

## **The Gratitude of the University 615<sup>th</sup> Academic Year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow**

One of the most festive and solemn events in the past academic year was undoubtedly the ceremony of awarding the honorary doctorate *honoris causa* to Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, which took place on June 8, 2012 in the auditorium of the *Collegium Maius* of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. By awarding this honor, the Pontifical University of John Paul II expressed its gratitude to the Cardinal, who, as the Secretary of State of the Holy See, supported the activities of our University and the Grand Chancellor, Cardinal. Stanisław Dziwisz, to transform it to a Pontifical University. As a result, on June 19, 2009 Pope Benedict XVI lifted the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow to the dignity of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow.

The decision to grant the said title, the University Senate adopted on March 19, 2012 after reading the reviews which were prepared by Archbishop Dr. Hab. Andrzej Dzięga, professor of the Catholic University of Lublin, and Rev. Prof. Józef Krzywda of our University. The text of the resolution states that this highest academic award is given “for: multi-faceted academic research in canon law, especially public church law, a significant contribution to the presentation and dissemination of the principles of the new Code of Canon Law, both in Italy and in international forums as well as in Poland, building bridges of unity and cooperation between the Holy See and many countries in the world, including an outstanding contribution to the development of cooperation between the Holy See and Poland, intense and persistent proclamation and defense of the dignity of every person and of his/her right to freedom and life, active participation in the work of the popes – Blessed John Paul II and Benedict XVI for all Churches, their faith and unity and fervent care for peace and harmony among nations according to the motto: *Fidem custodire – Concordia servare*, friendly and efficient assistance in transforming the Pontifical Academy of Theology into the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow.”

The ceremony of awarding the doctorate proceeded in the following order. After singing *Gaude Mater Polonia*, Rector of the University, Rev. Prof. Władysław

Zuziak, delivered a speech, followed by an address by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, the Great Chancellor of the University. Then Rev. Prof. Jan M. Dyduch gave the laudation, which emphasized the awardee's scientific achievements, involvement in public affairs of the Church and friendship for Poland and Krakow. After the laudation Vice-Rector Prof. Arkadiusz Baron read in Latin the text on the diploma stating the awarding of the title of doctor *honoris causa*. After handing in the diploma by Rector Zuziak, Choir *Psalmodia* sang *Gaudeamus igitur*. Finally, the noble laureate Cardinal Prof. Tarcisio Bertone SDB gave his *Lectio magistralis* on "The Role of Catholic Universities in the new evangelization." Referring to Blessed John Paul II he mentioned the relationship between university activities and the new evangelization. He said that "The secret of all evangelization lies in the discovery that the love of God must transform itself in the service of our neighbor." University too long separated *veritas* from *caritas*. Benedict XVI unites them in depth, for example, in this happy formula, so carefully defined: "The truth is *lógos* creating *diálogos*, i.e. communication and communion." After the *lectio*, the Undersecretary of State in the Chancellery of the Polish President, Mr. Maciej Klimczak, read a congratulatory letter of President Bronisław Komorowski, after which some of the guests gave the Laureate their congratulations. Vice-Rector Baron presented congratulatory telegrams sent to the Laureate for the occasion, and Rector Zuziak gave the cardinal his sincere congratulations and wishes *ad multos annos*. At the end of the ceremony, Choir *Psalmodia* sang *Gloria*.

The present 615<sup>th</sup> academic year 2011/2012 at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow began with a traditional pilgrimage to the Marine Sanctuary in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska on Friday, September 30, 2011. The first point on the agenda was a conference entitled "The eternal act «generatio» of the Son as model for theology, bioethics and spirituality," which was delivered by Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Muszala. Then, there was a solemn concelebrated Mass presided over by the University Rector, Rev. Prof. Władysław Zuziak with a homily delivered by Fr. Dr. Paweł Holc CM, rector of the Theological Institute of the Missionaries in Krakow. In the afternoon, the Way of the Cross service, prepared by theology students, was held on the Calvary Paths. Professors, administrative staff and University students: seminarists of diocesan and religious seminaries in Krakow, nuns and lay students participated in the service. During the pilgrimage the participants prayed in a special way for the canonization of Blessed John Paul II, the founder of our University (then Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow) and God's blessing for our University.

The solemn ceremony of the opening of 2011/2012 academic year took place on Monday, October 17, 2011. The date refers to the date of the election of Blessed John Paul II to the Holy See (October 16, 1978). The inauguration ceremony consisted, as usual, of two parts: the liturgical one in the collegiate church of St. Anna and the academic part in the Krakow Philharmonic Hall. The solemn inaugural Mass

was presided over by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, and the homily was delivered by Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Krakow.

After the Mass, the participants of the inauguration ceremony walked in a solemn procession to the Krakow Philharmonic Hall, where after singing *Gaude Mater Polonia* spoke Rector of the University, Rev. Prof. Władysław Zuziak who welcomed the guests, among whom were: Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, the Grand Chancellor of our University, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, Bishop Tadeusz Rakoczy, Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, Bishop Jan Szkodoń, Bishop Jan Zając, Bishop Damian Muskus, Bishop Grzegorz Ryś, former Rector of the Jagiellonian University Professor Karol Musioł, Rector of the University of Science and Technology, Prof. Antoni Tajduś, Rector of the Agricultural University Prof. Janusz Żmija, Rector of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Prof. Henry Skorowski, Vice-Rector for Administration and Finance at the Catholic University of Lublin, Prof. Stanisław Zięba, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław and Rev. Prof. Stanisław Araszczuk, as well as representatives of the city and region with the Marshal of the Małopolska Region Mr. Marek Sowa, consuls of the Slovak Republic, Ukraine and Germany and parliamentarians: members of the European Parliament, and members of the Polish Sejm and Senate. After welcoming the guests, the rector presented the achievements of the University in the past academic year, emphasizing the dynamic development of the Main Library in its new premises at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street and the Publishing House.

On this occasion it is worth mentioning that telegrams and letters of congratulations were sent for the inauguration ceremony by members of the episcopate, among others: Polish Primate, Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk, President of the Polish Bishops' Conference, Archbishop Józef Michalik, Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education, Cardinal. Zenon Grocholewski, Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Polish Episcopal Conference, Bishop Prof. Andrzej F. Dziuba, Cardinal Józef Glemp, Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz, Bishop for the Military Services Józef Guzdek, and rectors of universities, including Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice and President of the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities, Prof. Wiesław Banyś, Rector of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Prof. Andrzej Dąbrowski, Rector of Szczecin University, Prof. Waldemar Tarczyński and Rector of the Warsaw State Medical University, Prof. Marek Krawczyk. All letters and telegrams expressed appreciation for our university and wishes of further dynamic development.

Another important point of the inauguration was the matriculation of students of the first year of four university faculties (of theology, philosophy, history, cultural heritage and social sciences). Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Maciej Ostrowski led this part of the ceremony. After matriculation, as usual, spoke President of the Students Government, Ms. Aleksandra Zachara, encouraging her younger colleagues to make the best use of their time of studies and to become involved in the work of Government.

After the matriculation ceremony, awards were presented to academics, authors of the best theses and administrative employees. Rector's Prize for achievements in research, didactic and organizational work was awarded to 23 people, 7 persons received awards for the most points in scientific publications, 3 for the best doctoral thesis, 1 for the best Bachelor's thesis (church licentiate) (a person from the Faculty of Theology because only this Department bestows this degree), 6 for the best master thesis, 4 for the best thesis (vocational licentiate). Rector's Award for administrative employees was handed in to 8 people. Then Małopolska Region Curator of Education, Mr. Aleksander Palczewski handed in Medals of National Education Commission to Fr. Prof. Tomasz Dąbek and Rev. Prof. Jan Orzeszyna. At the end of this part of the ceremony, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz handed in the *Gold Medal of the Pontificate of John Paul II for contribution to the Archdiocese of Krakow*, which this year at the request of Rector Zuziak was awarded to: Prof. Karol Musioł – former Rector of the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Janusz Żmija – Rector of the University of Agriculture and Prof. Antoni Tajduś – Rector of the University of Science and Technology. In this way, Krakow Metropolitan expressed his gratitude for the special effort for the development of inter-university cooperation and integration of Krakow academic environment as well as promotion of values that were dear to Pope John Paul II.

