

# Deciphering Foreign Records

2023 Family History

Month – ACPL

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## Deciphering/Translating –

1. List the “type” of record you are translating – birth, marriage, death, letter or other
2. Using FamilySearch Wiki, typing location – example, Germany. Download/print
  - a. Genealogy Word List – there are 3 – Latin, French, and German
  - b. Handwriting – Alphabet handwritten/printed examples
3. Written in what language; example – German Records may be written in Latin, French or German
4. Using the record you want to translate, determine what language.
5. What should be pulled first –
  - a. Name
  - b. Event
  - c. Date (date, day of week, and possibly time of the day)
  - d. Other people listed and the relationship (spouse, parents, witnesses and priest)
6. Using a translation site and the word lists, type in the entire record.
7. If you are having trouble, check Facebook to see if you can find a group that may be able to help you translate the record.

## Examples –

- a. France Genealogy! Just Ask!
- b. Eastern Europe Genealogy Research Community
- c. Luxembourg Genealogy
- d. French-Canadian Ancestry
- e. Genealogia Polska – Polish Genealogy

## References –

- Dictionaries – Various Languages
- Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Translation Guide, Jonathan D. Shea, 929 SH3F [Purpose is to show genealogical researchers actual documents in 13 different European languages.]
- In Their Words: Translation Guide to Polish, German, Latin & Russian Documents.
  - Polish – Volume 1, 929 SH3INA V.1
  - Russian – Volume 2, 929 SH3INA V.2
  - Latin – Volume 3, 929 SH3INA V.3
  - German – Volume 4, 929 SH3INA V.4
- Genealogy Snapshots – International (<https://acpl.lib.in.us/pathfinders/snapshots/international>)

## Taped Classes

- ACPL = Handwriting Programs
- Family Search Learning Center - [https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Classes\\_in\\_the\\_Learning\\_Center](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Classes_in_the_Learning_Center)
  - Type in the language in the Search Box
  - Results – click on any of the classes to learn.
    - Latin – 24 results
- Legacy Webinars (membership) (some are free)

## Genealogy Word Lists – Latin, French, and German

English	Latin	French	German
banns (marriage)	banni, proclamationes, denuntiationes	publications bans	
baptism	baptisma	baptême	
birth	nati, natus, genitus, natales, ortus, oriundus	naissance, né, née	Geburten, Geburtsregister, Geborene, geboren
burial	sepulti, sepultus, humatus, humatio	sépulture, enterrement, enterré, inhumé, enseveli, funèbre	Beerdigungen, begraben, Begräbnisse, bestattet, beerdigt
Catholic (Roman)	catholicus	catholique romaine	katholisch
child	infans, filius/filia, puer, proles	enfant	Kind, Kinder
christening	baptismi, baptizatus, renatus, plutus, lautus, purgatus, ablutus, lustratio	baptême	Taufe, Taufen, Getaufte
civil registry		registres de l'état civil, mairie, maison communale, hôtel de ville	Standesamt
death	mortuus, defunctus, obitus, denatus, decessus, peritus, mors, mortis, obiit, decessit	décès, mort, expiré, inanimé, défunt	Tote, Tod, sterben, starb, verstorben, gestorben, Sterbefall
father	pater	père	Vater
godparent	patrini, levantes, susceptores, compater, commater, matrina		
husband	maritus, sponsus, conjux, vir	mari, époux, marié	Mann, Ehemann, Gatte
index	index (indicis)	index, tables répertoire	Verzeichnis, Register
Jewish		juif, juive, israélite, hébreu	jüdisch, Jude(n), israelitisch
marriage	matrimonium, copulatio, copulati, conjuncti, intronizati, nupti, sponsati, ligati, mariti	mariage, alliance, unir, épouser	Heiraten, Trauungen, Getraute, Ehe, Kopulation, kopulieren, verheiratet, Verehelichungen, Eheschliessungen
month		mois, mensuel	Monat
mother	mater	mère	Mutter
name, given	nomen	prénom, nom de baptême	Vorname, Name
name, surname	cognomen	nom, nom de famille	Zuname, Familienname, Geschlechtsname, Name
parents	parentes, genitores	parents, père et mère	Eltern

English	Latin	French	German
parish	parochia	paroisse, paroissiaux, paroissiale	Pfarrei, Kirchspiel, Gemeinde
Protestant		protestant, réformé, huguenot, R.P.R., luthérien, calviniste	evangelisch, lutherisch, Protestant
Reformed			reformiert
town, village	villa	ville, village, hameau, commune	
wife	uxor, marita, conjux, sponsa, mulier, femina, consors	femme, épouse, mariée	Frau, Ehefrau, Hausfrau, Weib, Eheweib, Gattin, Ehegattin
year	anno	an, année, annuel	Jahr
parish	parochia	paroisse, paroissiaux, paroissiale	Pfarrei, Kirchspiel, Gemeinde
Protestant		protestant, réformé, huguenot, R.P.R., luthérien, calviniste	evangelisch, lutherisch, Protestant
Reformed			reformiert
town, village	villa	ville, village, hameau, commune	
wife	uxor, marita, conjux, sponsa, mulier, femina, consors	femme, épouse, mariée	Frau, Ehefrau, Hausfrau, Weib, Eheweib, Gattin, Ehegattin
year	anno	an, année, annuel	Jahr

## Months

English	Latin	French	German
January	Januarius	janvier	Jauar, Jänner, Hartung, Jenner
February	Februaius	février	Februar, Hornung
March	Martius	mars	März, Frühlingsmonat
April	Aprilius	avril	April, Ostermonat, Osteren
May	Maius	mai	Mai, Wonnemonat, Blütemonat
June	Junius	juin	Juni, Brachmonat
July	Julius	juillet	Juli, Heuert, Heumonat, Heuet
August	Augustus	août	August, Erntemonat, Hitzmonat
September	September, 7ber, VIIIber, 7bri, VIIbri	septembre, 7bre	September, Fruchtmonat, Herbstmonat, Herpstenm, 7bre, 7bris
October	October, 8ber, VIIIber, 8bri, VIIbri	octobre, 8bre	Oktober, Wintermonat, 9ber, 9bris
November	November, 8ber, IXber, 9bri, IXbri	novembre, 9bre	November, Wintermonat, 8ber, 8bris
December	December, 10ber, Xber, 10bri, Xbri	décembre, 10bre, Xbre	Dezember, Christmonat, 10ber, 10bris, Xber, Xbris

## Days of the Week

English	Latin	French	German
Sunday	dominca, dies dominica, dominicus, dies Solis, feria prima, abbreviations: Dca., dom., fer. pri., fer. 1	dimanche	Sonntag
Monday	feria secunda, dies Lunae, abbreviations: fer. sec., fer. 2	lundi	Donnerstag
Tuesday	feria tertia, dies Martis, abbreviations: fer. ter. fer. 3	mardi	Dienstag
Wednesday	feria quarta, dies Mercurii, abbreviations: fer. quar., fer. 4	mercredi	Mittwoch
Thursday	feria quinta, dies Jovis, abbreviations: fer. quin., fer. 5	jeudi	Donnerstag
Friday	feria sexta, dies Veneris, abbreviations: fer. sex., fer. 6	vendredi	Freitag, Freytag
Saturday	feria septima, sabbatum, dies sabbatinus, dies Saturni, abbreviations: fer. sept., fer. 7	samedi	Samstag, Sonnabend