

Editorial

The second number of the biannual “Theological-Historical Studies of Opole Silesia” of the year 2019 contains, according to its profile, articles belonging to different fields of theology, history of the Church and common history. The papers present results of research conducted by specialists from some academic centres in Poland and from abroad.

The presented issue opens with a paper from fundamental theology and concerns the possibility of experiencing God today. The author discusses one of the essential problems of fundamental theology and a constitutive question for Christian faith.

The next three articles of the presented issues concern questions from the field of theological ethics. The first of them speaks about the essence of New Testament ethics which the author presents as parenesis and exhortation and discusses its similarity with ancient ethics. The next article is a comparison between the understanding of mercy in contemporary theology and in the newest documents of the Magisterium Church and concept of compassion in the newest publications of the US-American philosopher and ethicist Martha Nussbaum. The third text from theological ethics presents the concept of reconciled diversity elaborated on by Abp Alfons Nossol as a basis for a peaceful coexistence in situations of social conflicts, tensions and unrest as in the example of Upper Silesia, especially in the 1990s.

This biannual also contains three articles from different fields of theology. The first of them bases on the selected ancient baptismal catecheses and presents the figure of catechumen and his relation to the Church and the world. The next paper belongs to ecumenical theology and discusses the contribution of the Orthodox

Church to dialogue over a common understanding of baptism, actually discussions of opinions and perspectives for the future. The last theological article is from the field of pastoral theology and presents analyses conducted by the author on marriages and is concerned with the perception of the vocation to love in marriage according to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

The next three academic articles in the presented issue focus on the newest research in the field of the history of the Church in Silesia. The first of them is a presentation of the list of prioresses of the monastery of Dominican nuns in Racibórz. The next article discusses news about the Cistercian Abbey in Rudy on the basis of a foundation document taken from the time capsule of the church in Stanica from 1802, which was discovered during conservatory works in December 2017. The third paper concerns the history of the church in 20th century and shows the history of the creation of the parish and the construction of the church of St. Michael Archangel in Opole-Półwieś in the years 1937–1958. The last academic article concerns the history of the Jewish religious community in Wieluń in the Second Polish Republic presented on the basis of documents of the State Archive in Łódź.

The column *Reviews – Materials – Reports* contains five other papers. Three of them are reviews of recent published books. The two texts concern publications about dogmatics and the third one is a review of a book on sexual addiction and therapy. The two last papers are reports. The first of them presents the international congress of the European Society of Catholic Theologians, which took place in Bratislava on 28th–31th August 2019. The second report talks about the activity of the Diocesan Institute of Church Music in Opole in the school year 2018/2019.