The last point of the ceremony was the inaugural lecture entitled "Education for Freedom," which delivered by Prof. Mirosław Handke, who emphasized the importance of adequate preparation for the use of the gift of freedom. The entire inauguration ceremony was interspersed with singing of the choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II *Psalmodia* under the direction of Włodzimierz Siedlik. Dawid Rzepka played the organ.

Undoubtedly, an important event in the life of not only our school, but also the city of Krakow, were the 6<sup>th</sup> "Days of John Paul II" (November 7–9, 2011), whose main theme was "Dignity." The Days are a joint venture of institutions of higher education represented at the College of Rectors of Universities of Krakow. They are of academic, cultural and popularizing nature. The Days are an inspiration for taking up research aimed at popularization of papal heritage. They are held every year at the beginning of November (due to the memory of St. Charles Borromeo, patron of John Paul II and the anniversary of his priestly ordination). Up until now a different institution of higher education each year organized them. This year, the "Days of John Paul II" were organized in almost every university belonging to the said College. Honorary patronage was given by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop and Metropolitan of Krakow, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, former Metropolitan, Stanisław Kracik, Governor of the Małopolska Region, Marek Sowa, Marshal of the Małopolska Region and Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow.

The following academic sessions were held as part of the "Days of John Paul II": "Music and poetry and teaching of Karol Wojtyła and John Paul II" organized by the

Academy of Music in Krakow, “Dignity” – by the Tadeusz Kościuszko University of Technology, “The importance of the beatification of John Paul II” – by the University of John Paul II in Krakow and the Institute for Intercultural Dialogue, and “Humanity – Dignity – Holiness” – by the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. In addition, many other cultural events took place, including competitions: literary, photographic and composition for students from across Poland for works inspired by the thought and work of Karol Wojtyła – Pope John Paul II. The same days were organized in Tarnow, Nowy Sącz, Nowy Targ and Oświęcim. The awards were presented after a Mass in the John Paul II Center “Do not be afraid” in Krakow-Łagiewniki at the end of “Days.”<sup>1</sup>

In order to preserve the heritage of John Paul II for young generations monthly public lectures connected with the issues that were the subject of papal teaching are organized. The organizer is the Centre for Research on Thought of John Paul II. In the past academic year, the following lectures were delivered by representatives of various scientific and cultural circles: “Poland of Pope John Paul II” (Rev. Dr. Hab. Alfred Wierzbicki – Catholic University of Lublin, Lublin), “Fundamentals of the philosophy and theology of culture of Karol Wojtyła” (Fr. Dr. Dariusz Radziechowski, the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow), “Human being – a free being” (Fr. Dr. Rafał Wilk OSPPE), “The actor in the theater of the word. The Pope on the world’s stage” (Dr. Izabela Drobotowicz-Orkisz), “John Paul II – the theory of evolution and intelligent design” (Fr. Michał Chaberek OP), “Exceeding oneself as the key to the anthropology of Karol Wojtyła – John Paul II” (Dr. Maria Zboralska), “Karol Wojtyła and his Wadowice roots” (Marta Burghardt), “The concept of sexual love of Karol Wojtyła and the issue of philosophical naiveté” (Prof. Marian Grabowski (Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń). The Centre also publishes a series entitled “Studies on the thought of John Paul II.” The 11<sup>th</sup> volume in the series, including a study: Maria Zboralska, *Exceeding oneself as the basis for theological anthropology of Karol Wojtyła – John Paul II*, Krakow 2012, has recently been published.

Another important and recurring event in the life of our University’s academic community is the anniversary of founding the Pontifical Academy of Theology by Pope John Paul II (December 8, 1981), now the Pontifical University of John Paul II. Usually, the main point of the celebration is a solemn concelebrated Mass in the church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow. This year, on Thursday, December 8, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of our University was celebrated. The ceremony consisted of two parts. The first was the opening of the exhibition “Gaudium Veritatis,” prepared by the Office of Information and Publicity, which took place in the University building at 9 Kanoniczna Street. The exhibition included photographs showing the ties between John Paul II and our University and more than 100 medals from the collection of Mr. Bernard Marek Adamowicz. The second was a conference

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<sup>1</sup> More information (in Polish) can be found at: [http://www.jp2.krakow.pl/\\_2011/](http://www.jp2.krakow.pl/_2011/).

in St. Mark the Evangelist Church delivered by Rev. Prof. Jan Szczepaniak on “The Pontifical Academy of Theology – a dream come true of John Paul II on the Church university in Krakow.” After the conference, a solemn Mass began which was presided over by Bishop Prof. Tadeusz Pieronek. In his homily, he emphasized, among other things, the need to “express gratitude to God [...] for saving the work of St. Queen Jadwiga and the providential decisions of Metropolitan of Krakow Karol Wojtyła.”

Equally solemnly, as the above-mentioned jubilee, the annual anniversary of the erection of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow (January 11, 1397) is celebrated. Their focal points are promotions to academic degrees. Anniversary festivities took place on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. The University expressed its gratitude to God for the 615 years of His care of the Department in a solemn Mass, which was celebrated in the Wawel Cathedral by the Grand Chancellor of the University, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Rector Prof. Maciej Ostrowski delivered the homily. After the Mass, promotion ceremony took place, during which doctoral diplomas were bestowed upon 18 people (12 from the Faculty of Theology, 3 from the Faculty of Philosophy and 2 from the Department of History and Cultural Heritage, and one from the Faculty of Theology, branch in Tarnów), and a diploma of Dr. Hab. was presented to 4 persons from theological studies: Fr. Dr. hab Romuald Kośła OFM (researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Theology), Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Nowicki (from outside the University), Rev. Dr. Hab. Bogdan Zbroja (researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Theology, whose habilitation studies were begun at the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Theological Department in Kosice), and from the social sciences: Dr. Hab. Małgorzata Duda (lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, whose habilitation studies were begun at the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Theological Department in Kosice). The following persons received the title of professor: Rev. Prof. Józef Karol Marecki (Humanities, lecturer at the History and Cultural Heritage Department), Rev. Prof. Wojciech Misztal (theological sciences, lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences), Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Panuś (theological sciences, lecturer at the Faculty of Theology), Rev. Prof. Józef Stala (theological sciences, lecturer at the Department of Theology, branch in Tarnów), Rev. Prof. Jan Władysław Szczepaniak (humanities, lecturer at the Department of History and Cultural Heritage). A diploma ascertaining employment in the position of full professor of theological studies was presented to: Fr. Prof. Wiesław Jerzy Gogoła OCD (from the Faculty of Theology), Rev. Prof. Jan Józef Janicki (from the Department of History and Cultural Heritage), Rev. Prof. Janusz Mastalski (from the Faculty of Social Sciences), Rev. Prof. Jan Orzeszyna (from the Faculty of Theology), Rev. Prof. Maciej Ostrowski (from the Faculty of Theology), and of full professor of Music Arts, to Rev. Prof. Andrzej Zajac (from the Department of History and Cultural Heritage). On behalf of the promoted, his gratitude expressed Rev. Prof. M. Ostrowski.

Promotions are held for the second time in the same academic year on the feast day of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, which is celebrated in Poland on May 8. They



are held every year in the University Collegiate Church of St. Anne in Krakow. This year's promotions ceremony was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, under the leadership of the Grand Chancellor of the University, who expressed his joy from this fact and wished the University success and further dynamic development. Doctor diplomas were handed in to 14 people (10 – from the Faculty of Theology and 4 from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). A diploma of habilitated doctor was handed to S. Dr. Hab. Tereza Obolevich BDNP from the Faculty of Philosophy, who on behalf of all promoted persons expressed her gratitude to the University assuring of their zeal in undertaking scientific challenges. Then a delegation of students wished the cardinal all the best on the occasion of his birthday that befell on that day. At the end of the ceremony, the cardinal delivered a speech and ended the meeting with a prayer to St. John of Kęty, patron saint of teachers.

