

EUNTES DOCETE. The 621th academic year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow

Euntes docete (“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations”) is the motto of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. It was recalled at the beginning of the previous academic year in the unusual circumstances of the funeral of its former Rector, the late Bishop Prof. Waław Świerzawski (who will be discussed in greater detail at the end of this *Chronicle*). The day of his funeral coincided with the inauguration of the academic year (October 16, 2017). It was his idea for the main aim of the university established in 1981 (thus during the time of communist totalitarian rule and the “explosion” of Solidarity) to be expressed in the words of Christ’s missionary commandment. From that time, our university (which then was the Pontifical Academy of Theology) has been implementing this imperative, taking up new areas of activity and engaging growing numbers of undergraduate and doctoral students in them. The facts presented below confirm the realization of this imperative.

With regards to the number of first and second-cycle as well as doctoral students, their number grew by 12 percent in the previous academic year. In the Krakow academic milieu, our university is relatively small. However, when we look at this fact from the perspective of ecclesiastical universities in Poland, we are the only pontifical university in East-Central Europe. In his inauguration speech at the beginning of the academic year under discussion, His Magnificence, the rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, expressed his satisfaction in the growing interest in our university and ensured that “together we do everything in order to not disappoint them [the students].” Thus it is gratifying that a growing number of people are binding their preparations for their lives and careers with the pontifical university and its patron, St. John Paul II.

On this occasion it is worth mentioning that with regards to post-secondary education provided by the Catholic Church, we distinguish between Church and ecclesiastical universities. In accordance with the norms of the current *Code of Canon Law* (1983), ecclesiastical universities and faculties are established by the Holy See “to investigate the sacred disciplines or those connected to the sacred and to instruct students scientifically in the same disciplines” (CIC 1983; canon 815; see: canon 816 §1). Meanwhile, Catholic universities and other institutes of post-secondary education “contribute to a more profound human culture, the fuller development of the human person, and the

fulfillment of the teaching function of the Church” (CIC 1983, canon 807). Using the expression “Catholic university” in the name of an institution of post-secondary education is possible only with the consent of the competent Church authorities (CIC 1983, canon 808). Thus Catholic universities contain a broad spectrum of disciplines also present at universities without the adjective “Catholic” in their name. Meanwhile, ecclesiastical disciplines are also those that are connected to “academic research inspired by Divine revelation.”¹ They include above all theology. Thus our university is an ecclesiastical one.

The above-mentioned legal aspect of our identity brings to mind to legal reforms concerning post-secondary education. One is the apostolic constitution *Veritatis Gaudium* about ecclesiastical universities and faculties from December 8, 2017,² with which Pope Francis replaced John Paul II’s April 15, 1979, apostolic constitution *Sapientia Christiana*. The second reform related to our university is the new Polish “Law on Higher Education and Science,” which was passed by the Sejm, the lower chamber of the Polish parliament, on July 20, 2018, known as the “Constitution for Science: Law 2.0.”³ As a result of these changes, we have undertaken new decisions concerning the program of studies and the reorganization of various institutions at the university. Undoubtedly, these new regulations of secular and canon law will be implemented during the following academic year.

Apart from the legal changes, an event that without a doubt deserves to be emphasized was the bestowing of an honorary doctorate on Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, which took place during the ceremony inaugurating the academic year at our university. Along with the inauguration itself, it will be discussed later. Meanwhile, a second honorary doctorate was presented during the academic promotion on January 11, 2018. It was given to the French philosopher Prof. Rémi Brague, who is one of the most esteemed European thinkers. This ceremony will be discussed within the context of the mentioned promotions.

The previous academic year (2017–2018) was the last year of the terms of our rector and vice-rectors. Elections took place on March 19, 2018, during an extraordinary session of our university’s Senate. These elections differed from the previous ones in that the term of the new authorities was shortened from the four years proscribed in the

¹ J. Dyduch, *Status prawny uczelni papieskich w Polsce*, „Analecta Cracoviensia” 42 (2010), pp. 391–401.

² http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/pl/apost_constitutions/documents/papa-francesco_costituzione-ap_20171208_veritatis-gaudium.html (3.09.2018).

³ Ustawa z dnia 20 lipca 2018 r. „Prawo o szkolnictwie wyższym i nauce”, „Dziennik Ustaw Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej” 2018, poz. 1668.

University Statute to two. This was done to make the terms of rectors and vice-rectors the same length as those of deans and associate deans as well as those of the authorities of secular universities in Poland. The “shift” of the term of the rector and vice-rector resulted from the fact that in 1992 the rector of our university (which was then the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow) was appointed bishop. The new rector, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Adam Kubiś, was then confirmed by the Holy See for a full term and not in order to finish the term. This time, all those interested, including the Holy See, agreed that the present term would last an unusual two years: from 2018 to 2020.

The results of the elections are as follows: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak was once again elected rector. The Holy See accepted the election of the rector. The following were elected vice-rectors: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala, previously a Vice-Rector, as Vice-Rector for Academic Potential and International Cooperation; Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek, previously the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, as Vice-Rector for Development and Human Resource Policies; and Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II and previously the Associate Dean of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, became the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Didactics.

In this capacity, Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek replaced Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztala, who was not in the running because this would have been his third term, something that is not permitted by the university’s statute. Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, replaced Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mastalski, who became the rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow.

As a result of these results, supplementary elections had to take place at two faculties. Thus Dr. Hab. Józef Cezary Kałużny was elected Associate Dean of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. Meanwhile, Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, was elected as the new dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Mazur, OSpPE, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, became that faculty’s new associate dean.

Other Events

We have continued the tradition of a common prayer at the start of the new academic year. In the past academic year, our university went on a pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II in Krakow in the so-called White Seas. The schedule of the pilgrimage, which took place on October 3, 2017 (Tuesday), was analogous to the previous year’s program. The first part of the program was a reflection titled: *Kardynał Karol Wojtyła o miejscu i znaczeniu św. Jadwigi królowej* (“Cardinal Karol Wojtyła on the Place and Meaning of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland”) by the Dean of the Faculty of

History and Cultural Heritage, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban. Next, there was a special concelebrated Mass which was presided by the rector of our university, Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak. The homily was given by Rev. Grzegorz Prus, OSPPE, rector of the Major Seminary of the Order of Saint Paul the First Hermit. In it, he referred to the Marian anniversaries celebrated in 2017, emphasizing how “astounding and unimaginable” the Virgin Mary’s life at the side of her Son was. After a lunch break, the rosary was prayed in the rosary garden by the shrine; it was prepared by seminarians who are also students of theology enrolled at our university’s Faculty of Theology. The pilgrimage was attended by professors, staff, librarians, and students (seminarians studying in Krakow’s diocesan and regular seminaries, nuns, and lay students) from our university. During the pilgrimage, we prayed through the intercession of St. John Paul II and the patrons of the university for God’s blessings for the whole university community in the new academic year.

In recent years, the ceremony inaugurating the academic year usually took place on the anniversary of the election of St. John Paul II to the throne of St. Peter (October 16, 1978). However, the ceremony inaugurating the 2017–2018 academic year took place on October 16, 2017 (Monday). The special Mass was presided by Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, the former prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, while Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, the Archbishop of Krakow and our university’s great chancellor, gave the homily. After the Mass, the participants of the inauguration walked in a procession to the Krakow Philharmonic.

