

Editorial

In this edition of “Theological-Historical Studies of Opole Silesia” the whole publishing process from the notification of articles through to the peer review procedures and editing work as well as the finishing activities of the composition of text and publication was for the first time completed using an electronic platform. the electronic platform helps enormously in aiding the correspondence between the editorial board and authors, peer reviewers and persons responsible for proof-reading and layout. It also improves the publication of the online version of the journal and reaches interested readers quickly. In relation to the new requirements of reform of higher education and research in Poland, the editorial board decided to change the principles behind the footnotes and bibliographic list – the Chicago system of records is now accepted.

The first number of the year 2019 opens with three articles in the field of fundamental theology. the first of them is concerned with the question of the identity of man. the author basis the article on Letter to Ephesians (1,4) justifying the argument about the creation of the identity of man “before the beginning of world” and the hope to make it eternal in the identity of God Creator. the next article is concerned with the therapeutic dimension of Christianity and the meaning of faith in relation to the experience of a crisis. the author presents the theological principles of therapeutic pastoral care. the third text presents elements of classical criticism of religion as utility for contemporary believers. the author relays some of the critical attention on religion coming form the thought of L. Feuerbach, K. Marx and F. Nietzsche to some of the selected phenomenon of contemporary religiosity.

The next article belongs to the exegesis of the New Testament and explains the symbolism of the dragon as presented in Revelation (12,2-7). the next theolog-

ical text in the field of spirituality is a presentation of the elements of the life and activity of a priest based on the correspondence between Elisaebth of Holy Trinity to Andrew Chevignard. the discussed letters underline the need for spiritual life in the service of Catholic priests.

The next two articles consist of research in the field of works of the Fathers of the Church. the first of them presents reflections of Tertullian on the religion of pagans and Christianity in the Roman Empire in the second age as contained in his work *Apologetic*. the author basis this on the thought of Tertullian shows shaping Christianity in the first two ages and the cults and customs of pagans. the second text from patristic writings shows the views of St. Ambrose on the authority of emperor and indicates both the characteristics of emperor and the duties subject to him.

The remaining texts of the presented issue contain research in the field of the history of the Church. Three of them are concerned with the Middle Ages. the first presents St. Margaret of Hungary (1242–1270) as an example of the strong position of women in Middle Ages. the subject of the next article is the tomb of Princess Euphemia, the prioress of the Dominican nuns in Racibórz. the author analyses the sources, on the basis of which he comes to the conclusion of the location of the grave of Ofka in Racibórz. the third of those texts discusses the economic activity of the Abbey of the Canons Regular Monastery from Żagań Trudwin I (1325–1347). the last two articles concern the history of the 20th century. the first of them presents the arguments, by which Rev. Jan Melzer tried during a sermon on April 26, 1925, to persuade the faithful to vote for Wilhelm Marx, a Catholic candidate for the Weimar Republic presidency. the theme of the last article is the history of the pilgrimage movement in Poland as maintained by the communist authorities and the example of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Kalisz.

The column *Reviews – Materials – Reports* contains five texts. the first free are book reviews. Two of them are theological books and the last one concerns the Polish-German relationship. the next text is a presentation and discussion of the oldest Latin description of life of Euphemia of Racibórz (1299–1359). At the end of this issue there is a report of the activity of the Diocesan Institute of Church Music in Opole in the school year 2017/2018.