Cooperation with foreign research centers has a significant influence on the development of the University. Particularly vivid are scientific contacts with centers in Bochum, Ružomberok, Presov (Prešov), Kiev and Lviv. Cooperation in the framework of the EU Erasmus LLP (*Lifelong Learning Programme ERASMUS*) has continued since we joined it on May 20, 2008. In the past academic year our University established cooperation with the following universities: University of Nottingham (England), Katholische Hochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen (Germany), The Newman Institute (Sweden), Univerzita Konstantina Filozofa in Nitre (Slovakia), Westfaelische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (Germany). Currently, the Erasmus program is run with the following universities: Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany), Universite de Fribourg (Switzerland), University of Presov in Presov (Slovakia), Ostravská univerzita v Ostrave (Czech Republic), Univerzita Karlova v Praze (Czech Republic), Universidad de Navarra (Spain), Univerza v Ljubljani (Slovenia), Danish School of Media and Journalism (Denmark), Catholic Univerzita v Ruzomberoku (Slovakia), Universita degli Studi di Verona (Italy), Universita degli Studi di Trento (Italy), Vilniaus Universitetas (Lithuania), Theologische Fakultät Trier (Germany), Univerzita Komenskeho v Bratislave (Slovakia), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy), Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany), Eotvos Lorand Tudományegyetem (Hungary), Pontifical University, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth (Ireland), The University of Malta (Malta), KU Leuven (Belgium), Universidade Catolica Portuguesa (Portugal), Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), Westfaelische Wilhelms-Universitaet Muenster (Germany), Univerzita Konstantina Filozofa v Nitre (Slovakia), The Newman Institute (Sweden), Katholische Hochschule Nordrhein-Westfalen (Germany), University of Nottingham (England). In the past academic year, 17 students took a part of their course of studies abroad, 20 students took up foreign practices, 18 professors guest lectured at a foreign partner university and 12 other employees traveled for workshops. Students are interested in taking a part of their course of studies (usually one semester) at a foreign university.

The already mentioned cooperation with the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic University of Ruhr in Bochum (Germany) is particularly noteworthy. It consisted in an exchange organized in such a way that in the autumn of each year, professors (usually two), traveled to Bochum, and in the spring professors from Bochum came to Krakow. In 1997, also students began to participate in the exchange. In the past academic year, efforts were taken to grant a *honoris causa* doctorate to Rev. Prof. Wendelin Knoch, now a retired professor at the Faculty of Catholic Theology in Bochum. Therefore, there was no meeting in the usual time frame. It will be organized with the celebrations of awarding the above-mentioned title. Academics responsible for the organization of meetings are: on the German side, Rev. Prof. Christof Breitsameter, and on the part of our University, Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic.

The University also maintains regular contacts with all universities in Poland by participating in the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities. Since March 4, 2006, our Rector has been a member of the Conference in accordance with § 2 of the revised Regulations.

Another international event of great importance was the 11<sup>th</sup> annual international conference organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in the series: “The role of the Catholic Church in the process of European integration,” which was held in the Conference Centre of Krakow in Tomaszowice near Krakow on September 14–15, 2012. It was dedicated to the theme: “Christian expectations of the shape of Europe.”

The conference was opened by Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek, whose speech was followed by the greeting of guests extended by the following speakers: chairman of the organizing committee, Marshal of the Małopolska Region Marek Sowa, Vice-Chairman of the EPP (Christian Democrats) Group in the European Parliament and member of the Management Board of the Robert Schuman Foundation, Dr. Jan Olbrycht, and Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. He pointed out, among others, that the voice of the Church should be taken into account in the discussion on the future of Europe because Europe cannot function properly without spiritual background offered by Christianity. Then, Tomasz Arabski, Head of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, read a letter from Prime Minister Donald Tusk addressed to the participants of the conference, in which the Prime Minister stressed the importance of Christian values in the existing development in Europe and its legal system: “Europe as we know it, and in which we live, cannot be understood without reference to Christian values. Political freedom, rule of law, the idea of human dignity, the greatest European values and institutions are the result of the Western heritage, which is deeply rooted in Christianity.”

Introductory papers for a discussion at the first session were given by Viviane Reding – Commissioner for Justice of the EU (her address was played on video) and Władysław Bartoszewski, Secretary of State and representative for the International Dialogue in the Office of the Prime Minister, who noted that Pope John Paul II belongs to the group of spiritual fathers of the united Europe. The panel discussion was devoted to the search for answers to the question: “What political shape will the European Union adopt – is the



concept of the “fathers of Europe” still relevant?” It was attended by Romana De Gasperi, daughter of Alcide De Gasperi and vice president of the Foundation bearing his name, Klaus Otto Skibowski, journalist and writer, former adviser to German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Dr. Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, vice-president of the European People’s Party (Christian Democracy). The discussion was led by Dr. Jan Olbrycht.

In between sessions a presentation of the book by Dr. Norbert Neuhaus and Horst Langes entitled *Die christlichen Werte der Demokratie*, Kiesslegg 2011 (Polish edition: *Around the Values of Christian Democracy*, Gliwice 2012) took place. The word of the introduction was given by Jacques Santer, president of the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg, former president of the European Commission.

During the second, afternoon session, the issue of “Secularism – a value or a threat?” was discussed. Prof. Rocco Buttiglione, vice-president of the parliament, Prof. Libero Gerosa, director of the Institute of Canon Law and Comparative Religion in Lugano and film director Krzysztof Zanussi delivered their papers. The discussion at the end of the session was led by Maciej Gajek, journalist and columnist.

In the evening, at St. Mary’s Church a Mass was held. It was presided over by His Eminence Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Metropolitan of Warsaw, who also said the homily. He recalled the words of Bl. Pope John Paul II in Gniezno (1997): “There will be no European unity until there is a community of spirit.”

On the second day, the morning session (the only one) was devoted to the Christian vision of Europe. Introductory lectures were given by Archbishop Jean-Claude Hollerich SJ, archbishop of Luxembourg, representing COMECE and Dr. Jarosław Gowin, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Poland. The panel discussion was attended by Zbigniew Derdziuk, president of ZUS (Social Insurance Institution), Zbigniew Nosowski, editor-in-chief of a monthly magazine “Więź,” Elmar Brok from Germany, chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs in the European Parliament. The discussion was led by Marek Zając, TVP journalist.

At the end of the conference, the following persons delivered speeches: Dr. Christian Schmitz, director of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Poland, and Rev. Prof. Władysław Zuziak, rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, who said that marginalizing the opinion of Christians in public matters may also result from the fact that “they do not have enough presence in social discourse and are not determined enough to defend their views.”

The conference was organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II and the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg, and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in cooperation with the European Group of the People’s Party (Christian Democrats), the Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Union – COMECE in Brussels and a publishing house “Wokół nas” in Gliwice.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> More information about the conference: <http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl> (29. 12. 2012). On this website materials from the previous conferences can be found (in Polish).

Krakow is proud not only of John Paul II, but also of Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner, philosopher, well-known in Poland and Europe. "Tischner's Days" popularize his philosophical and sociopolitical thought. They are organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II, the Jagiellonian University, the State Higher Theatrical School (the main organizer this year) and the Social Publishing Institute "Znak." Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz extends his honorary patronage over the event. The 12<sup>th</sup> Tischner's Days were held on April 25–28, 2012. This year's "Days" program included a meeting with the winners of "The Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner Znak and Hestia Awards," a panel discussion "Tischner's meeting with theater," a meeting in a series "We read Tischner," *Colloquia Tischneriana* and a discussion meeting "Philosophers' Cave" on the subject of "Meeting the Other." The "Days" began with a Mass in the Collegiate Church of St. Anne, which was presided over by Bishop Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Ryś, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Krakow.

The above-mentioned *Colloquia Tischneriana* are a series of lectures in honor of Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner. As part of this year's "Colloquia," a lecture by Prof. Anna Teresa Tymieniecka (New Hampshire, USA) entitled "The possibles and the onto-poiesis of life" was in the program. Unable to attend, she forwarded the text of the lecture, which was read by Adam Workowski. Wojciech Bonowicz delivered a brief introduction to the lecture. The lecture took place on April 27, 2012 in the *Aula Auditorium Maximum* of the Jagiellonian University.