The second part of the inauguration began with the singing of the hymn *Gaude Mater Polonia* by the Psalmodia Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. Next, His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, the rector of our university, spoke. First, he welcomed Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, who was present to receive an honorary doctorate; our university’s Great Chancellor Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski; and our former Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. Next, Rev. Zyzak welcomed the representatives of the episcopate: Archbishop Waław Depo of Czestochowa; Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk of Gniezno; Bishop Ignacy Dec of Swidnica; Bishop Andrzej Jeż of Tarnow; Bishop Jan Kopiec of Gliwice; Bishop Roman Pindel of Bielsko-Biała; Bishop Jan Piotrowski of Kielce; Bishop Jan Wątroba of Rzeszow; Bishop Rudolf Pierskała, Auxiliary Bishop of Opole; and auxiliary bishops from our archdiocese, Bishops Damian Muskus, Jan Szkodoń, and Jan Zajac.

Another group of welcomed guests consisted of the representatives of secular authorities, members of parliament, and diplomats: Dr. Piotr Dardziński, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education; Mr. Piotr Ćwik, Voivode of the Lesser Poland region; Senators of the Republic of Poland Prof. Kazimierz Wiatr, Mr. Jerzy Fedorowicz, and Mr. Marek Pęk; Mr. Ireneusz Raś, Member of Parliament;

Mr. Rafał Kulczycki, Director of the Department of Development of the Office of the Municipal Government of Krakow; Dr. Hab. Adrienne Körmendy, Consul General of Hungary; Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska, Honorary Consul of Malta; Mr. Paweł Włodarczyk, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Croatia; Dr. Michael Gross, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany; Mr. Wiesław Hałucha, Honorary Consul of Kazakhstan; and Mr. Zijad Raof, Plenipotentiary of the Regional Government of Kurdistan.

A large group of guests welcomed by our rector included his fellow rectors and the representatives of Polish universities: Prof. Andrzej Chochół, Rector of the Krakow University of Economics; Prof. Dr. Stanisław Krawczyński, Rector of the Academy of Music in Krakow; Rev. Włodzimierz Wołyniec, Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław; Prof. Mariusz Cygnar, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Sacz; Mons. Stanisław Gulak, Rector of the Podhale State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Targ; Prof. Dorota Malec, Vice-Rector of the Jagiellonian University; Prof. Bożena Sieradzka-Baziur, Vice-Rector of the Jesuit University Ignatianum, and Rev. Prof. Stanisław Ziemiański; Prof. Mirosław Karbowniczek, Vice-Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology; Prof. Sylwester Tabor, Vice-Rector of the University of Agriculture in Krakow; Dr. Marcin Pieniążek, Vice-Rector of the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University; Prof. Andrzej Białko, Vice-Rector of the Academy of Music in Krakow; Prof. Jan Tutaj, Vice-Rector of the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow; Dr. Beata Guczalska, Vice-Rector of the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow; Dr. Małgorzata Kołpa, Vice-Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow; and Prof. Rev. Zbigniew Kubacki, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw.

The last group of welcomed guests included Prof. Rev. Krzysztof Gózdź from the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, who was one of the reviewers of the honorary doctorate for Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller; Dr. Maria Hulicka of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw; and Prof. Graham Rossiter of Australian Catholic University.

On this occasion, it is worth mentioning that telegrams and letters of congratulations were sent by the following members of the bishops' conference and representatives of Polish universities and secular authorities: the President of Poland Mr. Andrzej Duda, whose letter was read during the inauguration; former Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski; Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, former Secretary of State of the Holy See; Cardinal Marian Jaworski, former Archbishop of Lviv of the Latins; Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw; Archbishop Stanisław Gądecki, Archbishop of Poznan, President of the Polish Episcopal Conference and Deputy President of the Council of the Bishops' Conferences of Europe; Archbishop Wojciech Polak, Archbishop of Gniezno and Primate of Poland; Archbishop Wiktor

Skworc, Archbishop of Katowice; Archbishop Adam Szal, Archbishop of Przemyśl; Archbishop-Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Gniezno, Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk; Archbishop Jan Babjak, SJ, Archbishop of Prešov and Metropolitan of the Greek-Catholic Church in Slovakia; Archbishop Henryk Józef Muszyński, Archbishop-Emeritus of Gniezno; Bishop Tadeusz Pikus of Drohiczyń; Bishop Jan Piotrowski of Kielce; Bishop Janusz Stepnowski of Lomża; Bishop Ignacy Dec of Swidnica; Bishop Józef Guzdek, Military Ordinary of the Polish Armed Forces; Bishop Włodzimierz R. Juszcak, OSBM, of the Greek-Catholic Diocese of Wrocław-Gdańsk; Bishop Adam Wodarczyk, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Katowice; Bishop Piotr Greger, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Bielsko-Zywiec; Bishop Edward Białogłowski, Auxiliary Bishop of Rzeszów; Bishop Antoni Pacyfik Dydycz, Bishop-Emeritus of Drohiczyń; Bishop Paweł Socha, CM, Bishop-Emeritus of the Diocese of Zielona Góra-Gorzów; Bishop Marek Marczak, Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Łódź; Rev. Piotr Bajor, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education; Mr. Jacek Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Michałowski, Rector of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Kowalczyk, Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice; Dr. Hab. Andrzej Chochół, Rector of the Kraków University of Economics and Professor at that university; Prof. Dr. Hab. Jerzy Gwizdała, Rector of the University of Gdańsk; Dr. Hab. Andrzej Lesicki, Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań; Prof. Tadeusz Słomka, Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków; Prof. Dr. Hab. Edward Włodarczyk, Rector of the University of Szczecin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Topoliński, Rector of the UTP University of Sciences and Technology in Bydgoszcz; Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard J. Górecki, Rector of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn; Prof. Dr. Hab. Adam Jezierski, Rector of the University of Wrocław; Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Drop, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Lublin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Zygmunt Litwińczuk, Rector of the University of Life Sciences in Lublin; Dr. Hab. Tamara Zacharuk, Rector of the Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities and Professor at that university; Tamara Zacharuk, Professor of the Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities; Prof. Dr. Hab. Sylwester Czopek, Rector of Rzeszów University; Prof. Dr. Hab. Bogusław Machaliński, MD, Rector of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Przemysław Jałowiecki, Rector of the Medical University of Silesia; Prof. Dr. Hab. Mirosław Wielgoś, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Warsaw; Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Janicki, Rector of the University of Bielsko-Biała; Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Przebinda, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Krosno; Dr. Helena Czakowska, Rector of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian School in Bydgoszcz and Titular Professor at that university; Dr. Elżbieta Cipora, Rector of the Jan Grodek State Vocational Academy in Sanok and Docent at that university; Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław

Krawczyński, Rector of the Academy of Music in Krakow; Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Karolczak, Rector of the Pedagogical University of Krakow; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Paweł Wygralak, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan and a Professor at that university; Rev. Prof. Dr. Wendlich Knoch, Professor-Emeritus of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany); Ms. Róża Thun, Member of the European Parliament; Prof. Kazimierz Wiatr, a Polish Senator; and the following Members of Parliament: Ms. Dorota Niedziela, Ms. Barbara Bartuś, Mr. Edward Siarka, Mr. Marek Sowa, and Ms. Józefa Szczurek-Żelazko; Ms. Urszula Nowogórska, President of the Voivodeship Sejmik of the Lesser Poland Region; Prof. Dr. Hab. Maciej Chorowski, Director of the National Center for Research and Development; and Ms. Jolanta Stokłosa, Chairman of the “St. Lazarus Hospice” Association of the Friends of the Sick.

