

Speech of Father Ludwik Wiśniewski at the funeral of Mayor Paweł Adamowicz

It is from Gdańsk that came a voice, in fact a shout, that helped many people reclaim a moral equilibrium. It was eighty years ago that from Gdańsk, from Westerplatte, a desperate cry went forth to the whole world that freedom is a value so precious that it has to be defended. Always. Almost forty years ago a call to the world went out from Gdańsk with an emphatic message that we should renounce the old world. The world of egoism, Darwinian class warfare, that we should create a new world, a world of solidarity where everyone is each other's keeper. Gdańsk is rightfully called, and Paweł repeated this over and over, the city of freedom and solidarity.

Today, here in Gdańsk we are witness to a new historic moment. All of Poland, perhaps even more than Poland, is waiting for a message to come from Gdańsk and reach every Pole and restore a moral equilibrium in our country and our hearts.

In recent days, many people have attempted to express the message that arises from Paweł's death and today, here, I am convinced that Paweł, who already is with God, wants me to say the following words: we must be through with hate, we must be through with hateful speech, we must be through with contempt, we must be through with baseless accusation. We can no longer be indifferent to the rife poison of hatred in the streets, in the media, on the internet, in schools, in parliament, and also in church.

Someone who uses the language of hate, someone who builds their career on lies cannot hold high office in our country and from now on we will see to that.