Popularization of the concern for the unity of Christians is one of the main tasks of the Interdepartmental Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue. Therefore, every year, the Institute is actively involved in the organization of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the accompanying "Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church" and "The Day of Islam in the Catholic Church." Also in the past year, the Institute was a co-organizer of the said Week of Prayer, which was held in Krakow on January 15–22, 2012. The leading theme of the week were the words of St. Paul "Transformed by the victory of Jesus Christ" (cf. 1 Cor 15: 51–58)." The Week of Prayer was organized by the Interdepartmental Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Krakow Branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council and the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow. The 15<sup>th</sup> Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church in Poland took place earlier, before the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, i.e. on January 12, 2012 and was entitled "From now on you will not be called Jacob, but Israel" (Genesis 32, 29). It was organized by the Interdepartmental Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Jewish Religious Community in Krakow. For the first time representatives of the Churches and ecclesial communities affiliated to the Polish Ecumenical Council were invited to pray together. A prayer meeting at the Basilica of the Franciscan Order was led by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz and was attended by: Auxiliary Bishop Grzegorz Ryś, Chief Rabbi of Krakow, Boaz Pasz,

President of the Jewish community, Tadeusz Jakubowicz, President of the Krakow branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council and pastor of the Evangelical-Augsburg Church, Rev. Roman Pracki, a representative of Polish Catholic Church, Rev. Marian Wnęk and custodian of St. Francis' Basilica, Fr. Stanisław Glista.

Krakow celebration of the "12<sup>th</sup> Day of Islam in the Catholic Church in Poland" took place on February 1, 2012. It was organized by the Interdepartmental Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Order of the Franciscan Fathers. The keynote of the day were the words: "Christians and Muslims together: support for the spiritual dimension of man." The highlight of the celebration was the service of God's Word, which was led by Bishop Gzegorz Ryś. The culmination of the Day of Islam in Krakow was a panel meeting at the Pontifical University of John Paul II. At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Hayssam Obeidat from Jordan, president of the Krakow branch of Muslim League of Poland, informed the participants about its activities. The panel was attended by Musa Leszek Czachorowski, a member of the Supreme College and spokesman for the Muslim Religious Association, representative of Polish Tatars, Yousif Abuzied, a Sudan-born doctor and former councilor in Ruda Śląska, Rev. Dr. Tadeusz Czakański, a lecturer of pastoral theology, organizer of the Day of Islam in Katowice and Tadeusz Cisowski, a student of the Jagiellonian University, volunteer worker in the hospital of the Bonifraters in Nazareth. The discussion was led by Dr. Marek Kita, deputy director of the Interdepartmental Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue at our University.

In addition to the above cyclical initiatives, in order to deepen the knowledge imparted in regular classes and lectures, the University organizes symposia, conferences and guest lectures, which at the same time are a way to popularize the results of research conducted by individual researchers and academics of our University. Some of them were organized with the participation of institutions from outside the University. Here are some of them.

The Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow (on the initiative of the Department of Pastoral Theology at the Faculty of Theology) together with the Greek-Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the archbishopric in Prešov and Greek Catholic Youth Pastoral Centre in Prešov organized the 19<sup>th</sup> seminar on "The Sacred and Nature," which was held on September 23–24, 2011 in Prešov. It was entitled "The Temple of the Lord." Lecturers from different disciplines of the Pontifical University and the University of Prešov tried to introduce the participants to the wealth of aspects of the realities behind the motto the "Temple of the Lord." They pointed to the role of the temple and its natural environment in the spiritual development of man. Materials from the symposium were published in the book: J. Brusilo OFMConv, P. Tirpák, M. Petro (eds.), *The House of the Lord. The 19<sup>th</sup> International Seminar on "The Sacred and the nature"*, Kraków-Prešov 2011.

Sensitivity to human suffering is a very valuable attitude in the diverse ministry for others. Debates were held on how to do this more effectively at the conference «*Dolentium Hominum*» – clergy and laity and human suffering,” which was organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Provincial Curia of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God in collaboration with the publishing house “Practical Medicine.” The conference was held on October 10, 2011 in Krakow-Łagiewniki. In this way, a new, post-graduate course of studies in Ministry of Health Care and Social Welfare “School of Pastoral Care of St. John of God” was initiated. The course is run by the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and the Polish Province of the Bonifraters Hospitaller Order of St. John of God.

The Department of Bioethics at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow together with the Department of Ethics at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow organized a conference on bioethics “From personal autonomy to the autonomy of the patient.” The conference was held on October 18, 2011 in Krakow. The problems discussed in the papers included such issues as: autonomy of the person in philosophy, dignity of the person, primacy of conscience, procreative autonomy and patient autonomy in the context of palliative care. Among the speakers there was one person from Slovakia and one from Canada with papers about this issue in the Slovak and Canadian health care systems.

Ethics plays an important role in public life although sometimes it is disregarded by politicians. In search of answers to contemporary ethical issues the Ethics Department of the Faculty of Philosophy organized the 4<sup>th</sup> scientific conference in the series: “Ethics and public life.” Its topic was “Equality and public life.” The conference was held on October 25–26, 2011. The purpose of the conference was “ethical analysis of equality in public life and its relation to other values.” Presentations focused on the following thematic groups: equality – a controversial concept or an unattainable ideal? (in particular, the political ideal of equality, equality in terms of an individual and society), equality and society (equality in relation to justice, inequality as a necessary condition of education, equality and usability, narcissistic personality of our times, parity in relation to equality and justice), equality in public life, equality in the media, equality and the sphere of religion (equality of rights and duties, the natural equality in the context of religion, equality of competence to explain the world in a dispute about Darwinism), reflections on equality in politics (equality at the basis of a particular vision of public life, equality and religious freedom in the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court), equality in a different way (metaphysics of equality, economics and mercy, disability in the context of public life). The authors of the presentations were academics of our university, researchers from several other universities in Poland and Germany (1 person) and Slovakia (7 people) – the total of 28 people.

The deeper participation in the liturgy and its beautiful and solemn character is ensured by good liturgical music. The only so far Intercollegiate Institute of Church Music is concerned about high level of music in our churches. It was founded as a result of an agreement between our University and the Academy of Music in Krakow, which was signed on November 19, 2008. The Institute runs a course of studies of “church music.” These are licentiate studies, for a licentiate (bachelor degree) and master studies (of 2<sup>nd</sup> degree). Both courses last a total of five years. An extremely valuable asset for enabling practical classes of church music is the new pipe organ, which was installed in the church of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr in Krakow-Dąbie. Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz presided over a solemn ceremony of blessing the instrument on October 26, 2011. The new pipe organ is the largest mechanical instrument of this type in Krakow with four manuals and a pedal keyboard. The instrument was built in 1966 by the Klais company and was originally used in Germany. When it was bought by the Foundation of St. Queen Jadwiga for the Pontifical University of John Paul II, the incomplete instrument was brought to Krakow in 2008.

In addition to the above mentioned “Tischner’s Days,” in the past academic year the International Tischner’s Congress “Good and Truth” was held. The Congress was organized by the Institute of Thought of Józef Tischner in Krakow, the Faculty of Philosophy of the Jagiellonian University and the Philosophical Faculty of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and was held on October 25–27, 2011 at the Jagiellonian University’s *Collegium Novum* in Krakow. The congress was devoted to philosophical thinking in the form proposed by Rev. Józef Tischner. Topics of presentations and discussions focused on “religious thinking,” which, in the opinion of the Philosopher from Łopuszna, covered the philosophy of the subject, ontology, epistemology, axiology, agathology, philosophy of religion and theology.

Return to the roots is a challenge always present for liturgists. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Liturgical International Symposium «Ad fontes liturgicos» – Return to the roots. Researching sources of pontifical liturgy,” was organized by the Ukrainian Centre for Liturgy in Lviv, Ukrainian Theological Scientific Society, the Institute of Liturgy from our University and the Greek Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Presov (Slovakia). The symposium was held on October 26–27, 2011 at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. This edition of the symposium was devoted to the pontifical liturgy. Researchers from Ukraine, Slovakia, Austria and Poland shared the results of their research in the field of liturgical ministry of a bishop, presenting sources that can help understand the historical process of the development of Christian liturgy. They are an inspiration not only for contemporary theology, but also for those who perform pontifical liturgy.

Ethical and moral issues in an employer-employee relationship can lead to abuse. These issues lay at the basis of a conference “Mobbing in white gloves.” It was organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II together with the

Polish Society of Theology. The Conference was held on November 15–16, 2011 in Krakow. Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz extended the honorary patronage over the conference. In a letter to the conference participants he pointed out that for the Catholic Church sensitivity to the issues of mobbing is very important. It is also an important issue for the Government of the Republic of Poland. The paper entitled “Government activities towards the prevention of mobbing,” written by Minister Elżbieta Radziszewska, Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment and Secretary of State in the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, was presented by her advisor Małgorzata Bilka. Some of the papers presented during the conference included: “The issue of mobbing in the perspective of social communication psychology” (Prof. Zbigniew Nęcki, Jagiellonian University), “Theological and humanistic dimension of work and mobbing” (Rev. Prof. Jan Orzeszyna, the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow), and “Mobbing in the media, the journalist in the grip of dependency and political order” (Anna Żurek, Polish Television). The conference was met with great interest, which even brought about an idea of creating an anti-mobbing association.

