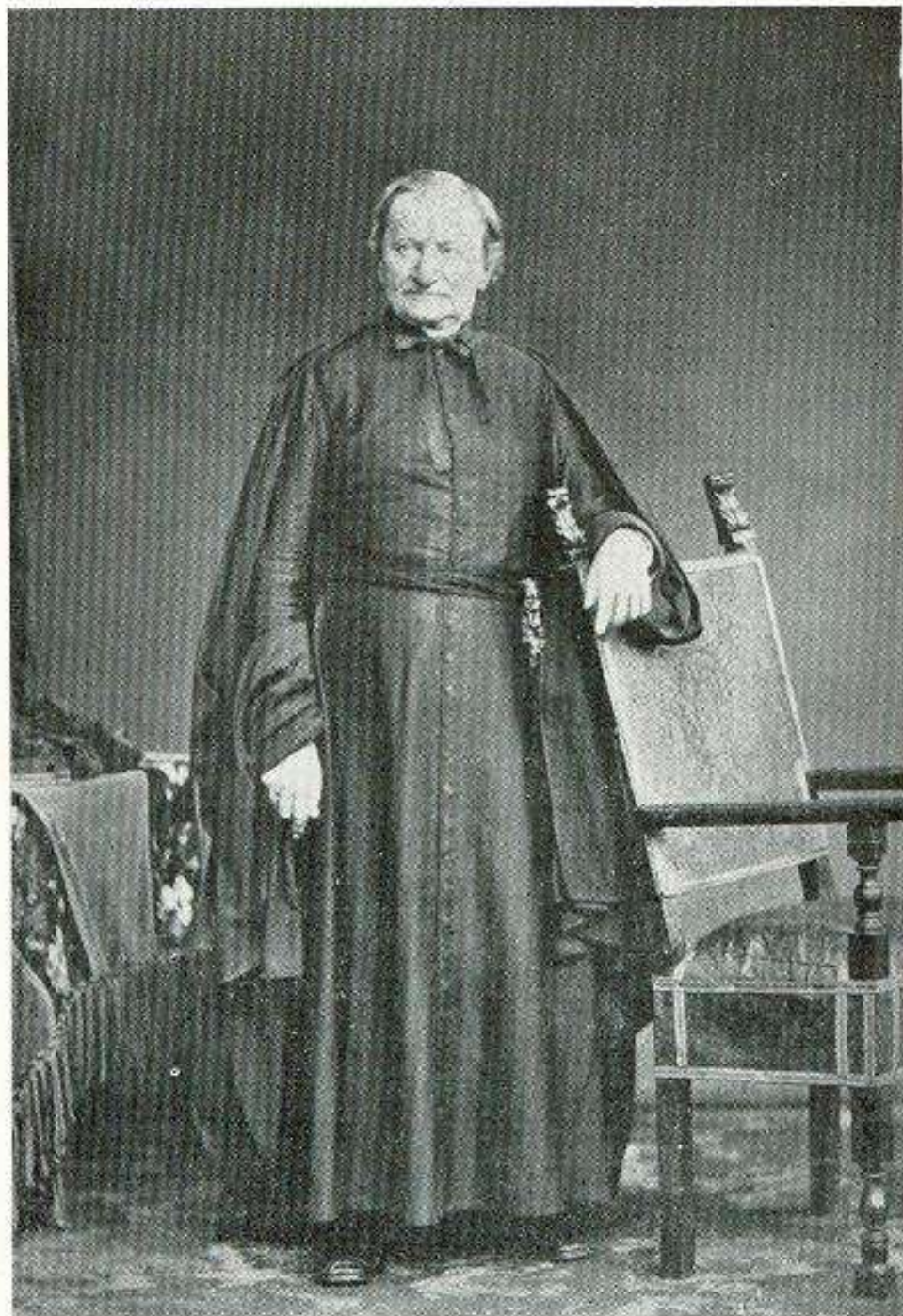
- He was a member of the prestigious Papal Academies:
 - Accademia della Religione Cattolica (since 1859),
 - Accademia degli Arcadi (since 1874).

