

<https://en.bbn.gov.pl/en/news/53,Celebrating-25th-anniversary-of-Father-Jerzy-Popieluszko-martyrs-death.html>

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Celebrating 25th anniversary of Father Jerzy Popieluszko martyr's death

Sunday 25th October, 11:30 a.m. Saint Peter and Paul's Church in Suchowola (3 Kosciuszko Square) held the celebration of 25th anniversary of martyr's death of Father Popieluszko. The event was taken under the President's of the Republic of Poland honorary patronage.

The celebration was organised by the National Security Bureau together with the Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Peter and Paul in Suchowola and Ms. Anna Walentynowicz. Among the participants were representatives of self-government administration, church authorities of Podlasie region, residents of neighbouring villages and young people.

During the celebration commemorating martyr's death of "Solidarnosc" chaplain, the representative of the President read the letter addressed to the organisers and participants of the event.

Programme of the event

11.30 a.m. – „Father Jerzy” Performance

12.00 p.m. – A Mass for Father Popieluszko

13.00 p.m. – Discussion dedicated to Father Jerzy Popieluszko

Father Popieluszko was tied with Suchowola as he spent his childhood and youth in the town. He was born in Okopy near Suchowola and his mother, Mrs. Marianna Popieluszko still lives in the village. Attending for four years high school in Suchowola, he passed his final exams and upon receiving high school diploma he entered the Seminary in Warsaw. In 1972 he was ordained by Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski.

His pastoral activity was connected with the workers' environments as he became legendary chaplain of the underground Solidarnosc. In May 1983 he conducted the funeral of Grzegorz Przemyk. In the 80s of the last century he was persecuted by the authorities of People's Poland and accused of political activity. In the face of increasing harassment and threat posed to the life of father Popieluszko primate Jozef Glemp offered him the opportunity to study in Rome. Yet, father Jerzy decided to stay in Poland.

In October 1984 he was murdered by Security Services officers. The exact date of death has not been established yet. And although several years have passed since his death, some of the persons guilty of his murder have not been accused yet. Today Father Jerzy Popieluszko remains the symbol of all the people who fought the system and the communism, even if it required sacrificing their lives.



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