Martyrdom is still a frequently occurring phenomenon in many parts of the world. It is the result of religious persecution or a religiously motivated tool. Therefore, the Pontifical University of John Paul II along with the Congregation for the Causes of Saints organized a scientific conference on “Martyrdom: past – present – future.” The conference was held on November 25, 2011 in Krakow. In this way, the University joined in the celebration of the Year of St. Maksymilian Maria Kolbe, announced by the Senate on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his martyrdom in the concentration camp, and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. The U.S. Consul General in Poland extended honorary patronage over the conference.

Religious art is undoubtedly of great importance to the life of believers. To meet the new developments in this area, the Institute of History, Art and Culture at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow organized a conference on “High culture. Death of religious art,” which took place on December 1, 2011 in Krakow. The conference tackled issues such as: the typology of religious art, *sacrum* in art, perspectives of «a new start» in religious art, new technologies as an art to be used in places of worship. The conference was organized as part of a nationwide series “High Culture” and was dedicated to the possibilities of development in religious art.

The Chair of Metaphysics at the Department of Philosophy organized an international online conference in a series “Metaphysics and its outskirts” on “Metaphysics and literature in the Russian culture of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century.” The conference was held on December 1–6, 2011 on the Internet. The subject of the conference included such topics as: literature as the *locus philosophicus* of the Russian metaphysical thought, mutual influence of philosophical and literary trends in Russian culture (romanticism, symbolism, realism, etc.); boundaries of literature and metaphysics and the crossing of them in Russian culture, traditional metaphysical concepts and themes in the works of Russian writers, and the search for «sacrum» in Russian



metaphysics and literature. The papers presented at the conference have been published in the languages in which they were presented as a collective work: Obolevitch T. (ed.), *Metaphysics and literature in Russian culture. Метафизика и литература в русской культуре*, Krakow 2012.

The Faculty of Philosophy organized the “4<sup>th</sup> Nationwide Interdisciplinary Conference” on the subject “Is the world mathematical? Around the thoughts of Michał Heller.” The conference was held on December 10–11, 2011 in Krakow (College of Philosophy and Theology of the Dominican Brothers). Diverse topics of speeches were divided into three main sections related to mathematics of: beauty, evil and mind. The papers and discussions reflected on such issues as: the beauty of mathematical proofs, the use of geometry in art, mathematization of the concept of evil and its non-conceptuality, artificial intelligence or problems of neuroesthetics. Conference participants also considered the questions: “Is evil mathematical?” or “Is it rather an irrational gap in the ordered world?” and “Can something as elusive as beauty be leveled to mathematical structures?” With reference to the third important issue, which concerned mathematicity of mind the participants wondered if the mind is mathematical or mathematizable? A characteristic feature of these Krakow interdisciplinary conferences is the diversity of topics of papers, the meeting of two philosophical options: humanistic and natural and friendly atmosphere of meetings. Not without significance is also a website with a lot of information: [www.WMMH.pl](http://www.WMMH.pl).

The Interdepartmental Institute of Bioethics together with the Chair of General Moral Theology and “Life and Fertility” Foundation organized a Nationwide Interdisciplinary Conference “Bioethics of the generation of Karol Wojtyła – John Paul II.” The conference was held on January 14, 2012 in Krakow-Łagiewniki (Sanctuary of Divine Mercy). The conference was addressed primarily to health care professionals and family counselors, as well as students of biological, medical, educational, philosophical and theological studies. Apart from them, to the surprise of the organizers, the conference attracted a surprisingly large number of people for whom John Paul II is particularly close. The speakers presented 9 papers in two thematic groups: biographical and historical aspects of the Pontifical Academy “Pro Vita,” the ministry of physicians in the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Institute of Bioethics at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, and relating to the development of ethical and bioethical concepts in the thought of Karol Wojtyła to the present.

On the first anniversary of the death of Archbishop Józef Życiński (February 10, 2012) a conference “Nature-Man-God. Around the philosophy of Józef Życiński” was held in Lublin. It was devoted to his scientific contribution. During the conference, the following issues were presented: a philosophical program of Józef Życiński; God, accident and language – an attempt to identify some misunderstanding, biology and culture. It was emphasized that Archbishop desired to build a new metaphysics associated with religion and search for the synthesis of the “three cultures”: religion, science and art. The conference was organized jointly by the philosophical departments

of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University and the Catholic University of Lublin.

The symbolism of power was the main theme of an international conference entitled “Symbol – sign – ritual. The experience of power.” The papers referred to such issues as government propaganda in numismatics, manipulation by the media, the iconography of Christ the High Priest, the elements of power in the Byzantine liturgy, Jewish synagogue liturgy as a sign of religiousness and belief; Christological war banner of Constantine (*labarum*), dress as a symbol of power. The conference was held on February 23, 2012 in Krakow, and was organized by the Department of Auxiliary Sciences of History and Archival Department of History and Cultural Heritage of our University and the Greek Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Prešov.

The Chair of Spirituality of Media and Social Relations and the Congregation of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Province of Poland, organized the 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium of the “Spirituality of monasteries in Poland: transmission and communication” series on “Fr. Hieronim Kajsiwicz CR (1812–1873): concern for spirituality as the care for the welfare of the community.” The symposium was organized to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Fr. Hieronim Kajsiwicz CR, co-founder of the Congregation of the Resurrection, a prominent priest, preacher and patriot. The symposium was held on February 28, 2012 in Krakow. The materials from the symposium have been published as a collective work by W. Misztal, W. Mleczko (eds.), *Father Hieronim Kajsiwicz CR (1812–1873). Caring for spirituality as care for the good of the community*, Kraków 2012.

Research on the impact of the Bible on culture and popularization of the knowledge of the Bible is one of the valuable activities of the Chair of Biblical Theology and Computer Science at the Faculty of Theology. The Department organized the 9<sup>th</sup> International and Inter-disciplinary Symposium on “The Bible in the culture of the world,” which was held on February 1, 2012 in Krakow. The topics of presentations included among others the allegorical interpretation of the “Song of Songs,” selected topics from the life of St. Paul of Tarsus, the word of God vividly depicted in mosaics in Bethany and homes in Jewish and Greek cultures. A wide range of subjects showed very clearly how the Bible permeates our everyday lives, and thanks to such meetings, it becomes much closer to the contemporary man. Presentations were given by scholars from our University, the Slovak universities (Catholic University in Ruzomberok and University of Prešov) and Ukraine (Lviv Theological Institute and Higher Seminary in Gródek Podolski). The symposium was organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and the Higher Seminary of Minor Capuchin Friars.

Seeking answers to the question about the relationship between the Kingdom of God and the Church was the subject of reflection for the participants of the conference entitled “The Kingdom of God and the Church.” The subjects of the papers included such issues as: the realism of the Kingdom of God, the development of the interpretation

of the concept of the kingdom of God, the development of relations between the Kingdom of God and the Church and human participation in making the Kingdom of God. The conference, which was organized by the Department of Ecclesiology at the Faculty of Theology, took place on March 8, 2012 in Krakow. The result is the publication of M. Chojnacki, J. Morava, Andrzej A. Napiórkowski (eds.), *The Kingdom of God and the Church*, Krakow: Salwator Publishing House 2012.

The work of the new evangelization needs new people and renewed communities, which will become a genuine witness of love. In order to form such witnesses the Inter-congregational Higher Catechetical Institute organized the “62<sup>nd</sup> Catechesis Symposium” on “The New Man in the New Evangelization,” which was held on March 10, 2012 in Krakow. At the start of the symposium Rector Rev. Władysław Zuziak delivered a speech after which Bishop Prof. Grzegorz Ryś introduced the idea of the new evangelization in the light of the relevant documents of the Church. The papers focused on such issues as: formation of the first evangelizers by Jesus Christ, passing on the faith to the next generations in the first centuries of the Church, spirituality of the new man according to St. Paul, passing on the faith in the Church and in the family, catechesis, liturgy and diaconate of community in the service of passing the faith. At the end of the symposium, a service of communal celebration of faith was held.