In the next part of the inauguration speech, His Magnificence Rector Wojciech Zyzak recalled the most important achievements in the previous academic year, including the thirty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (which was initially known as the Faculty of Church History and was inaugurated along with the Pontifical Academy of Theology in 1981). In the previous year, the faculty received funding from the European Union for two research projects titled: *Sakralne Dziedzictwo Małopolski* (“The Sacred Legacy of Lesser Poland”) as well as *Konserwacja unikatowych w skali światowej zabytków związanych z historią Krakowskiej Kapituły Metropolitalnej* (“The Conservation of Monuments Related to the Krakow Metropolitan Chapter That Are Unique on a Global Scale”). Thanks to part of these funds, we will be able to equip our workshops with the most modern equipment that is available. The Faculty of Theology, which has organized numerous international and national conferences, has been distinguished by the Society of Dogmatic Theologians, which admitted our professors to the most important positions: Prof. Dr. Hab. Rev. Jarosław Kupczak, OP, became the society’s Chairman; Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Woźniak, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, became Deputy Chairman; Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Królikowski, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Tarnow, became a member of the board; while the author of this chronicle became a member of the review panel. Meanwhile, the Faculty of Philosophy, which celebrated its fortieth anniversary in the previous academic year, distinguished its activity by inaugurating an English language concentration for second-cycle studies in the field of Systematic Philosophy. Finally, the Faculty of Social Sciences dynamically expanded its activity, as expressed in the creation of new concentrations, such as: the Technology of Communication and Media Graphics as well as Promotional and Image Communications. Its Institute of Journalism and Social Communication specializes in the fields of ethics, the axiology of the media, and social communications.

Also worthy of attention is the activity of the Institute of Social Work, which initiated its cooperation to launch a new first-cycle dual diploma in Social Work together with the Brandenburg University of Technology in Cottbus (German: Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus-Senftenberg).

At the end of his speech, our rector thanked all the staff members for their efforts on behalf of the university, especially those who in some way contributed to its promotion in the academic milieu and to its development, and thus the professors and other didactic and research staff, library employees, the university administration, and the Psalmodia Choir. Rev. Zyzak also mentioned those “who had an enormous impact on the development and present shape of our university” and “at times designated by God [are] called to His house.” They included Rev. Marek Leśniak, who recently passed away, and the late Bishop Wacław Świerzawski (the Rector of our university and the bishop of Sandomierz), whose funeral took place in Sandomierz at the same time as our inauguration.

Another important part of the inauguration ceremony was the matriculation of first-year students at the university’s four faculties (Theology, Philosophy, History and Cultural Heritage, and Social Sciences). This part of the ceremony was presided by the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Didactics, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mastalski. As in previous years, after the matriculation, Mr. Mateusz Więcek of the Faculty of Theology, President of the Students’ Union, gave a speech in which he encouraged his new classmates to make the best use of the opportunities offered by the university and to become engaged in the work of the Students’ Union.

Like in the past, after the matriculation, awards and distinctions were presented. The Vice-Rector for Development and Human Resources, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal, announced the state distinctions bestowed upon our university’s distinguished staff. These were awards presented by the president of Poland on the basis of Article 138 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland and the law on orders and distinctions for the exemplary and particularly conscientious exercising of one’s professional duties. Thus the Gold Medal for Long Service was presented to Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; Ms. Jadwiga Maria Odrobina; and Ms. Barbara Elżbieta Turowska. Meanwhile, Ms. Justyna Anna Kosoń received the Silver Medal for Long Service. Finally, the Bronze Medal for Long Service was presented to Dr. Piotr Łukasz Grotowski and Ms. Małgorzata Maria Szczerbińska-Polak. The Voivode of Lesser Poland, Mr. Piotr Ćwik, presented these medals. Apart from these distinctions, the academic and didactic staff of the university was eligible to receive awards from the minister of national education. They include the Medal of the Commission of National Education, which is given for exceptional contributions to education and bringing up young people. In the previous academic year, it was

received by Rev. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Biesaga, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Borutka; Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Muszala, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Napiórkowski. It was presented by Dr. Piotr Dardziński, a Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

Next, awards were presented by His Magnificence, our university's Rector Rev. Zyzak. Twenty-one persons received the rector's award for achievements in research, teaching, and organizational work. Three persons received the rector's award for the best doctoral dissertation, one person received an award for the best Licentiate of Sacred Theology dissertation, eight persons received awards for the best M. A. thesis, and nine persons received awards for the best B. A. thesis. Twenty-three persons received the rector's award for administrative and library staff.

Typically, the last part of the inauguration ceremony is the inaugural lecture. However, this time the ceremony of the bestowing of an honorary doctorate to Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, who for many years served as the Bishop of Regensburg and later, until 2017, as the Prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, concluded the ceremony instead. Our university's Senate gave him this distinction pursuant to a May 15, 2017, decision above all for his admirable attitude of a man completely devoted to God and man and his service as a priest, bishop, professor, and illustrious dogmatic theologian; for faithfully defending the Church's teaching; for assisting two popes, Benedict XVI and Francis, in their service; for consistently making sure that the truths of the faith deepened through academic inquiry impact the individual person's everyday life in Christ; for his zealous commitment to ecumenical and interreligious dialogue while at the same time preserving the integrity of the deposit of the faith; and, finally, for promoting good relations not only between the Church in Poland and in Germany but, more generally, between the Polish and German nations through his presence at numerous Church ceremonies as well as academic symposiums and conferences organized by Polish universities. The reviewers of the proceedings to present him the title of an honorary doctor were Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Goźdz of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin as well as the author of this text (Rev. Prof. Jan Szczurek).

After Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Napiórkowski's laudation, the Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala read the text of the doctoral diploma in Latin, after which His Excellency Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, our Rector, spoke the Latin incantation expressing the act of the bestowing of this title: *Reverendissimae Eminentiae nomen et dignitatem doctoris honoris causa, nomine Senatus Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II conferimus*. Next, he ceremoniously presented Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller the diploma of the honorary doctorate of the Pontifical University of

John Paul II in Krakow. Afterwards, the laureate gave a doctoral lecture titled: *Jak należy rozumieć reformę w Kościele?* (“How Should We Understand Reform in the Church?”). The laureate himself read the introduction to the lecture in Polish (*sic!*), while the entirety was read by his Polish secretary, Rev. Dr. Sławomir Śledziewski. It is easy to notice that the very title of the lecture refers to the five-hundredth anniversary of the reform initiated by Martin Luther in 1517. The cardinal recalled that the aim of all forms of Church reform was above all the renewal of Christian and Church life and ultimately the strengthening of one’s faith and life in Christ. At the end of the lecture, he noted that “the five-hundredth anniversary of the Reformation and break in the Church is no reason for Protestant triumphalism or the renewal of a Catholic sense of inferiority. Until the end of 2017, we should all become more evangelical and more Catholic in the sense of common penitence, reconciliation, and renewal in Christ. That is the reform of the Church that occurs not through us, but within us.”⁴

At the end of the inauguration ceremony, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, our rector, spoke, thanking the laureate for building such good relations between Germans and Poles. He also wished him health and God’s graces as well as *ad multos annos* and thanked all the participants of the inauguration for their presence.

The entire inauguration ceremony was graced by the singing of the Psalmodia Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II directed by Mr. Włodzimierz Siedlik which performed, among others, *Da Pacem Domine* (Dominik Lasota). The singing was accompanied by Mr. Marek Pawełek on the organ.