Shepherd of souls and spiritual leader

- He was a highly respected priest, confessor and spiritual leader of many lay and religious persons, i.a.:
 - Blessed Celine Borzęcka and Hedwige,
 - Blessed Franciszka Siedliska,
 - Blessed Marceline Darowska,
 - Servant of God Kolumba Białecka,
 - Blessed Angela Truszkowska.

- He preached in various churches of Poland, France, Belgium, Bulgaria and Rome.

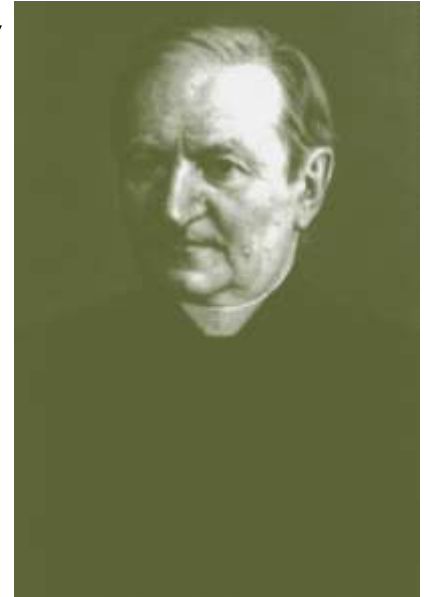




Religious Sisters

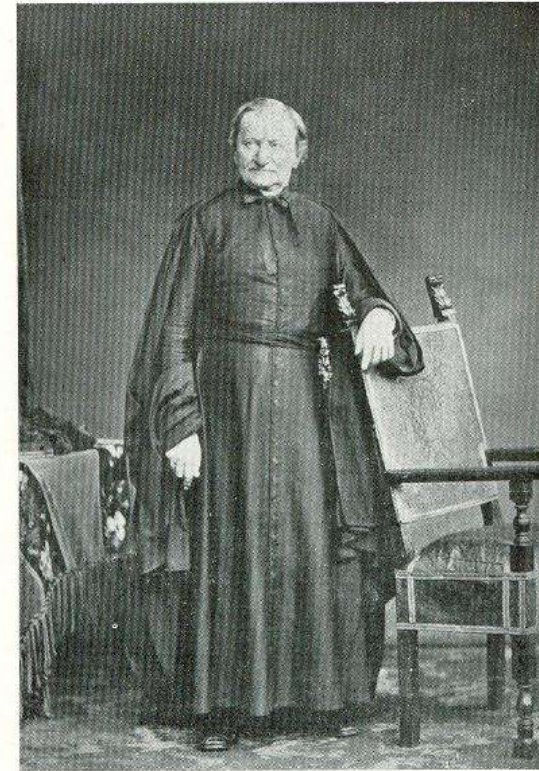
- He was a co-founder or helped to found many women's religious congregations, e.g.:
 - Sisters of the Immaculate Conception,
 - Sisters of the Resurrection,
 - Felician Sisters,
 - Dominican Sisters (Poland),
 - Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth,
 - Consolers of the Sacred Heart (Belgium),
 - Sisters of Adoration Réparatrice (France).

- He counselled the creation of Sisters Servants of the Mother of God (blessed Edmund Bojanowski) and aided in founding the congregations of blessed Fr. Honorat Koźmiński OFMCap. (habit-less communities).



WRITER – AUTHOR - THINKER

- Circa 10 000 letters.
- Diary (1851-1886).
- Author of many theological works and on the interior life, e.g.:
 - "Towiański et sa doctrine" (1850),
 - "Quid Papa ed Quid Episcopatus...",
 - "Higher View on Polish History",
 - "Credo",
 - "The Our Father",
 - "Passion and Death of Our Lord J.Ch.",
 - "Sermons" 4 volumes,
 - "Mystics" ⇒ "The Interior Life",
 - "Spiritual Exercises",
 - „Spiritual letters”.