Rev. Prof. Tomasz Jelonek has a special place in the popularization of the Bible and its impact on culture. Within their research on the Bible the Chair of Theology and Biblical Computer Science together with the Biblical Specialization and the Biblical Section of the Polish Theological Society organized a conference entitled: “The study of the Bible. The role of Rev. Prof. Tomasz Jelonek in creating a biblical environment.” Introduction to the conference was given by Rev. Prof. Waldemar Chrostowski, who presented the contribution of Rev. Prof. Jelonek to the development of Polish biblical studies. Other papers were devoted to his involvement in the popularization of biblical studies in the Slovak and Ukrainian (Lviv and Kamieniec) environment and building a bridge between mathematics (and computer studies) and Biblical Studies, as well as popularization of theological studies among the laity. The conference was held on March 21, 2012 in Krakow.

Symposia on historical topics help develop historical consciousness. In the past academic year, we celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of consecrating Adam Sapieha (prince and later cardinal, metropolitan of Krakow,) a bishop. On this occasion the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow with the Jagiellonian University and the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences organized a conference “Adam Stefan Sapieha. 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of consecration and ingress.” The conference was held on March 26, 2012 in Krakow. The papers described Krakow in the times of Prince Bishop Adam Stefan Sapieha, the influence of family environment on the Cardinal’s attitude to life, his ministry, diplomatic and social activity and his relationship to the Central Welfare Council (Polish charity supporting Poles during both world wars).

Another influential figure from the time of Cardinal Sapieha was Polish primate August Hlond. An international conference “Polish Primate August Hlond. Shepherd with a deep outlook into the future” was devoted to his life and work. It was organized by the Chair of the History of Central and Eastern Europe at the History and Cultural Heritage Department of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and by the Associazione Cultori Storia Salesiana, Istituto Storico Salesiano – Roma and held on March 30, 2012 in Krakow. The papers showed Cardinal Hlond as a priest and statesman, critical of both totalitarian regimes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and involved in international affairs.

Caring for people with disabilities is in the center of attention of the University authorities. Assistance for students with disabilities is exercised by the Office for Persons with Disabilities. For such persons the 5<sup>th</sup> Krakow Integration Days, which took place on April 23–26, 2012 were organized. The main idea was to integrate students with disabilities as fully as possible with the academic circle of Krakow through sports, training, the arts, as well as increasing the availability of higher education institutions. In Krakow there is an “Agreement” on cooperation of Krakow universities for the disabled, which was signed on October 27, 2010. The agreement includes the University of Science and Technology, Krakow University of Technology, University of Economics, Pedagogical University, Pontifical University of John Paul II and the Jagiellonian University.

The community reading of the Word of God helps popularize Scripture. Therefore, every year the “Ecumenical Bible Days” and “The Bible Week in the Catholic Church” are organized. On this occasion, on May 22–23, 2012 the “4<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Bible Marathon” was held. It was organized under the motto “My power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor 12.9) by the Interdisciplinary Institute for Ecumenism and Dialogue at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Krakow Branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council.

Many of today’s social problems have their source in the family. Family issues were the focus of an international symposium “Where are you going, contemporary family?” which took place on May 16, 2012 in Krakow. It was organized by the Institute of Family Studies of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow in collaboration with the University of Prešov, Institute of Family of John Paul II in Bratislava and the Regional Center for Social Policy in connection with the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “Exhortation «Familiaris Consortio.»” The papers discussed the following issues: the teaching of John Paul II on the family, the importance of preparation for marriage; anthropological basis of femininity in “Familiaris Consortio,” axiological dimension of the family, care of the family according to the teaching of the universal Church and the local Church in Slovakia, demographic aspects of family support of families by the local government, work as the key family policy, parenthood in the light of the law on foster care, activities

of the Greek Catholic Church in Slovakia for the fuller development of the family, Church and family problems.

Ethical and axiological aspects of the media are often the subject of discussion at our University, as an important part of the contemporary public life. Wishing to remind the public that the value of the media is revealed in their approach to values, the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow with the Section “Axiology of Communication” of the Polish Communication Association organized the “6<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference on Media Ethics” entitled “Values in the media – media value.” The conference aimed at identifying mechanisms of exposing and promoting values in the media, which serve individuals and large communities, as well as creating a space for discussion on values currently reported in the media and expanding practical skills in promoting the man-friendly values. It was pointed out in the introduction that these were the Church and Catholic universities that initiated the development of media education: training educators and professional animators of media culture and educating school children to the critical reception of the media. The conference was held on May 31 – June 1, 2012 in Krakow. The papers and discussions undertook the following topics: confrontation of theory and practice as far as values are concerned, values in social communication: foundations, criteria, limits, the importance of values for education and missionary character of the media, values in journalistic activities, new media as a challenge to values, the value of the media, revealing values in media practice, media and social communication in the context of values. This edition of the conference was attended by speakers from Poland, Slovakia and Germany, and more specifically the representatives of the University of Wrocław, the Jagiellonian University, Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, University of Economics in Krakow, School of Social Psychology in Warsaw, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Higher School of Economics and Innovation in Lublin, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Opole University, State Higher Vocational School in Płock, Krakow Pedagogical University, University of Rzeszów, Warsaw University, Universität Bayreuth in Regensburg and the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava (together 51 persons).

In addition to symposia and conferences organized by the institutions involved in the activities of research and teaching, a symposium combined with a beautiful celebration of the liturgy organized by the students of theology affiliated to the Scientific Liturgical Circle of the Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow deserves our attention. In cooperation with the “Dominican Liturgical Center” in Krakow and the Theological Faculty of our University the “5<sup>th</sup> Liturgical Retreat «Mysterium fascinans» was organized with the motto “Living in Christ – the sacraments of Christian Initiations.” The symposium was held on September 7–9, 2012 in Krakow. The subject of reflection were the sacraments which make us Christians; which implant us in

Christ: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. It was also a response to the call of Pope Benedict XVI, who in a letter *Porta Fidei* announcing the Year of Faith calls to repentance, and thus to renewal of the grace of Baptism and Confirmation. The result of this symposium is an audiobook entitled: *5<sup>th</sup> Religious Retreat "Mysterium fascinans."* Audiobook, Kraków 2012.

In addition to seminars and conferences also guest lectures are organized. In the past academic year the following lectures are worth mentioning: Prof. Philippe Capelle, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy of the Catholic Institute of Paris gave a lecture in French on: "'Meta', 'Theos' and Excess. Metaphysical reason and religious reason" (French: "Meta, Theos et Excédance. Raison métaphysique et raison théologique"), which took place on May 21, 2012. The lecture was organized by the Faculty of Philosophy as a part of the studies of "Religion in the post-secular philosophy." On May 23–24, 2012, guest lectures were delivered in English by Rev. Michel P. Remery, PhD from Tilburg University (The Netherlands) on "Liturgy and architecture through the ages." The lectures were organized by the Institute of History of Art and Culture at the Department of History and Cultural Heritage.

The contribution of our professors to the development of science is shown through distinctions which are awarded to them. The reason to be proud is certainly awarding the highest academic award, which is the title of *doctor honoris causa*. In the past academic year it was bestowed upon Prof. Walery Pisarek at the Silesian University on December 7, 2011. Professor Pisarek is an employee of the Chair of Journalism at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. He is a well-known linguist and media expert, a specialist in the field of mass communication and sociolinguistics, as well as honorary president of the Polish Language Council. He has won many awards, including "Literary Laurel of Silesia in 2002" for his book "The New Journalistic Rhetoric." Also, Rev. Prof. Michał Heller was given the same title by the Warsaw University of Technology on February 24, 2012. The laureate is a professor of philosophy at our University and an employee of the Vatican Astronomical Observatory. He is also the founder and director of the "Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Research" – a scientific institution established by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and the Jagiellonian University and director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research (at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow), and since 1990, member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. In 2008 he was awarded the prestigious *Templeton Prize*.

Another notable distinction is the reward "Pelkovenpreis 2012" awarded by the Association of German Catholic Students «Aenania,» which was received by Rev. Dr. Hab. Henryk Sławinski of the Faculty of Theology for his habilitation thesis "Between continuity and change. The theory of the homily in the United States after the Second Vatican Council" (Krakow 2008). The award ceremony was held at the headquarters of the Association on January 23, 2012 in Munich. The Association has existed since 1851, and has been awarding "Pelkovenpreis" annually since 2005



for outstanding scientific work, taking into account three fundamental principles: *religio, scientia et amicitia*, which means: the strong and consistent support for the Catholic Church, sound knowledge and commitment to the development of science and sustaining friendship, also at international level.