Another important event in the past year was the Days of John Paul II, which are regularly held each year and are organized by universities represented in the Krakow College of University Rectors. They are of an academic, interdisciplinary, popular, and cultural nature and are the inspiration for academic research and the popularization of John Paul II’s teaching. They take place every year at the beginning of November (because of the feast of St. Charles Borromeo, John Paul II’s patron saint, and the anniversary of his ordination). This year’s Days of John Paul II, held for the twelfth time, took place on November 7–9, 2017. Their slogan was: *Prawa człowieka i prawa narodów* (“Human Rights and the Rights of Nations”). In this way, the organizers of the twelfth edition of the event wanted to recall the pope’s social teaching within the context of the very relevant and heated discussion on immigration. As in previous years, the Days of John Paul II were held at the campuses of several universities belonging to the aforementioned college. This year, the honorary patrons were: the Archbishop of Krakow Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski; Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; the Voivode

⁴ *Promotio doctoris honoris causa Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II. Eminentissimus professor cardinalis Gerhard Ludwig Müller*, red. M. Mastyló, Kraków 2017, p. 87.

of Lesser Poland Mr. Piotr Ćwik; the Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region Mr. Jacek Krupa; and the Mayor of Krakow Mr. Jacek Majchrowski.

The Twelfth Days of John Paul II began with a press conference of the event's organizers. They were held in the Krakow archbishop's palace. During this conference, Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski recalled that "we always want John Paul II's thought to radiate with its depth and build a civilization of love, which the pope frequently called for;" thus our duty is to become acquainted with this thought and to share it. The Days of John Paul II consisted of the following events: the nationwide academic session *Muzyka wobec poezji i nauczania Karola Wojtyły i Jana Pawła II* ("Music and Karol Wojtyła's and John Paul II's Poetry and Teaching," part eight) organized by the Academy of Music in Krakow (November 7–8, 2017); an academic session on "Mercy: A Measure Designed against Evil" (*Miłosierdzie – miara wyznaczona złu*) organized by the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow (November 7, 2017); an academic session on "*Veritatis Splendor* and Post-Truth" (*«Veritatis splendor» wobec post-prawdy*) organized by the Fides et Ratio International Academic Society (November 7, 2017); and the academic session "Human Rights and the Rights of Nations" (*Prawa człowieka i prawa narodu*) organized by the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow (November 8, 2017). The academic symposiums were accompanied by the following cultural events: the theatrical performance *Romantycy z Solvayu 1940* ("Romantics from Solvay, 1940") in Teatr M.I.S.T. (Stage of the Teatr Zależny of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology, November 7, 2017); the opening of the post-contest exhibit of photographs *Prawa człowieka i prawa narodów* ("Human Rights and the Rights of Nations," Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology, November 8, 2017); as well as a concert featuring performances of M. Palmeri "Misa a Buenos Aires: Misa Tango" and V. Martynov "Come In" for violin and chamber orchestra prepared by the Academy of Music in Krakow and performed in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Krakow (November 8, 2017). The literary and photographic contests for students from across Poland for works inspired by the thought and work of Karol Wojtyła/John Paul II were an integral part of the event.

The main academic event of the twelfth edition was an academic session titled *Prawa człowieka i prawa narodów* ("Human Rights and the Rights of Nations"); it took place in the Auditorium of Collegium Novum of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow and was organized by the Jagiellonian University as well as our university (November 9, 2017). After a few introductory remarks by the rector of the Jagiellonian University, Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Nowak, Mr. Piotr Ćwik, Voivode of Lesser Poland, read a letter from Prime Minister Beata Szydło. Afterwards, the following presented papers: Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, *Personalistyczny charakter praw człowieka i komunijna wizja praw narodów, w nauczaniu św. Jana Pawła II* ("The Personalistic Nature of

Human Rights and the Communal Vision of the Rights of Nations in the Teaching of St. John Paul II”); Bishop Dr. Jan Piotrowski, *Sprawiedliwość i pokój przesłaniem adhortacji «Ecclesia in Africa»* (“Justice and Peace as the Message of the Adhortation *Ecclesia in Africa*”); Prof. Rocco Buttiglione, *Naród – Europa. Suwerenność przez kulturę* (“The Nation and Europe: Sovereignty Through Culture”); Prof. Dr. Hab. Zbigniew Chłap, *Przesłania Jana Pawła II do lekarzy o prawach każdego człowieka do ochrony zdrowia i życia* (“John Paul II’s Message to Physicians on the Right of Every Person to the Protection of Health and Life”); Sister Małgorzata Chmielewska, *Kościół ubogich według Jana Pawła II* (“The Church of the Poor According to John Paul II”); and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Szostek, MIC, *Imigranci: czy zdaliśmy egzamin z naszego człowieczeństwa i chrześcijaństwa?* (“Immigrants: Did We Pass the Test of Our Humanity and Christianity?”). After the sixth, and final, paper, a discussion took place. A heated discussion followed Prof. Rev. Szostek’s paper. In it, he said that: “It is not true that the aggressive current is dominant in Islam. [...] Such thinking on our part means accepting that safety is more important than mercy.” During the discussion, questions concerning the feeling of responsibility for one’s loved ones among those who are in favor of unlimited openness to immigrants were asked. The topic of refugees and immigrants is touchy and difficult for all. It also has a political aspect, because the current government of the Republic of Poland opposes the European Union’s immigration policy.

The “Twelfth Days of John Paul II” ended on November 9, 2017, with a Mass at 5:00 PM in the Shrine of St. John Paul II in Krakow’s White Sea presided by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski of Krakow. During the homily, he recalled John Paul II’s appeal for us to “believe in Christ with a renewed and zealous faith similar to that of the first Christians. This call of John Paul II makes us return to what we heard in today’s Gospel reading about Christ, who is overcome with zealous concern for the House of God, for the people of Israel to believe in their Father, the Creator of the world.” After Mass, awards were presented to laureates of the literary contest of the Twelfth Edition of the “Days of John Paul II.”

In addition to the above-described forms of popularizing John Paul II’s legacy, monthly open lectures as part of the cycle *Posługa myślenia* (“The Service of Thinking”) serve this same aim. They take place once a month, on Thursdays; most recently, they have been held in the headquarters of the Tischner Institute in Krakow. They are organized by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II (which is part of our university) along with the Tischner Institute and the Intercultural Dialogue Institute of John Paul II. In the previous academic year, the following lectures by the representatives of various academic and cultural environments were held: *Piękno jako kategoria antropologiczna* (“Beauty as an Anthropological Category;” Rev. Dr. Dariusz

Radziechowski – Lustenau Kirchdorf, Austria); *Dwie dobre drogi: małżeństwo i celibat* (“Two Good Paths: Marriage and Celibacy;” Rev. Dr. Bogusław Kastelik, the Major Archdiocesan Seminary, Krakow); *Ojcostwo i macierzyństwo w dramatach Wojtyły* (“Fatherhood and Motherhood in Wojtyła’s Dramas;” Sister Joanna Żuk, OSU, the Ursuline School Complex, Rybnik); *O wyzwoleniu z tyranii rozumu: «Brat naszego Boga» Karola Wojtyły* (“On Liberation from the Tyranny of Reason: Karol Wojtyła’s *Our God’s Brother*;” Dr. Emanuela Bednarczyk-Stefaniak, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław); *«W nim jest obraz» – sztuka w literackich utworach Karola Wojtyły* (“‘The Image Is in Him’: Art in Karol Wojtyła’s Literary Works;” Prof. Mirosława Ołdakowska-Kuflowa, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin); *O solidarności* (“On Solidarity;” Prof. Zbigniew Stawrowski, Institute of the Thought of Józef Tischner, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw); *O dialogu z islamem* (“On Dialogue with Islam;” Dr. Sylwia Górzna, Pomeranian University, Słupsk); and *Jan Paweł II i Edyta Stein* (“John Paul II and Edith Stein;” Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow).

