

Editorial

The second edition of the biannual “Theological-Historical Studies of Opole Silesia” of the year 2020 opens with two articles presenting results based on exegetical research of the Bible. The first article is concerned with the particular question of types of wind in the description of the plague of locusts and the effects of these descriptions in the understanding of Ex 10:13.19. The author explains the differences between the Hebrew text and the Septuagint and the Vulgate and its Polish translation. The second article concerning the Bible is a detailed analysis of the fragment of the Gospel about the meeting of the risen Christ with Thomas (John 20:24-29). The author underlines the breakthrough moment in the apostle’s life which was associated with two types of transition: from doubt to mature faith and from the conditions imposed on Jesus to a confession of faith.

The following article belongs to the field of moral theology and presents the problems of family responsibilities towards those who fall sick within the family. The author presents the phenomenon of illness and its multiple references to the life of a family, the significance of the family in relation to the experience of illness and the essence of the responsibility of the family for his sick member and the duties which appear in situations related to illness.

The paper from the field of canon law is dedicated to the current problem of sexual and spiritual abuse in the Catholic Church. The article deals with the nature and dynamics of both types of abuse on the basis of a historical perspective on the development of appropriate legal norms. The author concludes that such abuses are a structural problem in the Church, which offers the perpetrators a favourable environment for the choice of victims and the possibility of hiding.

The following two papers present the results of research related to practical theology. The first of them presents a proposal to set up pastoral visits from the perspective of pastoral care through “missionary exit” as postulated by pope Francis. The author presents historical aspects of pastoral visit, contemporary juridical, pastoral and liturgical indications and a proposal for a concrete thematic experience for the pastoral visit. The second article of pastoral theology presents conclusions of research concerning the experiences of love by spouses. The au-

thor presents theoretical assumptions concerned with marital love, the examined group and the course that examination took, the results of the research and conclusions for pastoral care.

The following papers in this biannual contains articles concerning the research in the field of history of the Church and are ordered chronologically.

The first of them is concerned with the discipline of the religious order which accompanied the rule of a life totally dedicated to God in the Middle Ages. The author presents examples of the breaking of that rule of the order by Regular Canons from the monastery in Żagań. The second paper synthetically describes a not so well-known monastery of Franciscan Fathers in Góra in Silesia. The author shows the activity of this monastery from the year 1457, when Pope Callixtus III gave consent to its foundation, until the 1530s when the monastery fell into decline.

The paper related to the interwar period presents the activity of “The Association of Polish Emigrants under the care of the Queen of the Polish Crown in the diocese of Częstochowa” in the Wieluń district parishes. Mainly it is about the care of seasonal workers who left Poland to go abroad.

The next article is about the characteristics of the writings of Father Augustyn Zmarzły (1898–1966) SVD from the perspective of his columns concerning missionary work in China. On this basis the author talks about political news, the functioning of the mission, beneficent activity, Catholic education, Chinese culture and its transformations, missionary accommodation, ethnographic research and the material support for the mission.

The following article from the history of the Church presents the history of the Polish House located on *Via Cassia* in Rome. The author presents mainly the mission of this institution which was fulfilled during the pontificate of Pope John Paul II. In the time of political and economical transformations the Polish House was a peculiar “Little Poland in Rome”.

The last paper belongs to the religious sciences and is concerned with the problem of the significance of human dignity in the context of respect for the cult of ancestors through the understanding of representatives of different cultures.

The column *Reviews – Materials – Reports* contains four papers. Two of them are reviews of the latest publications in the field of history of the Church. The first review presents the book on the history of the parish of Jaworzno near Wieluń in the archdiocese Częstochowa and the second one talks about a biographical book on Father Ambroży Maria Lubik OFM, who was a superior of the Silesian community of Franciscan Fathers in the Province of St. Hedwig degraded to the rank of commissariat after the second world war. Placed in this column is a large paper,

which takes the character of an essay and contains interesting theological reflections on the theme of the Coronavirus pandemic. The presented issue closes with a memory dedicated to the German Professor of moral theology, Eberhard Schockenhoff, who was a member of the advisory board of this journal and suddenly died on 18th July 2020.

