CATECHETICAL STUDIES

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YEAR OF FAITH THE INSPIRATION FOR CATECHETICAL REFLECTION

**Piotr Tomasik, *Apology for the faith as the task of catechesis***

Back to determine apology faith in the post-conciliar theology, including practical theology, is a reference to the Fathers of the Church, the creators of the first apology, and to some concepts of the Bible, but also taking action in the spirit of the Council, which confirmed the achievements of grassroots movements in the Church, in order to the rediscovery of the Bible, the liturgy and the Fathers of the Church. Recognized in this way an apologia for faith means more than just protecting the faith, is the justification. The author first explains the meaning of the individual words contained in the title, then points to the contexts of apology for the faith, which is import\_ant for its application in the teaching of religion, but also for the sake of teaching, when the disciples are to be witnesses to the faith. The headline of the article shows two faces apology, defense of faith and the reasons for it, referring to the contemporary problems faced by the teaching of the Catholic religion.

**Keywords:** apology, the teaching of religion in schools, sacrum, secularism, psychologism, truth, love, conversion

**Ryszard Czekalski, *Both faith and knowledge are important in catechesis***

The author adopted reflection reminds two basic elements without there is no catechesis. He names them: *fides* and *ratio*. The faith of people, in terms of theological involved in catechesis, faith catechist and catechized, should be the starting point for any strictly catechetical reflection. A second essential element is the *ratio* of catechesis, in the sense – knowledge or science. For catechesis faith and knowledge are two wings on which the human spirit rises to the unity with Christ. Catechist and catechized should be aware of these two pillars of catechesis, they should not oppose itself, but should them make combined. They must be fully aware that thanks fides et ratio they will become mature and joyful people in faith. This catechist and catechized meeting, regardless of the place, leads to a full unity with Jesus Christ.

**Key words**: catechesis, religion teaching, faith, knowledge, places of catechesis

 **Wojciech Osial, *The communication of doctrinal truths of faith in catechesis - historical trait and contemporary challenges***

The article discussed the issue of doctrinal truths of the Christian doctrine in the catechesis - both in a historical perspective as well as in modern perspective. The author analyzes the first antiquity, then the Middle Ages and finally modern times, paying attention to the specific communication of truths of the faith at any time. Then discusses the twentieth century ways of communication. He underlines the necessity of knowing the doctrine and the challenges which is connected with new evangelization and – on the other hand - spreading of religious ignorance . At the end He formulates the challenges for catechesis for the transfer of doctrinal truths of the faith to everyday life, paying attention to the specific problems in this regard.

**Keywords**: truths of faith, catechesis

**Andrzej Offmański, *Meaning of the II Vatical Council for the catechesis. Flashback after fifty years (1962-2013)***

In the article they made the flashback examining the Vaticanum II influence to the development of the contemporary catechesis. It is multidimensional action. Although no conciliar document was devoted to the catechesis, however mainstreams of the Council found their reflection in different transformations of the catechesis. In the vision of the nature and the purpose of the catechesis the Council constituted the inspiration for the self-determination of the catechesis as services of the Word. Contents of predicting religious education was focused on conciliar ecclesiology, with her peculiar frame of the liturgical upbringing.

The Bible and liturgy are the source of the whole religious education process. The Christian life is portrayed as the completion of appointing practical God shaped by the personal meeting with the man. From the methodological side the II Vatican Council affected on the revival of inculturation. He influenced also on seeking language of the transport of the faith which would optimize deepening the faith in contemporary world

**Keywords**: the II Vatican Council; the nature and the purpose of the catechesis; service of the word; inculturation; communication of the faith.

**Roman Murawski, *Genesis of the catechism at the Church: how it reached to the fromation of catechism-book?***

The article is moving closer comprehending the catechism at the Church over the centuries. In it an extensive sense of the term and transformation are portrayed in understanding him. The author is also making necessary distinguishing of methodological and etymological notions in the scope discussed, precisely documenting one's reflection with numerous sources. In the article in detail a catechism was discussed as the essential and privileged tool of the religious education - starting from the first catechetical texts, until the era initiated in the 16th century and lasting until today of catechisms. Answer to a question given in the text included in the title is of special importance in the context of the Year of the Faith, into which celebration the Catechism of the Catholic Church found the central place.

**Keywords**: catechism, catechesis, development of catechisms, history of catechisms

**Zbigniew Marek, *Catechism of the catholic Church as a source of the formation of the christian***

In the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), the author is taking reflection over meaning of the document for the life of the Christian. In the special way source character of the Catechism is depicted for the Christian body, in the context of changes which occurred at the Church after the II Vatican Council. The author first of all is discussing anthropological-theological bases of the formation of the Christian. He is paying attention in addition to the dignity of a person, the nature of the faith as well as the way of explaining to the meaning of the address into CCC. Next is describing this formation, referring to her biblical and liturgical dimension. Moreover he shows the formation of the Christian cells in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, so as achieving the human and religious maturity and forming of moral attitudes. The article is confirming the ancillary role of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with regard to the faith.

