

Editorial

The second issue of “Theological-Historical Studies of Opole Silesia” from 2022 opens with an article in the field of patristics which focuses on the problem of ethopoeia. Ethopoeia was practiced mainly in the schools of rhetoric in the ancient and late ancient period, it was fictional speech put into the mouths of mythical or historical people. The article questions ethopoeia in its historical and contemporary context and takes into account the exemplificative texts of the *Homily on the Gospel of St Matthew* of St. John Chrysostom.

The next three articles present the results of research conducted in the field of contemporary issues concerning theological ethics. The first of them is concerned with different concepts of conscient in the encyclical letter of John Paul II, *Veritatis splendor*, and in the apostolic exhortation of Francis, *Amoris laetitia*. The author undermines the argument of discontinuation between the two documents and instead advocates a position for a hermeneutic of complementarity. In reflection there emerges the concept of conscient which expresses the dynamic characteristics and vitality of ecclesial teaching.

The motif of sacrifice in surrogacy is the subject of the next article. The author reflects as to whether surrogacy is a form of solidarity, or is an instrumentalization of women’s bodies and is consequentially a negation of the fundamental dignity of a human. The article discusses the unsuccessful proof of the regulation of the question of altruistic surrogacy in countries which were members of the Council of Europe in 2016.

The third article in the field of moral theology presents the concept of the ethics of nursing homes which is developed based on results obtained through interdisciplinary research and a practical project entitled *Self-Determined Life in the Nursing Home* conducted by the University of Augsburg. The authors stand for the concept of relational independence which works towards coping for the needs and wishes of people living in a nursing house and the people who work in these places. The starting point for the nursing home ethics outlined in the article is the vulnerability of the residents. Questions were formed concerning the “small” ethics of everyday life as well as larger ethical questions, for example, about the use of technology in a place to live and work.

The next article is concerned with the question of the sociology of religion and discusses factors determining the processes which may bring about the beginning of desirable changes in the Roman Catholic Church in Poland, directed towards a community of faith “*koinonia*”, both in the visible and spiritual reality. The article is a theological-sociological analysis aimed at a social-creative diagnosis and uses scientific publications, press articles, opinions, and statements, mainly by people of the Church, scientists, publicists, and journalists.

The last theological article is from the field of hagiography and explores the question of presenting the victory achieved against the dragon as the personification of Satan, sinful lusts, temptations, or heresy by the gesture of *calcatio*, that is by trampling, occurring in the Christian art of the Latin world. The article only sketches the very broad problem and brings the truth about the victory possible only thanks to the power of God, which express the trampling of the dragon and its substitutes by the mother of God, the saints and Christian imperators.

The historical part of the issue opens the article dedicated to the Order of the Poor Knights of Christ and the Temple of Solomon. The author presents the history and activities of the Knights Templar due to the fact that their fate still enjoys great public interest and arouses a lot of controversies. In the presented paper the author draws attention to the year 1241, when the Mongols invaded Poland, as a result of which Silesia was plundered, and the Templars suffered significant losses.

The next article is dedicated to a piece known in literature as, *Cantilena in-honesta*, which was recorded by Nicholas of Koźle OFM at the beginning of the 15th century during his travels around Silesia, Bohemia and Moravia. The author analyses the verses of this student’s excuse, which could not have casually found its place in Nicholas’ codex (the manuscript of Wrocław I Q 466), and in this way plotted the courtship of simple people in Middle Ages.

The next two articles are dedicated to figures of the Church of Wrocław in 19th and 20th centuries. The first of them concerns the figure of the bishop Heinrich Förster. The author discusses the life and career of the bishop of Wrocław before he became consecrated as a bishop (years 1799–1853). The second article describes the figure and pastoral service of Karl Wallowy (1846–1920), who was a priest in Bieńkowice, Łubowice and Zakrzów – parishes of Opole Silesia.

The Eucharistic Congress organized in Wieliń in 1931 is the theme of the next article. The author discusses the third congress in the diocese of Częstochowa, which was held with much participation by the inhabitants of the district of Wieluń. It contributed to the deepening of their religiosity and was fruitful in intensifying the activity of Catholic societies.

The last article analyses the facts behind the killing of reverend Stanisław Streich – a parish priest of St. John Bosco in Luboń – which was committed by a communist agitator on 27th February 1938. Despite so many years since the death of this priest, the question evokes a lot of emotions still to the present times and the priest – martyr *in odium fidei* – is today a candidate for the glory of altars.

The rubric *Reviews – Materials – Reports* contains three reviews of books: about sisters connected with the parish of Saint Engel Guardian in Gorzyce in the archdiocese of Katowice written by Henryk Olszar, about 10 Sisters of St. Elisabeth – martyrs beatified on 11th June 2022 written by Zdzisław Józef Kijas OFM, and the jubilee book published for the occasion of 50 years of the establishment of the diocese of Opole written by Helmut Jan Sobeczko and Konrad Glombik. The next paper contains motivations over labor migration from the perspective of Central-East Europe. Two reports are published at the end of this issue: one which is about the activity of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Opole in the academic year 2021/2022, and the other is about the activity of the Diocesan Institute of Church Music in the academic year 2021/2022.

