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**Statement of the Dean's College
of the Faculty of Theology
of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw**

The community of the Faculty of Theology at Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw has received with sadness the news of the death of Pope Benedict XVI.

Gone is the Theologian, one of the greatest of the 20th century, defending the rationality of faith and the primacy of God, in our convoluted world clearly advocating that the only Savior is Jesus Christ, and the vocation of the Church is solely to serve the work of the Savior. Gone is the Teacher of our time, whose penetrating diagnosis of modernity – the world, Europe, the Church – will long remain a compass for our search for the meaning of life and the path to God. Gone is the Shepherd who opened paths of peace: in the proclamation of the Gospel; in the liturgy, which should be an adoration of God; in the service of mercy, which is not for show, but so that God may be glorified; in ecumenical efforts, which have value insofar as they are a common drawing closer to Christ.

With the late Pope Benedict, a simple worker in the Lord's Vineyard and Christ's Vicar on earth, we repeat the words he wrote

in his spiritual testament: “Jesus Christ is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life – and the Church, in all her shortcomings, is truly His Body.” We believe it. He already knows it.

Warsaw, 3rd January 2023

The Dean's College of the Faculty of Theology of UKSW

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