Petrus Semenenko
Prop. Gen. Congr. a Resurr. D. N. J. Christi

Fr. Peter's philosophical works

- "Organon" (1856-1882),
- "Logica" (1856-58),
- "Traditionalism and Semi-Ractionalism"(1857),
- "Philosophical Banquets" (1859-1862),
- "Studio sull'Averroë" (1860),
- "Esthetics" (1865),
- "Philospohy of History" (1862),
- "Principia de intellectu humanae" (ok.1856),
- "Phisics" (1870-1873),
- "Proemium in philosophiam" (1864),
- "Tractatus elementaris philosophiae",
- "Key to Philosophy".



Summery

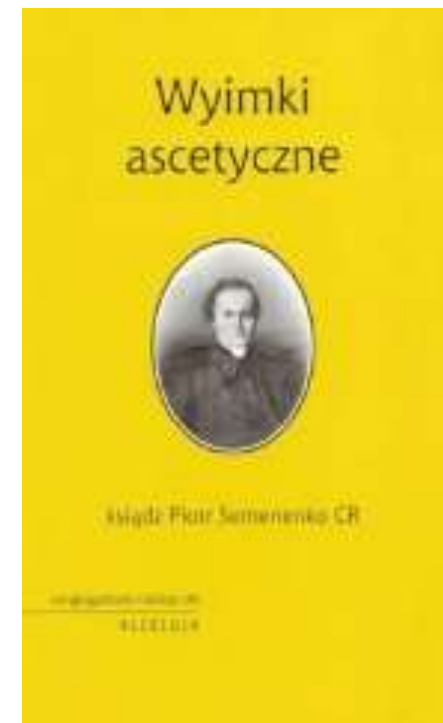
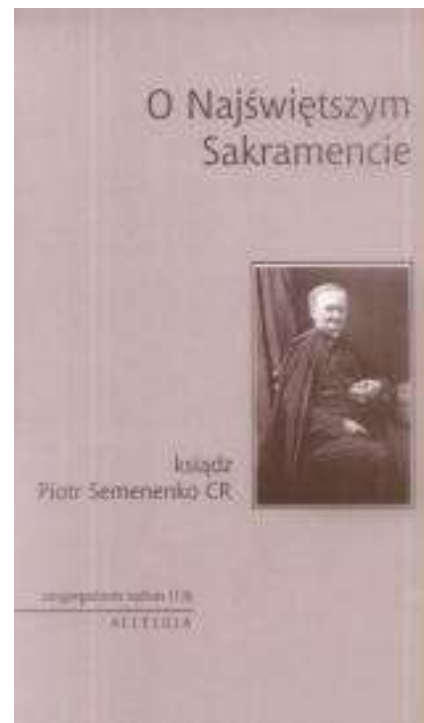
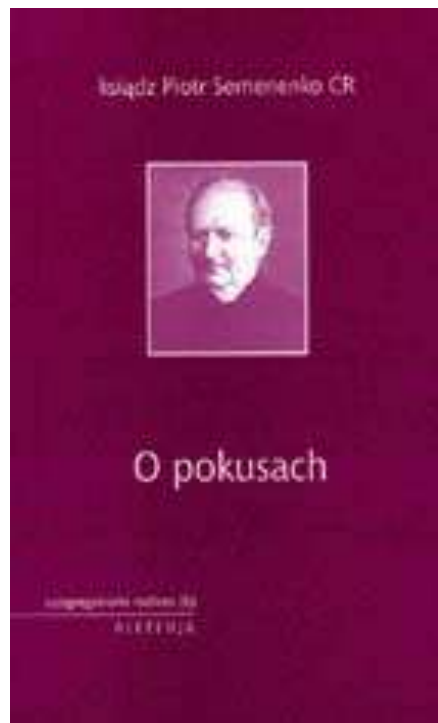


