



Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan Webinar

offered in partnership with the Polish Genealogical
Society of Connecticut and the Northeast

Shedding Light on Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Churches in Poland and Ukraine

presented by Justin Houser

Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

This Zoom meeting is free and open to the public.

Pre-registration is required.

Invitations will be emailed to PGSM members.

Registration will be open to everyone at pgsm.org starting March 1.

A significant proportion of immigrants from the former Austria-Hungary to North America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were of an Eastern Christian faith. Many started out here as "Greek Catholic," and some quickly became Orthodox. National affiliations such as Russian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian, and Carpatho-Russian abound, sometimes to describe the same family groups. This presentation will explain the history behind these religious affiliations and describe the records created by the various churches that can help with your family history.



*Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Mokre,
Sanok County, Subcarpathian Voivodeship*



Justin K. Houser, an attorney residing in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, has been actively and enthusiastically researching family history since childhood. The descendant of Ukrainian immigrants on his maternal side (with some Polish lines further back in the tree!), he has had a deep fascination with Eastern European history and genealogy. A past Board member of the Ukrainian History and Education Center and an active participant in the Center's Nashi Predky – Our Ancestors Family History Group, Justin continues to search for new resources and methods to trace Eastern European ancestors, particularly in the former Austrian province of Galicia. His direct ancestors came from the Galician villages of Mokre, Morochów, Zawadka Morochowska, Stefkowa, Pakoszkówka, Lalin, and Strachocina.