Popularization of knowledge among the elderly is the responsibility of a special institution called the University of the third age. Currently in Poland there are over 100 such institutions. In the academic year 2011/2012 the Third Age University was launched at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic was appointed its first director. The educational offer of the University is directed at pensioners and people over 50 years of age. Inauguration took place on October 10, 2011. The studies were taken up by 220 people. The first audience was warmly welcomed by the Rector of our University, Rev. Prof. Władysław Zuziak. The next speaker was Rev. Prof. Maciej Ostrowski, plenipotentiary of the rector for the University of the Third Age, who outlined its goals, and its director, Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic, who presented the program and organization of the new university. Classes are held on Mondays and cover topics in the field of philosophy, theology, history, and social sciences. The program also includes retreats, formation conferences, pilgrimages, cultural events and sightseeing monuments of Christian culture.

For a more complete picture of our University some statistics should be provided. In the academic year 2011/2012 3,296 students were enrolled at our University. There were 252 academic staff (40 full professors, 70 Associate Professors (habilitated doctors), 121 persons with PhD and 21 with MA diplomas) and 127 other employees (administration – 93, Library – 34). For the first year of the first cycle studies 576 students were admitted. The licentiate (BA degree) which is awarded to those who complete the first cycle of studies was granted to 250 students (Faculty of Theology – 16, Faculty of Philosophy – 12, Department of History and Cultural Heritage – 102, Faculty of Social Sciences – 120), while the MA title which is bestowed upon students who finish the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of studies was granted to 497 students (Faculty of Theology – 242, Faculty of Philosophy – 20, Department of History and Cultural Heritage – 75, Faculty of Social Sciences – 119, Faculty of Theology, Section in Tarnow – 41) and the title of canon licentiate was granted to 47 students (church, at the Faculty of Theology – 29, at the Institute of Canon Law – 9, in Tarnów – 6 and at the Department of History and Cultural Heritage – 3). PhD degree was awarded to 35 people (at the Faculty of Theology – 24, at the Faculty of Philosophy – 9, at the Department of History and Cultural Heritage – 2), the title of Associate Professor was bestowed upon 12 persons, and the title of professor, on 2 persons.

The high number of MA titles results from the fact that the Faculty of Theology awards the title to students of the Major Seminaries that have an agreement with the Department on academic and didactic cooperation. Alumni of these seminaries are not formally students of the Faculty of Theology, but their education process

is controlled by the Department under the a/m agreement, their theses are evaluated by the professors from the Faculty and the defense of the thesis takes place before the MA Exam Board appointed by the Department.

To avoid confusion it should be noted that the figures do not always coincide with the numbers provided with reference to the solemn promotions because from the time of the completion of all proceedings (PhD [publishing of the thesis], Associate Professor and Professor) to the festive promotion usually a few months elapse, so it is often the case that the procedure is completed in one academic year and promotions take place in the next.

In addition to staff promotions, the promotion of the University itself is an important area of its activity. This is the area of the activity for the Information and Promotion Office, which has been in operation since academic year 2004/2005. Through the Office the University engages in promotional activities organized for all the universities in Krakow and in Poland. These include, above all, the Festival of Science, which last year was held on May 9–12, 2012 in Krakow for the 12<sup>th</sup> time. Its motto was: “Theory-Learning-Experience.” Our University organized scientific panels, opening of an exhibit of painting, concerts, radio, television and photographic workshops, dance workshops and many more. For example, at the “Periodic testing of faith” booth one could check the status of their faith as far as its substantive correctness was concerned. In preparing our participation in the festival, a few dozen volunteers from four departments were involved.

The development of modern means of communication made it possible to initiate the Internet radio in which journalism students can practice their knowledge. Radio Bonus has been airing a round the clock regular webcast since November 19, 2010. Its mission is to promote the University, its various departments and fields of study and document important events in the life of the University and the city. Radio Bonus cooperates among others with Radio Vatican, Catholic Information Agency sound service and the national radio stations. An example of concern about the high level of radio emissions can be a meeting with Artur Andrus, which was held on April 27, 2012 in a series “Listen in what the master is saying. Radio Bonus invites you to...” Artur Andrus is a Polish journalist, poet, singer, cabaret artist and announcer. Another example is a meeting with the journalist Brygida Grysiak, which was organized by Radio Bonus and Publisher House Znak on June 5, 2012.

A special form of promotion of the University is its publishing activity, which is the domain of the Academic Press. It publishes thesis and academic magazines. The all-University academic magazine that is regularly published are first of all “*Analecta Cracoviensia*,” containing research from the fields of philosophy, theology, church history and canon law. 40 volumes (43 annual) of this periodical have been published. In addition to the “*Analecta Cracoviensia*” each department issues its own magazine: “*Polonia Sacra*” is the journal of the Faculty of Theology; “*Logos and Ethos*,” of the Department of Philosophy, and “*Folia Historica Cracoviensia*,”

“Pro Musica Sacra “(since 2004) and” *Orientalia Christiana Cracoviensia*” (since 2009), of the Department of Church History. The Faculty of Social Sciences issues “*Studies Socialia Cracoviensia*” (since 2009). The Institute of Canon Law publishes “*Annales Canonici*.” This is a law annual, aimed at academic environments, legal practitioners and all parties known to be concerned with ecclesiastical law. The Faculty of Theology, Section in Tarnow issues two magazines: “*Tarnów Theological Studies*” (since 1938) and “*The Person and the Challenges*” (since 2011). The Center for Interdisciplinary Research at the Faculty of Philosophy publishes “*Philosophical Issues in Science*.” It is a biennial, which is engaged in the discovery and analysis of the philosophical problems involved in natural studies. The “*Issues*” have their appendix entitled “*Semina Scientiarum. Supplement to Philosophical Issues in Science*.” It is edited by the participants of the Scientific Seminar of the Philosophy of Nature and is dedicated to issues from the border of philosophy and natural sciences. Since 2011, the Department of Philosophy has been preparing a new magazine “*Racjonalia. From the perspective of the humanities*,” publishing the work of undergraduate students (level I), supplementary master studies (2<sup>nd</sup> degree), doctoral (3<sup>rd</sup> degree), a uniform master, postgraduate studies as well as university researchers. Preparations for the publication of new periodicals of the Faculty of Theology: “*Studies Biblica Cracoviensia*” and “*Research in Theology*” are under way. In the academic year 2011/2012 the Academic Press published 27 book titles with a total circulation of 4,365 copies, and 12 issues of magazines with a total circulation of 2,420 copies and “*Vita Academica*” – 6 issues with a total circulation of 4,800 copies.

The University official journal of informative character is “*Vita Academica*.” It is a bimonthly newsletter of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, which includes information about the most important events at the University. Students have their own magazine “*Pathos. Socio-Cultural Youth Periodical*,” which is prepared and published by our University Student Government. The magazine has been published for many years. It used to be a quarterly, but now it is a bimonthly. While “*Patos*” is a journal of lay students, the students who prepare for priesthood have their own separate journal “*Tempus Novum Liberum*” (NTL), which is prepared by the students of the Archbishop Seminary in Krakow. It is now an annual publication and includes information about the seminary and student life of seminarists.

The majority of the above-mentioned periodicals are published by the Academic Press of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. Continuing publications also include series. Of particular note are the “*Studies on the history of the Faculty of Theology*.” Other series include: “*Habilitation theses*,” “*Doctoral dissertations*,” “*Faculty of Theology course books*” and a series “*Mysterium Christi*” (which is a liturgical textbook), “*Studies*” (prepared by the Theological Department), “*Textus et studia*” and “*Research on the thought of John Paul II*,” published by the Centre for Research on the Thought of John Paul II.

In addition to research and teaching activities, the University is also trying to promote religious music, since it is an extension of the research on the liturgy of the Church and its musical tradition. University choir *Psalmodia* under the direction of Dr. Włodzimierz Siedlik is very active. *Psalmodia* performs on various occasions such as ceremonial inaugurations of each academic year and University anniversary ceremonies. The choir also seeks to promote Polish culture abroad. Thanks to the cooperation with the Holy Queen Jadwiga Foundation it can participate in a variety of artistic events.

