

Cologne, 27 September 2025

Words of Gratitude on the Occasion of the Edith Stein Prize 2025

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Edith Stein Archive in Cologne, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Jury of the Edith Stein Prize and to the Board of the Edith Stein Society for granting us this honourable distinction.

It is with sincere regret that I cannot be with you in Wrocław today to receive the award in person. At this time, I am on an academic journey in Mexico, where I have the honour of delivering lectures at various universities and supporting the establishment of a newly founded Edith Stein Research Centre. I am, however, deeply pleased that in December I will have the opportunity to travel to Wrocław and meet you personally — in a circle of memory and reflection on the life and work of Edith Stein.

The award that the Archive receives today is not only a great honour but also a responsibility. For sixty years, we have sought to preserve Edith Stein's legacy: to collect her manuscripts, edit her writings, and make them accessible to scholars and to all who find inspiration in her life and thought.

Yet our mission extends beyond scholarly work. We also strive to make Edith Stein's figure and thought known to wider cultural and social circles. We wish her life and work to inspire not only researchers but also all those who seek truth, meaning, and spiritual depth.

We also look to the future with hope — that the work of the Archive will continue to grow and that the bonds between Cologne, Wrocław, and the Edith Stein Society will deepen. Together, we can better serve the cause of Edith Stein and help make her message ever more present in today's world.

The fact that today's celebration takes place on Edith Stein's birthday, in her family home, gives this event a special depth and significance. This day and this place unite us all in a spirit of gratitude and hope. In this context, allow me to convey warm greetings from the Carmelite Sisters of the convent *Maria vom Frieden* in Cologne, who have cared for Edith Stein's legacy for decades and who accompany the mission of the Archive through their prayer.

The entire team of the Edith Stein Archive in Cologne also sends its warm greetings and accepts this award with deep gratitude and as an encouragement to continue working for the memory and heritage of Edith Stein.

Once again, we sincerely thank you for this distinction and warmly congratulate the other laureates of this honourable award.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Monika Adamczyk-Enríquez

Deputy Director of the Edith Stein Archive in Cologne