- Fr. Semenenko's life was formed in three outstanding environments of Wilno, Paris (1832-1838, 1846, 1849-1852) and Rome (1838-1845, 1852-1886).
- Co-founder of the CR's.
- Issues of the Church and Polish nation were at the center of his activity.
- He carried out wide and various pastoral, formation, scientific and literal activity.
- Fr. Peter was one of the most outstanding persons of the Church in the XIXth century.
- He was a highly respected priest, confessor and spiritual leader of many lay and religious persons .
- It is said that his scientific wisdom was characterized with distinction and versatile abilities; it is underlined that his intellect was speculative, with extraordinary talent for sinthesis, insight, independence and originality.
- He was an outstanding erudite and freely able to discuss even the most subtle problems.

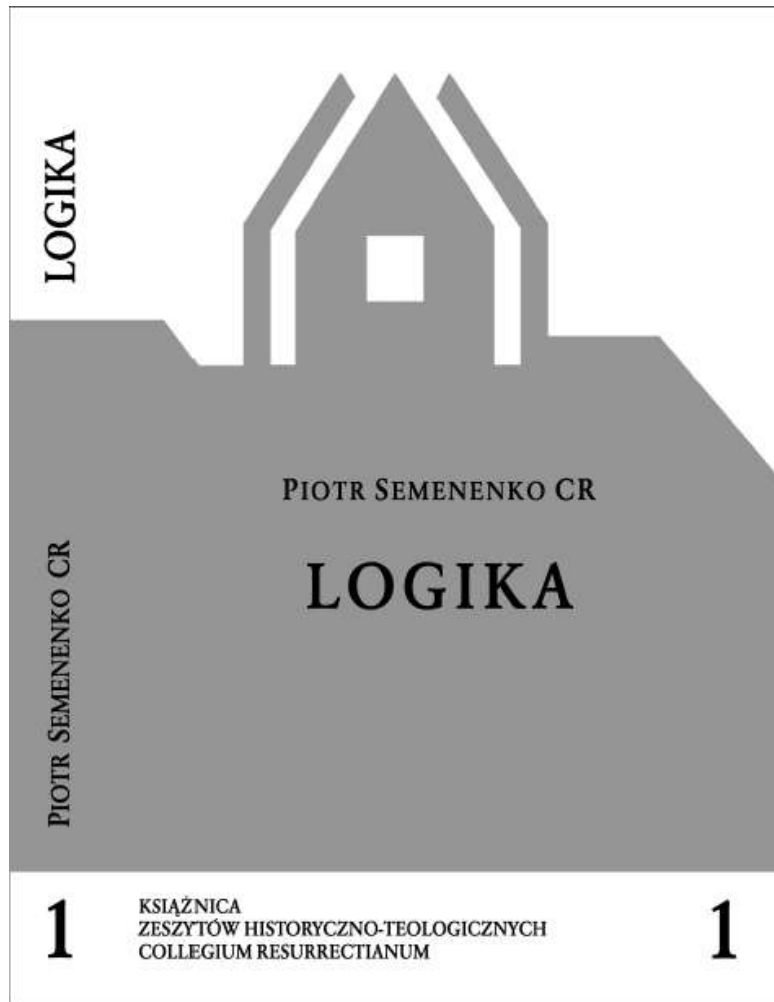
Pope Leo XIII about Fr. Peter

"I was very troubled when I received the sad news of Father Semenenko's death, and I haven't ceased to ardently recommend his soul to the Lord in the Divine Sacrifice. Father Semenenko was so esteemed in the whole city of Rome for his virtues. He was the soul of your Congregation and sacrificed his life for its welfare. He made a long journey to gather funds to build a new home and church for the Congregation in Rome. I hope his spirit lives on in your Congregation because it was for this reason that I entrusted the Greek College to you."

Recent publications



Recent publications part 2





Piotr Semenenko
Prap. Gen. Long. a Resur. D. X. J. Christ.

Piotr Semenenko

1814-1886



**This presentation was prepared by
Fr. Wojciech Mleczek, C.R.
for Resurrectionist Renewal Program
Rome, 4 – 17 October 2009**

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