Furthermore, the center publishes a series titled: *Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II* (“Studies on the Thought of John Paul II”); it is edited by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Kupczak, OP. The eighteenth volume, devoted to John Paul II’s philosophical and theological anthropology, has just been published (B. Kastelik, A. Krupka, J. Kupczak OP, *Karol Wojtyła-Jan Paweł II o człowieku*, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2018, 227 pp.). Another volume of the „Studies” is under preparation.

Other important cyclical events include jubilees, in particular the anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow (January 11, 1397) of what was then the Krakow Academy (and today is the Jagiellonian University). The central part of these celebrations was the promotion of academic degrees. This year’s anniversary celebrations took place on Thursday January 11, 2018, in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church and was combined with the bestowing of an honorary doctorate upon Rémi Brague, a French philosopher who defends Christian values. The university thanked God for caring for the university for 621 years of care for the faculty by praying the liturgy of the hours (Morning Prayer), which was presided by our university’s Great Chancellor Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. After the liturgy, a promotion ceremony was held, during which twenty-seven persons received their PhD diplomas (fourteen at the Faculty of Theology, ten at the Faculty of Philosophy, and three at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage). Meanwhile, seven persons received habilitated doctor diplomas: one from the Faculty of Theology (Rev. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Medwid), four from the Faculty of Philosophy (Dr. Hab. Andrzej Gielarowski, Dr. Hab. Dobrosław Kot, Rev. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Mikucki, CR, and Rev. Dr. Hab. Marek Urban, CSSR) and two from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (Dr. Hab. Józef Kałużny and

Dr. Hab. Andrzej Szczepaniak). Next, Archbishop Jędraszewski presented associate professor diplomas to Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Marecki, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Bogdan Stanaszek, and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Witko. After the promotions, the ceremony of bestowing an honorary doctorate on Rémi Brague took place.

Prof. Rémi Brague is a professor emeritus of philosophy at Paris' Sorbonne and a lecturer at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. He also deals with religious studies, especially the history of Arab and Oriental philosophy as well as the philosophy of religion. Furthermore, he is a translator from German, English, and Hebrew. At the center of his inquiries is the idea of a Europe united around the values that have shaped it for centuries. On October 30, 2017, our university decided to give him an honorary doctorate for: an unwavering defense of the integrally understood humanity of the human person; brave opposition to the contrasting of theology to the humanities and philosophy; making use of theological inspirations for historical diagnoses and philosophical propositions; a creative contribution to Christianity's dialogue with contemporary culture in the French language sphere (by his participation in the creation of the French version of the journal *Communio*); defending the place that God and the Church deserve in European culture; and finally for indicating an interesting point of reference for important discussions on Poland and its relationship with European values. The reviewers of his accomplishments were Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Piotr Jaskółka of the University of Opole and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski of our university. Meanwhile, the laudator during the ceremony of presenting this honor was Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Paweł Bortkiewicz of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.

After Rev. Prof. Bortkiewicz's laudation, the Latin text of the doctoral diploma was read, after which Rev. Prof. Zyzak read the Latin incantation expressing the act of bestowing this honor: *Reverendissimae Eminentiae nomen et dignitatem doctoris honoris causa, nomine Senatus Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II conferimus*. Next, he ceremoniously granted Prof. Rémi Brague the diploma of the honorary doctorate of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. Afterwards, the esteemed laureate gave his doctoral lecture (*lectio magistralis*) in French, titled: *Qu'est-ce que l'Europe peut faire avec le Christianisme* ("What Can Europe Do With Christianity?"). In response to this question, Prof. Brague shared his concerns related to the fact that references to Christianity were omitted from the preamble of the European Union's constitutional treaty. This is how he recalled this event: "Europe's Christian heritage was taken into account in the initial draft of the text. Unfortunately, my countrymen then referenced the 'holy cow' of our secularism, which in their view would have suffered as a consequence. Thus references to Christianity were omitted and replaced with an unclear reference to religious

tradition...”⁵ This shows that there are people who are afraid of Christianity, but nonetheless in his view this appears to be something positive, because it means that Christians still are the “salt of the earth” to them.⁶ In the next part of the lecture, he recalled the historical role of Christianity in Europe and its current significance in the areas of art, morality, and the understanding of humanity. In his concluding remarks, Prof. Brague noted that “God’s anthropology is more inventive than human anthropology [...]. Europe will exist as long as its ambition and its sense of its own dignity will be illuminated by the light of God’s ambition.”⁷

At the end of the ceremony, our rector thanked all those present for attending as well as Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Panuś, the parish priest of the collegiate church, for his hospitality. The promotions and bestowing of the doctorate were graced by the Psalmodia Choir under the direction of Prof. Włodzimierz Siedlik.

Until 2016, promotions also took place on the feast day of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr (May 8), but since our academy has become a university it has taken place on the liturgical feast of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland (June 8). A second round of promotions did not take place in the previous academy year and it is possible that this will also be the case in coming years.

Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner (1931–2000), a philosopher known across Poland and Europe, also had a major impact on the intellectual milieu of not only our university, but on that across Poland. A form of popularizing his philosophical and political-social thought are the Tischner Days. It is organized by our university, the National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow, the Jagiellonian University, the Znak Social Publishing Institute, and the Józef Tischner Institute. The event’s honorary patron is Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski.

The most recent, Eighteenth Tischner Days took place on April 18–21, 2018, in Krakow and their slogan was *Wolność i słowo* („Freedom and the Word”). The Tischner Days began with a Mass in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church, which this year was presided by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Jagiełło, Dean of our university’s Faculty of Philosophy. The following events took place as part of last year’s edition: a screening of documentary films titled: *Tischner na ekranie* (“Tischner on the Big Screen”) at the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage of the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow; a discussion

⁵ *Promotio doctoris honoris causa Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II. Reverendissimus professor Rémi Brague*, red. M. Mastyló, Kraków 2017, p. 66.

⁶ *Promotio doctoris honoris causa Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II. Reverendissimus professor Remi Brague*, op. cit., p. 67.

⁷ *Promotio doctoris honoris causa Pontificiae Universitatis Cracoviensis Ioannis Pauli II. Reverendissimus professor Remi Brague*, op. cit., p. 83n.

on the topic of “Freedom of Speech and Hurtful Speech” presided by Ms. Maria Karolczak with the participation of Ms. Agnieszka Kołakowska, Mr. Ryszard Koziołek, and Mr. Ireneusz Ziemiński in the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University’s Collegium Novum; a meeting from the “Cave of Philosophers” cycle devoted to the topic of “The Contemporary World: A Map of Freedom” led by Ms. Dominika Kozłowska and featuring Timothy Garton Ash, Mr. Wojciech Jagielski, and Mr. Henryk Woźniakowski at the Auditorium Maximum of Jagiellonian University; a discussion on the topic of “Freedom” led by Ms. Anna Goc and Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz with the participation of Ms. Marta Tarabuła, Rev. Andrzej Draguła, and Mr. Dariusz Kosiński on the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage of the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow; the reading of Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner’s essay *Kłamstwo polityczne* (“Political Lies”) by Mr. Radosław Krzyżowski along with a conversation led by Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz as well as Mr. Zbigniew Stawrowski with the participation of the public at the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage at the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow; and “Off Tischner,” or an Open Philosophical Forum devoted to discussion on free space for free speech (Józef Tischner Institute in Krakow).