Thus, on July 9, 2012 in Granada, a town in the south of Spain, Choir *Psalmodia* gave a concert as one of over 90 choirs from around the world present at the “37<sup>th</sup> International Congress «Pueri Cantores.»” Choir *Psalmodia* has been a member of the Federation «Pueri Cantores» since 2008, and since then it has participated in every Congress.

The choir also performs at events which promote patriotic values. An example of this was its participation in the concert “In tribute to the cursed soldiers,” which took place on February 29, 2012 at the Krakow Philharmonic.

Winning the “Golden String” on April 22, 2012 and the “Grand Prix” at the “14<sup>th</sup> Małopolska Choir Competition «For the golden string,»” which took place at the Royal Palace in Niepołomice (April 21–22, 2012) is a proof of the choir’s high artistic level. The competition was attended by 24 choirs from the provinces of Małopolska, Podkarpackie, Świętokrzyskie and Silesia.

The Pontifical University of John Paul II does not forget about the spiritual formation of its students and employees. Each year of lay students has its own priest, who says a Mass, preaches ascetic conferences and leads individual pastoral conversations. A Mass is held at least once a month while formation meetings with homilies take place mostly in Advent and Lent. They are an integral part of the retreat held in these liturgical periods. All pastoral activities are coordinated by Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Muszala. Students who prepare for priesthood receive spiritual and pastoral formation in their seminaries. Lay students meet for prayer in the Chapel of the Blessed John Paul II, which is located in the University building at 1 Franciszkańska Street.

The University also takes care of its graduates. On October 11, 2011, in the building at 1 Franciszkańska Street the founding meeting of the Alumni Association of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow under the name of *Academia Nostra* took place. A unanimous decision was made on establishing such an association and convening another meeting to select its authorities. After two weeks, on October 25, 2011 an election meeting was held at which the Board of Directors and an audit and a disciplinary committee were formed. The Board is comprised of five members: Rev. Dr. Marcin Godawa – President, Aleksandra Zachara, licentiate holder – Vice President, Maciej M. Piela, MA – Member of the Board, Dr. Grzegorz Chajko – Secretary and Krzysztof Duda, MA – treasurer. The Association is an autonomous

association for graduates of our University since its post-war history, which means it is open for all who once studied at the Pontifical Faculty of Theology (PWT), and later at the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow (PAT) and now at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. The association's goal is to deepen the relationship between people associated with our University, strengthen communication between graduates and the University, and promote scientific achievements of their *Almae Matris* in the country and abroad.

Our University Library is a specialized one. It is involved in the construction of the Polish library information exchange system, as well as the work of the Krakow Library Group, the National Library Catalogue NUKAT, the Federation of Church Libraries *Fides* and Małopolska Digital Library. The Library continues to expand its catalogue based on the integrated computer system VTLS (the number of copies of records – as of November 2012 was 166,437, while the number of records of periodicals – as of November 2012 – 5,345). This catalogue, which is a database, is accessible via the Internet. The collection of the Library was used by 10,421 regular readers in 2011. In 2011, the library acquired 21,574 items (including 13,533 books, 7,789 magazines and 252 multimedia products). Its resources in 2011 totaled 574,439 copies, books – 378,856. In 2011, the Library acquired 1,073 current journals and periodicals and subscribed to 406 (including 159 foreign). Most of the foreign journals the Library receives in exchange for the “*Analecta Cracoviensia*.”

In the past academic year important personnel changes took place in the Library. On February 21, 2012, a farewell ceremony was held in honor of Deputy Director Władysław Szczęch, MA, at which thanks for the long-term cooperation, which lasted for about 26 years, were expressed. An expression of gratitude was an album of photographs presented to Deputy Director depicting everyday life of the Library, its construction and various events that took place in it. The entire academic community is grateful to Władysław Szczęch for his commitment to the development of our Library.

Shortly after that, Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Bednarczyk who was the director for many years also unexpectedly left the Library. A solemn farewell ceremony was held on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Rev. Jan Bednarczyk was the director of the university library for 28 years and during his term the resources increased by an impressive amount of 550 thousand various items, including 4,800 journals (3,400 in an online catalog), 6,000 volumes of old books, as well as incunabula, manuscripts, maps and audiovisual documents. The culmination of his work was the completion of the construction of the new Library building at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street. Thanks to his efforts the Library increased its collection by adding the books donated by Pope John Paul II from his private library, which are a set called the “gift of John Paul II.” Rev. Jan Bednarczyk is a respected expert on problems of gathering and processing scientific information. He was highly respected by the staff for a special bond with them, and

an atmosphere of warmth and mutual understanding. Rev. Jan Bednarczyk became a parish priest in Filipowice near Krakow.

Moving the collection to the new library has been completed. The majority of the collection is directly accessible, which requires ensuring adequate security for each book. The staff continues to enter and make accessible these library resources that come from various donations. The new Library at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street at the university campus is one of the most modern libraries in Poland, its functioning with all available facilities require large financial means. In the nearest future it is planned to have some buildings for teaching and research purposes built in the immediate vicinity of the Library.

Raising funds to support the activities of the University lies within the area of interest of the Holy Queen Jadwiga Foundation for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. Even though since January 1, 1998 (Act of June 26, 1997), the University was receiving a subsidy from the State budget, it did not cover all expenses, primarily because it was intended only for the salaries for the teaching staff and assistance to students. The situation improved after the amendment of the Act (Act of December 2, 2009), and as a result the “Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow has been receiving grants and other funds from the state budget under the terms for the public schools.” These measures, however, currently cover 72% of the expenditures of the University and do not include costs for investment, since they are allocated in separate proceedings (accordingly made applications are needed), depending on the capabilities of the state budget. Missing funds must therefore be covered from other sources. Therefore, the Foundation popularizes the University’s activities using a variety of different accessible ways, encouraging donors to support the University.

In this academic year, the Foundation has supported the digitization and inventory of archival resources in the Church and Hospice of St. Stanislaus in Rome. During the year, a significant part of documents from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century was digitized, and the inventory of archival documents from the period after World War II was made. Digital images were taken of the set organized in the previous year, i.e. the archives of the Church and Hospice of St. Stanislaus covering 315 archival units, more than 44,000 pictures. In addition, the effect of this work is putting in order a vast collection of priceless archival documents relating to the Center for Immigration Ministry in Rome, and to: the Archives of the Polish Embassy to the Vatican, the Archives of the Polish Foundation in Loreto, Bishop Józef Gawlina’s Archive and the Archive of Stanisław Janasik.

Then, the Foundation, as a beneficiary of a program organized by the Marshal Office of the Małopolska Region “Małopolska for Pope John Paul II,” executed on June 20–29, 2011, a project called “Pilgrims from Małopolska on the background of the beatification of John Paul II.” The aim of the project was to show the impact of the pontificate of the great pope, who came from the Małopolska, on our region, and



the film and photographic documentation of participation of Małopolska inhabitants in the beatification ceremony in Rome.

The Foundation also held a public collection for scholarships for doctoral students and for our University student organizations. The aim of the collection was funding scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Southeast Asia and South America who begin their studies and who already study at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow and who are in a difficult financial situation. The same collection will assist student organizations at the University.

The Foundation supported “The 3<sup>rd</sup> seminar of art and spiritual culture of Cistercians,” which was held on May 17 and 19, 2012 in Krakow. It also co-financed the international scientific symposium on “Mimesis in Byzantine Art: Classical, Real, or Imitative?” which took place on September 5–7, 2012 in Krakow. Scientists from Europe and the USA were invited to attend and deliver papers presenting the results of their research.

On this occasion, the Foundation Board expresses its gratitude to all donors for their generous support, kindness and willingness to help. In the intention of all donors a Mass is celebrated in the church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow.

One of the regular events in the life of the University is a prayer for the deceased workers and for the staff of all Krakow universities who passed away. Every year, during the solemn celebration in the Collegiate Church of St. Anne in Krakow academic environment prays for those who died in the past year. In the past academic year the Mass was celebrated on Monday, November 21, 2011.

At the end, we must also mention these events in the life of the University which form its chronicle of mourning. On January 18, 2012, died a third year student of theology, Bartłomiej Hajda. On March 5, 2012, Anna Zawodniak, a PhD student at the Faculty of Theology tragically died in the Tatra Mountains. We believe that through the mercy of God they will be able to meet face to face with Him who they wished to know through their theological studies.

Rev. Jan D. Szczurek

Translated by Bożena Piłat

