

Editorial

The second issue of the biannual “Theological-Historical Studies of Opole Silesia” from 2021 opens with an article about the Christian tradition of faith and (post) modernity in the light of the personalistic concept of culture by Card. Stefan Wyszyński. The text is a continuation of a reflection which was published in the first issue of the journal in 2021. The author shows that the personalistic aretology is according to the blessed Stefan Wyszyński especially relevant in the context of “ideological pluralism”, which is characterized as postmodern culture and stresses the moral ambivalence of “fluid” postmodernity.

Next, there is an article in the field of exegesis of the Old Testament which is concerned with the interpretation of the fragment of text from Ezekiel 14:15-27 and the problem of the absence of mourning after the death of the prophet’s wife. The author using the rules of Hebrew rhetoric shows the theological message of this text, from which emerges the image of God and His relation to the chosen people.

A text which presents research in the field of the patristic focuses on the use of the symbolism of light in John Chrysostom’s catechesis as addressed to catechumens and neophytes. The author discusses how the catechist from Antioch describes the baptismal celebration as well as those who attend it, and puts an emphasis on the tasks that Chrysostom places before the newly baptized members of the Church community, using the symbol of light in their context and juxtaposing it in opposition to darkness.

The following article concerns an actual question from the field of moral theology and contains reflections on the ethical consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic in relation to employment and social issues. The author writes about the social consequences of the pandemic with particular reference to women, the problem of care professions as “relevant for the system”, discusses the question of basic income and in the conclusions points to possibilities which may strengthen social ties.

The next paper concerns the theological-pedagogical contexts of the concept of work of creation presented in Mariavites journals at the beginning of the 20th Century. The author analyzing texts of Mariavite writers shows their thought about

the protection of creation, and places its actuality in the context of contemporary eco-pedagogics and the widely understood ecological conversion in theology and in social and economic life.

The last theological text concerns the question of joy presented on the basis of the apostolic exhortation of pope Paul VI *Gaudete in Domino*. The author analyses what exactly is contained in the papal document about joy and shows reflection in the context of contemporary problems.

The historical part of this issue opens with an article about the interpretations of the achievements of St. Joan of Arc. Initially they were marked by strong national references, and at the beginning of modernity discussion about the French Saint became ordinary and went in the direction of showing that the saint was a person who was conscious of her mission.

The next paper is a first part analysis of the work of the blessed Antonio Rosmini *The Five Wounds of Holy Church* translated in Polish. The author shows the truth behind the claims of the renewal of ecclesial life which the Italian priest promoted in the period of fallen monarchies and revolutionary bursts present in 19th Century.

The following article was written on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the plebiscite in Upper Silesia. The authors present the work *Silesian Christmas carol* written around the Plebiscite by a satirist and writer from Lviv, Henryk Zbierzchowski. This work is showed as an example of the propaganda using the semantic of Christmas carols in the pro-Polish struggle in the period of the constitution of the borders of the Second Polish Republic.

The interwar period concerns the article written about pilgrimages from the district of Wieluń, which were organized in years 1921–1939 by Catholics to the sanctuary of Jasna Góra. On the background of the religiosity of inhabitant of the district of Wieluń the author describes the pilgrimage movement to the sanctuary of the Black Madonna.

The next article concerns the history of the Catholic Parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Brzeżany located in the former frontiers of the Republic of Poland in the first days of the Second World War. The study is based on the source texts of the *Book of the Notices* and the *Book of the Sermon Topics and Trips to Chapels*, prepared by the Parish Office in Brzeżany, which former inhabitants took during the repatriation.

The last academic article in this issue is written about the activity of Episcopal Relief Committees in the voivodeship of Katowice which operated throughout the martial law years of 1981–1983. The author describes the extent of the work as performed by Silesian parishes (priests and lay people) for internee people and their families providing them with spiritual, material, medical and legal support.

In *Reviews – Materials – Reports* the reviews of four latest books are published. The first discusses the publication of Ingeborg Gabriel and political ethics, its bases, principles and concrete applications. The next review presents the book published on the occasion of the beatification of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, which discusses the relationship between the Polish primate and Upper Silesia. In the next review there is a critical evaluation of the *Lexicon of Upper Silesian Pantheon*, which presents eminent persons with Polish spirit, as merited for Upper Silesia. The last review presents the publication of letters written by seminarian Wiktor Jacewicz SDB, who sent them to his family from the concentration camp in Dachau in years 1941–1945. In *Reviews – Materials – Reports* there is also published a theological text, which presents an interesting voice in the discussion on the interpretation of firstborn sin. At the end of this issue is located a report of the activity of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Opole in the academic year 2020/2021.