The main event of the Tischner Days was a lecture from the *Colloquia Tischneriana* cycle titled: *Wolne słowo: dziesięć zasad dla połączonego świata* (“Free Speech: Ten Rules for an Interconnected World”), which was given by Prof. Timothy Garton Ash of Oxford University in England (Auditorium Maximum of the Jagiellonian University). Prof. Garton Ash noticed that freedom of speech is necessary in the search for truth and allows one to function normally. The most common obstacle to the freedom of speech is fear of violence or violence itself. He also criticized the growing “political partisanship” of the media which, in his view, is occurring in Poland. He also noticed that laws on defamation and historical memory are also threats to freedom of speech. In this way, Prof. Garton Ash entered into the discussion on the so-called historical policy promoted by the Polish government.

The eighteenth edition of the Tischner Days concluded with the gala of the Rev. Józef Tischner Znak and Hestia Award for 2018 (the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage at the AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Krakow). Rev. Adam Boniecki and Mr. Henryk Woźniakowski spoke with the laureates: Mr. Krzysztof Czyżewski, Mr. Miłosz Puczydłowski, and Mr. Jan Jakub Wygnański. The gala ended with a concert titled: *Tischner. Mocna nuta* (“Tischner: A Strong Note”) performed by Jorgos Skolias, Joachim Mencil, and Trebunie-Tutki.⁸

⁸ For more on the Eighteenth Tischner Days (in Polish), see: <http://dni.tischner.pl/program-2018/> (September 11, 2018).

Without a doubt, one of the important events of the previous academic year was our university's Faculty of Social Sciences being granted the authority to bestow the degree of a PhD in social science in the field of "media studies." Thus we are one of just five universities in Poland with such rights. The application to the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles was prepared in the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at the Faculty of Social Sciences by a team working under the direction of Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. In response to the application, the Central Commission acknowledged the research potential of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication (in a decision dated January 29, 2018), the progressing development of its academic staff, the modernization of the infrastructure of the institute, and the didactic engagement of its staff. It is worth mentioning now that during the previous decade the institute has educated more than 1,000 specialists in journalism and social communication. For many of them, the decision of the Central Commission is an opportunity for further academic development in the final (third) stream of the cycle of studies. Without a doubt, this fact opens new perspectives for our university's development.

Another important didactic-related event was the public defense of a doctoral dissertation in family studies that took place on May 28, 2018. This was the first such defense at our university and, more general, in Poland. The author of this dissertation is Ms. Ewa Poźniak, a graduate of the Faculty of Nursing of the Medical University of Lublin and Director of the Medical Institute of the State Higher Vocational School in Sanok. The topic of the dissertation was: "The Family and the Social-Religious Contexts of Aging: An Empirical Study of the Case of the Participants of the University of the Third Age in the Sub-Carpathian Region." The dissertation director was Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mierzwa, Professor of the State Higher Vocational School in Sanok, while the associate director was Rev. Dr. Marcin Cholewa from our university. The reviewers of his accomplishments were: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Piotr Morciniec of the University of Opole and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Koral of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw. The public defense took place in front of a twelve-person commission consisting of dissertation directors and reviewers as well as professors of the Faculty of Social Sciences led by the faculty's dean, Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek. With regards to the dissertation itself, its aim was to analyze the family, social, and religious aspects of the process of human aging. A sample of 333 participants from fourteen universities of the third age was studied. The conclusions of the research were that these universities enable elderly persons to develop their interests and remain active, which considerably helps them to prepare for old age and to maintain their due place in their family and in society.

Another important event of the past academic year was progress in the creation of a database of Catholic parishes in the former eastern territories of the Republic of Poland. Such a database is being prepared by the Workshop for Research on the History and Culture of the Totalitarian and Post-Totalitarian Space, which was established at the Institute of History at our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. Publishing a database of Catholic parishes existing in Russia on the eve of the First World War online (<https://podkowa.mikomi.pl/>) is the culmination of an important phase of our efforts, which made it possible to create a database of cities in Poland's former borderlands containing such religious sites as: parish churches, abbey churches, filial churches, public chapels, cemetery chapels, and oratories under the administration of the Archdiocese of Mogilev, or in the lands that Poland lost, as well as in Russia's European and Asian territories. The Workshop for Research collaborates with the „Sarmatia” Foundation for European Research, which was established for this project. The finalization of this phase was possible thanks to this year's subsidies that the foundation received from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland as well as the Lesser Poland Region.

International and Domestic Cooperation

The development of a university's staff is not the only factor that leads to its flourishing. Its cooperation with international academic centers does as well. Particularly vibrant are our academic contacts with academic milieus in Bochum (Germany), Ružomberok and Prešov (Slovakia), and Kyiv and Lviv (Ukraine). The continual expansion of international cooperation is attested to by the signing of new cooperation agreements between our university and six international universities.

Thus on May 21, our university's Senate decided to initiate cooperation with the Higher School of Education – St. John's College (Svatojánská kolej – vyšší odborná škola pedagogická) in Svatý Jan pod Skalou (Czech Republic). This agreement encompasses the exchange of academic didactic staff, students, academic publications, and the results of research, and also information in the field of didactics and the training of didactic staff, doctoral students, and undergraduates, advanced didactic materials, and the application of modern methods of teaching. The unique characteristic of this agreement is the improvement of pedagogical preparation, which is an important part of education in concentrations intended to prepare future catechists and other teachers (for example, of ethics). Our university was represented by our rector, His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Zyzak, along with the Great Chancellor, while the Czech side was represented by the Higher School's director, Dr. Věra Štěpinová. On our side, the coordinator of this partnership will be Mr. Tomasz Kniaż from the Center for Scientific Research and

International Cooperation, while for the Higher School it will be Dr. Rostislav Fellner, csc, Coordinator for International Relations.

Promoting study in the theology of spirituality, particularly the spiritual legacy of St. Teresa of Ávila and St. John of the Cross, is a statutory aim of the University of the Mystic, whose full name in Spanish is Centro Internacional Teresiano-Sanjuanista “Universidad de la Mistica” in Ávila, Spain. Such studies are interesting to our theological milieu as well. Thus our university signed an agreement of collaboration with this center, which was decided by our university’s Senate on June 10, 18, 2018. The aim of this agreement is the development of research and the popularization of its results, analogous to similar agreements with other academic institutions. The Spanish side was represented by the center’s director, Rev. Francisco Javier Fermín, OCD, while our university was represented by Rev. Zyzak and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. On our side, the coordinator of this collaboration will be Rev. Dr. Andrzej Dobrzyński, while the center’s counterpart will be Rev. Jerzy Nawojowski, OCD.

Next, a similar agreement of cooperation related to the study of linguistics and foreign languages was signed with Moscow State Linguistic University (Russia). Our university’s Senate confirmed the draft of this agreement on June 18, 2018. The Russian side was represented by the rector of that university, Ms. Irina Kraeva, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university’s Great Chancellor. The agreement does not mention the coordinators of this partnership.

Another agreement concerning cooperation, this time with the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek (Croatia), received a positive opinion from our university’s Senate on June 18, 2018. As with the agreements described above, its object is the exchange of didactic and research staff and students as well as the exchange of academic publications and the results of research. The Croatian side was represented by Prof. Vlado Guberac, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university’s Great Chancellor. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, while the Croatian counterpart is Ms. Lidija Getto, Head of the International Relations Office.

