

Archbishop Życiński is both a member of the catholic hierarchy and a high profile academic with research interests in the history and philosophy of science and the relationship between science and evolution. He has also been very active in promoting Jewish-Catholic relations in the diocese of Lublin.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1972, following studies at the Częstochowa Major Seminary in Kraków. He earned his first doctorate in theology in 1976 at the Pontifical Faculty Theology in Kraków and earned a second doctorate in philosophy, at the Academy of Catholic Theology (ATK) in Warsaw.

He has held the Chair of Logic and Methodology at Kraków's Papal Academy of Theology (PAT) since 1980. From 1982-85 he served as Vice-Dean of the Academy's Faculty of Philosophy and, from 1988-90, as its Dean. He was one of the organizers of the interdisciplinary dialogue, "Science-Faith," which took place in Kraków, as well as conferences on the same topic (in which the late Pope took part) at Castel Gandolfo. He founded the journal series "Philosophy in Science," published by PAT, the Vatican Observatory and the University of Tucson. He also founded the series "Philosophy in Science Library," dedicated to interdisciplinary problems, published by the Pachart Foundation in collaboration with the Vatican Observatory. In June 1997 he became Archbishop of Lublin.

Archbishop Józef Zycinski has published over 350 articles in numerous journals in Poland and abroad. He holds many public positions including chair of the Bishops' Council for the Laity and the Program Committee of KAI (Catholic Information Agency). He serves on the Polish Bishops' Commissions for the Doctrine of the Faith and for Pastoral Care. He is a member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, the Committee for Philosophical Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN), and PAN's Committee on Evolutionary and Theoretical Biology.

In addition to delivering the distinguished Public lecture, the Archbishop will also meet many faculty during his four day visit to the University of Notre Dame, and deliver two other lectures in association with the Reilly Center for Science Technology and Values, the History and Philosophy for Science Program and the Department of Theology.