

Address for the Inauguration of the St John Paul II Institute of Culture

Dr Dariusz Karłowicz
President of Saint Nicholas Foundation, Poland

Eminences, Excellencies, Reverend Fathers and Sisters, Professors and Students of the Angelicum, Honourable Donors of St John Paul II Institute of Culture, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of two Polish non-governmental organizations, namely the Futura Iuventa Foundation and the Saint Nicholas Foundation, I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to the authorities of the Angelicum, especially to the rector of the university, Fr. Prof. Michał Paluch, and to the dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Fr. Prof. Serge-Thomas Bonino, for their kind acceptance of our initiative to establish St John Paul II Institute of Culture. I would also like to thank wholeheartedly Fr. Prof. Ryszard Rybka for his agreeing to stand at the head of this institution.

This inauguration is a proper time to thank the Donors of St John Paul II Institute of Culture: Mrs and Mr Jolanta and Mirosław Gruszka, Mr Krzysztof Domarecki and Mr Wojciech Piasecki. It is your courage, your generosity and great commitment to the heritage of Saint John Paul II that gave us a chance to meet here today and start the history of the new Institute. Please accept my deepest gratitude.

Mission of the John Paul II Institute of Culture is to provide reflection on issues that are the most significant for the Church and contemporary world, as seen in the light of the thought of the great pope. We are convinced that John Paul II's output is far too important to leave it solely to the historians of his pontificate. We cannot allow that vibrant, inspiring thought to be put into the museum. Therefore our reflection on John Paul II's work must be accompanied by reflection conducted together with him. This is why our motto is as follows: "Thinking together with John Paul II on the most important questions of our time". And this is the undertaking to which we invite professors and students of the Angelicum, as well as the intellectuals from all over the world.

Thank you very much for your attention.