

The Book Committee

The Cantor Józef Badasz

Cantor Józef Badasz assumed his duties at the age of thirty, replacing Cantor Zyskind Rozental. He was noted for his lyrical, artistic voice, his rendering of *“Riboino Shel Oilom”* [“Master of the Universe”] upon the opening of the Holy Ark and for his Yom Kippur prayer in memory of “The Ten Martyrs¹”. His singing made a great impression on all his listeners.

He served in Częstochowa for no longer than only ten years, because he was “snatched up” by the Jewish Community in London, which invited him to be its cantor. From there, he moved to Johannesburg, South Africa, to serve as City Cantor at the local synagogue, a duty which he performs to this day.

¹ [TN: Ten rabbis who were martyred by the Roman Empire in the period following the destruction of the Second Temple. A dramatic poem is recited in their memory on Y.K.]