**Keywords:** Catechism of the Catholic Church, Christian formation, education meaning of CCC

**Dariusz Kurzydło, *The place of catechesis of adults in the new evangelization***

In this article the author makes the characteristics of contemporary adult catechesis in the light of the Church's call for a new evangelization. The Church as the Christian community, who received from Jesus Christ's missionary mandate is required to care for adult Christians to live every day adult faith. Church admitted that the task of prime importance catechesis of adults. Adult Catechesis calls for a meeting of the ecclesial community, which is the womb of the nascent faith. The role of the community's help in finding a man's life the seeds of life and showing fruit of life through the testimony of participants in catechesis. The author believes that if the formation of adult Christians should lead to build a mature community, it must also admit adult crucial role in this process and make it the primary recipient of the action. This means recognizing someone as an adult more than the disciple, but partner through the development of a common faith. The catechumenal road is a proposal of a mature method of developing. In the formation of mature Christian we should also consider preparing for spiritual discernment and to contribute to the development of modern culture. The criterion of maturity in faith is the ability to undertake the evangelization of himself and others .

 **Keywords:** evangelization, new evangelization, catechesis, catechesis of adults, catechumenate.

**Wojsław Czupryński, *Catechesis – a way to mature in faith***

Catechesis should be marked by Christian initiation and lead into both- the process of spiritual change as well as the salutary events of the Paschal mystery. Therefore it is advisable to abandon the idea of theoretical and fundamental preaching in favour of religious experience in general. Systematic doctrinal exposition of faith should be present only after invitation to ‘immersion’ in the mystery of work of redemption that cannot take place during religion lessons at school. Prevailing model of school catechumenate with its intellectual and sacramental style should be rejected. Otherwise it may contribute to distorting and reducing Christianity to tradition and folk rites as well as faulty identification of faith with religious outlook.

Since laicization is still increasing it would be beneficial to, apart from school religion lessons, introduce simultaneous parish catechesis concentrated on evangelization and mystagogy. It would provide a necessary environment for the growth of faith that is a foundation and condition for fruitful catechetic efforts.

With strong emphasis placed on the meaning of God’s Word, liturgy and sacraments deuterocatechumenate fulfils the fundamental functions of the Church (i.e. giving new believers to the Church and leading them to Christian adulthood) in a natural way and in accordance with the needs of present times.

**Keywords**: catechesis, catechumenate, evangelization, initiation, mystagogy, mature in faith

**Tomasz Kopiczko, *Social communication as helt of leading to faith***

 It should be stated that the church, which guides people to holiness and to salvation, is obliged to use the newest means of communication. Believers have duty to share their faith with others. Here aquestion arises: “What do I think about my relationship with God?”, or “What do others think about their faith? How do their experience it?” The reality created by the modern mass media (the Internet, television, newspapers, radio) may be perceived as a space of exchanging of various ideas. Cyberspace is a place where a human being, not only can find some information, but also can encounter with faith and the testimony of it. However, personal encounter, conversion, adherence to Christ, personal relationship require a real community of believers. This article is a sign of hope that the Church would be able to use mass media as the instrument of leading people to faith and to salvation.

  **Keywords**: faith, mass media, testimony.

**Andrzej Kielian, Jarosław Kowalczyk, *Spirit of the future of the Church. New evangelization in apprehending of John Paul II and Synod of Bishops (2012)***

In the first part of this article some basic terms like: the apostolate, the mission, the evangelization and the new evangelization have been explained. It allowed to conclude evangelization become the most common term of Catholic Church activity all around the globe. On the other hand the revelation of God, which has finally accomplished in Jesus Christ, is any content of new evangelization. The new evangelization cannot become just a new formal speech of salvation or be reduced and accommodated to contemporary times.

Term of Generalization of new evangelization was introduced by John Paul II. In this article there are many references to the statement by the Polish Pope and his writings about new evangelization matter and also includes schedule specified specially for 2000-year-anniversary.

Subsequently, the idea of new evangelization was shown. It refers to *Ubicumque et semper* apostolic letter by by pope Benedict XVI and synod of bishops. The pope paid attention to necessity of Catholic Church nature.

The new evangelization matter remains actual nowadays and that is the reason to approximate about it. Pope Francis remind all catholic of “Church which sets out on the road” and forming a community of missionary of all listeners, who take the initiative, involve and companion to that community (EG24).

**Key words:** evangelization, new evangelization, apostolate, mission, Church

**Roman Ceglarek, *Youth catechesis in the upbringing full of respect towards elderly people according to the handbook “The ways of Christ’s witnesses” serie***

More and more frequently initiatives aiming at paying society attention to the older people have been taken up. Church catechetical activity also writes itself into this course. During catechesis the old age issues are dealt with and pupils are educated this way so that they respect elderly people, take care of them properly as well as understand and accept their life conditions and needs. Textbooks for teaching religion, e. g. books like "The ways of Christ's witnesses" series, play supportive role in the realization of mentioned tasks. These handbooks underline the crucial way of elderly people generation in family and society calling the youth to proper treating them in the spirit of humanism and christian love.

**Keywords**: catechesis, elderly people, respect, education, religion manuals, youth, high school.

**Ks. Rafał Bednarczyk, *The formation of catechists in Ukraine after 1990 giving an example of the Diocese of Kamieniec Podolski***

In the diocese of Kamieniec - as the first in a free Ukraine - was formed Institute of Theology in Gródek Podolski - regular theological studies center for the staff of catechists. Its origins date back to 1994 and are associated with the work of Andrzej Maciąg, Polish catechetic theologian, coming from the Archdiocese of Lublin. In the years of 1998-2009 the Institute was affiliated to the Lateran University in Rome, and since 2012, it signed an agreement of collaboration with the Catholic University of Lublin. Until 2012 graduated from the Institute 131 students. In 2013 the number of students was 57, on four specializations . An important role in the ongoing formation of catechists play theological conferences, organized since 1996 by the Institute.

**Keywords**: catehesis, catechesis in Ukraine, religion teachers formation, Institute of Theology in Gródek Podolski