Finally, a similar agreement was signed with the University of Zadar (Croatia). The draft of the agreement was ratified by the senate on June 18, 2018. The Croatian side was represented by the rector of that university, Prof. Professor Dijana Vican, PhD, while our university was represented by our rector, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, and Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university’s Great Chancellor. On our side, the coordinator of this cooperation is an employee of the Center for Scientific Research

and International Cooperation, and the Croatian counterpart is Prof. Maja Kolega, Head of the International Relations Office.

Furthermore, our university has bilateral agreements that were signed independent of the previous Erasmus exchange program, which now is called Erasmus+ (a total of thirty-one agreements): the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Milan, Italy), the Theological Faculty of Central Italy (Florence, Italy), the Salesian Pontifical University (Rome, Italy), the Theological-Philosophical Academy (Brixen/Bressanone, Italy), the University of Brescia (Brescia, Italy), the Pontifical University of Salamanca (Salamanca, Spain), Abat Oliba University (Barcelona, Spain), the University of Huelva (Huelva, Spain), the Faculty of Catholic Theology of Ruhr University (Bochum, Germany), the University of Würzburg (Würzburg, Germany), Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Cottbus, Germany), the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (Toulouse, France), the Catholic University of Croatia (Zagreb, Croatia), the University of Split (Split, Croatia), the University of Zagreb (Zagreb, Croatia), Pázmány Péter Catholic University (Budapest, Hungary), Ovidius University of Constantza (Constantza, Romania), Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani Teaching University (Tbilisi, Georgia), Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania), Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Nitra, Slovakia), the University of Prešov (Prešov, Slovakia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Ružomberok, Slovakia), Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv, Ukraine), the Thomas Aquinas Institute of Religious Studies in Kyiv (Kyiv, Ukraine), Zhytomyr Ivan Franko State University (Zhytomyr, Ukraine), the Lviv University of Trade and Economics (Lviv, Ukraine), the Russian Christian Academy for the Humanities (St. Petersburg, Russia), Dostoevsky Omsk State University (Omsk, Russia), Studium Theologicum Salesianum (Jerusalem, Israel), and the College of Specialist Pedagogical Preparation (Svatý Jan pod Skalou, Czech Republic).

The main sphere of international cooperation is the EU program “Erasmus+,” in which our university has participated since December 2013 and which will last through the end of the 2020–2021 academic year. In the 2017–2018 academic year, our university implemented a total of fifty mobilities as part of the “Erasmus+” program and part of the programs “International Mobility of Students with Disabilities and Those in a Difficult Financial Situation” and “Knowledge Education Development Operational Programme” (PO WER). Meanwhile, seventeen students traveled abroad to study, while another sixteen students completed internments abroad. Eight members of our didactic staff traveled abroad on scholarship, as did nine administrative staff. Meanwhile, thirty-seven international students from partner universities in Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany, Slovakia, and Slovenia came to our university and completed part of their studies here. Of the didactic staff of our partner universities, including the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia),

and the University of Lithuania ten persons taught didactic courses at our university. Meanwhile, three administrative staff members from partner universities including the University of Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), and the University of Prešov (Slovakia) underwent training at our university as part of the “Erasmus+” program.

In order to make studying at our university in the 2017–2018 academic year easier, we prepared a total of thirty-nine courses (subject) in English, namely: fifteen courses at the Faculty of Philosophy (fourteen realized courses), ten courses at the Faculty of Social Sciences, one course at the Faculty of Canon Law, and twelve courses at the Faculty of Theology (eleven were realized). Furthermore, a Polish language course was organized for international students from all the faculties.

In the 2017–2017 academic year, we had a total of 104 agreements signed with international universities that engage in this program with the following organizational units of our university (some were signed in the 2016–2017 academic year):

Faculty of Theology (twenty-five): University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia); Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); University of Vienna (Austria); Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology (Germany); Newman Institutet (Sweden); Ruhr University Bochum (Germany); University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); University of Navarra (Spain); Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany); University of Split (Croatia); University of Malta (Malta); Catholic University of Applied Sciences of North Rhine (Westphalia, Germany); Catholic Theology at Trier University (Germany); Pontifical University St. Patrick's College (Maynooth, Ireland); Westfaelische Wilhelms-Universitaet Muenster (Germany); Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia); Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca (Spain); University of Würzburg (Germany); University of Tilburg (Holland – 2016/2017); University of Tübingen Eberhard Karls (Germany – 2016/2017); Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France – 2016/2017); Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia – 2016/2017); University of Osijek (Croatia – 2017/2018); University of Zagreb, Catholic Faculty of Theology (Croatia – 2017/2018).

Faculty of Theology – Tarnow Branch (six): University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); Universität Eichstaett (Germany); Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia); University of Huelva (Spain); Svatojánská kolej – vyšší odborná škola pedagogická (Czech Republic – 2017/2018 [only Academics Staff]);

Faculty of Philosophy (eighteen): Univerzita Konstantina Filozofa v Nitre (Slovakia); Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy); Vilniaus Universitetas (Lithuania); Trnavska Univerzita v Trnave (Slovakia); Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen (Germany); Newman Institutet (Sweden); Kaunas University of Technology

(Lithuania); Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Germany); Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II (Italy); Università degli Studi di Verona (Italy – 2017/2018); University of Fribourg (Switzerland); Università degli Studi Roma Tre (Italy); University of Würzburg (Germany); University of Prešov (Slovakia); Institut Catholique de Toulouse; University of Granada (Spain [only Academics Staff]); University of Sapienza (Italy – 2017/2018).

Journalism and Social Communication Department (twenty-three): University of Limerick (Ireland); Catholic University of Portugal (Portugal); Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); Università degli Studi “Suor Orsola Benincasa” (Italy); Vilnius University (Lithuania); Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy); Universidad a Distancia de Madrid (UDIMA, Spain); University of Pisa (Italy); University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Lisbon, Portugal); Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France); Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon (Portugal); University of Bremen (Germany); The University for Foreigners Perugia (Italy); Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Spain); Lusófona University of Porto (Portugal); The University of Applied Sciences Burgenland (Germany); University of Ostrava (Czech Republic); Universitat Abat Oliba CEU (Spain); Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg (Germany); Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia); Rennes 2 University (France – 2017/2018); Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic – 2017/2018).

Faculty of Family Sciences (four): Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); University of Pisa (Italy); University of Ostrava (Czech Republic); and University of Debrecen (Hungary).

Social Work Department (seven): the University of Prešov (Slovakia); Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg (Germany); the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia); Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz (Austria); Stockholm University (Sweden – 2017/2018); and the University of Turku (Finland – 2017/2018).

History and National Heritage Faculty (nine): the University of Prešov (Slovakia); Yildirim Beyazit University (Turkey; academic staff only); the University of Pisa (Italy); the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Portugal); the University of Bremen (Germany), the Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia), the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain); Sapienza University of Rome (Italy – 2017/2018); and Masaryk University (Czech Republic, 2017–2017).

Church Music Department (three): Hochschule für Musik Würzburg (Germany); the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); and the Catalonia College of Music (Spain).

History of Art Department (nine) Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia); KU Leuven (Belgium); the University of Ostrava (Czech Republic); Institut Catholique de Paris (France); the University of

Pisa (Italy); Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Portugal); Masaryk University (Czech Republic – 2017/2018); and Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa (Napoli, Italy – 2017/2018).

Especially significant is the already-mentioned cooperation with the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), which has gone on uninterrupted since the signing of an agreement on November 6, 1982. On the German side, Rev. Prof. Joachim Wiemeyer is responsible for it, while on the part of our university it is Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic, a professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II. During the previous academic year, professors and students from the German university visited our university. During the first two days, Polish-German catechetical days were held. Later, there was an international conference as well as a visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum accompanied by a meeting in the Center for Dialogue and Prayer in Oswiecim. The topic of the catechetical days was the teaching of religion in Poland and Germany. On the first day, the activities were held in an elementary school, and on the second a conference was held. During it, Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Panuś from our university as well as Prof. Bernhard Grümme from Bochum spoke. The conference was devoted to the topic of exclusion: “The Church and Excluded Persons (*Die Kirche gegenüber den Ausgeschlossenen*): A Pastoral-Theological Reflection.” Papers were presented by professors from the Ruhr University Bochum (Germany): Rev. Prof. Joachim Wiemeyer and Prof. Bernhard Grümme, as well as from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome (Italy, Rev. Prof. Krzysztof Bieliński, CSSR), the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (Rev. Prof. Dariusz Lipiec), the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun (Rev. Prof. Zbigniew Zarembki), the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Rev. Prof. Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan), St. John Center (Sint-Janscentrum) in ‘s-Hertogenbosch (Netherlands, Rev. Dr. Filip de Rycke), and three professors from our university (Rev. Prof. Jan Dziedzic, Rev. Dr. Jan Klimek, and Rev. Prof. Henryk Sławiński). The meeting in the Center for Dialogue and Prayer was presided by Rev. Dr. Manfred Deselaers. Our German guests summarized the whole meeting by simply stating that: “Indeed, Krakow is beautiful” (*Krakau ist wirklich schön*).

Meanwhile, our openness to academic cooperation with partners east of our border is expressed by the strengthening of the ties between our university and academic centers in Ukraine, especially in Lviv. This cooperation was expressed last year in engagement in the organization of the thirteenth symposium from the *Ad fontes liturgicos* cycle, which took place in Lviv at the Ukrainian Catholic University. It is described below in the section titled: “Popularization of the Results of Research.”

In the context of cooperation with Catholic universities, it is also worth mentioning our university’s participation in the forum of secular universities. Our university is

in regular contact with all the universities in Poland through its membership in the Conference of Rectors of Universities in Poland – CRUP. Since March 25, 2006, the rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II is a member of this conference, as pursuant to its amended rules, and is active in it.

Naturally, our university eagerly cooperates with domestic institutions as well. In the previous academic year, several such agreements of cooperation were signed.

In concern for students with disabilities, our university, represented by His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, our rector, signed an agreement with the PFRON (the National Disabled Persons' Rehabilitation Fund), headquartered in Warsaw and represented by its plenipotentiary Ms. Marta Mordarska, on December 14, 2017. The subject of the agreement is cooperation with regards to didactics, particularly in the area of internships for our university's students as well as in relation to activity related to development, academics, and research. There are plans to implement common projects. Prof. Małgorzata Duda, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II, will oversee the implementation of the agreement on the university's behalf.

The popularization of knowledge about art, culture, and national heritage, including that in the religious sphere, is the subject of the interest of not only the National Museum in Krakow but also of our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. An agreement concerning cooperation in this area has been signed between both institutions. Our university's Senate approved its contents on January 15, 2018. The subject of the agreement includes granting our didactic staff and students access to the museum's resources as well as substantive consultation by our academic staff as well as many other activities described in detail. The person responsible for the coordination of our cooperation on the museum's behalf is the director of the Section for the Organization of Events and Communication, Ms. Edyta Biernat-Kowalska, while our university's equivalent is Dariusz Tabor, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. The agreement was signed on June 4, 2018, by His Magnificence Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, our rector, as well as the museum's director, Dr. Hab. Andrzej Betlej.

In lieu of the looming beatification of the Servant of God Hanna Chrzanowska, our university initiated cooperation with the Beatification Organizational Committee, which was presided by Bishop Jan Zająć; the coordinator of its work was Rev. Prof. Robert Tyrała (a member of our university's academic staff). Chrzanowska had ties to our university – she taught our students who studied for the priesthood how to provide pastoral care to the sick. The agreement concerning cooperation was signed on February 1, 2018, by our university's rector Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, and Bishop J. Zająć. The subject of the agreement was promotion, and therefore presenting to the world the figure of the future blessed, as well as support in the preparations for and media coverage (radio and television broadcasts) of the beatification ceremony. There was also

an agreement to prepare an academic symposium on her life and work. The beatification took place on April 28, 2018, in the Divine Mercy Sanctuary and was presided by Cardinal Angelo Amato, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

„Studia Sandomierskie. Teologia–Filozofia–Historia” (“Sandomierz Studies: Theology, Philosophy, History”) is an academic journal of the Diocese of Sandomierz that has been published since 1980. In concern for its development and academic excellence, an agreement has been signed between our university and the Diocesan Publisher and Printer in Sandomierz concerning the journal’s publication. The agreement was ratified by the Senate on March 19, 2018, and it came into effect on April 4, 2018. Thanks to it, our university is the co-publisher of „Studia Sandomierskie”. The agreement concerns topics related to preparations for the printing, publication, and distribution of the journal as well as the salary of the editor-in-chief and secretary. Our rector signed the agreement in our university’s name, while Leszek Pachuta did so on behalf of the Diocesan Publisher.

Our university also initiated cooperation with the Polish Section of the International Society for the Study of Gregorian Chants. Our Senate made this decision on May 21, 2018. The aim of this agreement is the organization of workshops for persons interested in knowledge about Gregorian chant and its practice as well as the publicizing of related events. Our university was represented by His Excellency Rev. Wojciech Zyzak, our rector, while the section was represented by Rev. Dr. Mariusz Białkowski.

The so-called “explosion of Solidarity” is among the most exceptional events of the past century. Thus it is deserving of probing academic inquiry. For this reason, a special institute called the “International Center for Study of the Phenomenon of *Solidarność*” was created. Its founders are the Independent Self-governing Labor Union „Solidarity” and our university. The agreement concerning collaboration on this project was signed on June 19, 2018, in Zakopane. The signatories of the agreement are our university’s Great Chancellor Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski as well as Mr. Piotr Duda, head of the Solidarity union. The center’s motto is “Bear one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6: 2). Its main aim is to “create a spiritual and intellectual base for initiatives by the National Committee of Solidarity based on Catholic Social Teaching as well as Christian ethics.”⁹ The headquarters of the center are in our university’s building on 3 Bernardyńska Street.

Guest lectures are also a form of academic cooperation and inter-university exchange. In the past academic year, it is worth noting the following open (guest) lectures. A lecture titled: *Sejmiki powiatowe Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego za panowania Augusta III 1733–1763* (“County Sejmiks of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania during the Rule

⁹ For more on the activity of the “International Center for Study of the Phenomenon of *Solidarność*,” see: <http://www.solidarnosc-center.org/> (December 19, 2018).

of Augustus III, 1733–1763”) was given by Dr. Andrei Macuk of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in Minsk. The lecture took place on October 13, 2017, upon the invitation of the Dean of our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban as well as the Director of the Institute of History, Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Bruździński, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II.

The lecture *Republika Mołdawii – sytuacja polityczna i ekonomiczna, a także perspektywy rozwoju społecznego* (“The Republic of Moldova: Its Political and Economic Situation as Well as Perspectives for Social Development”) was given by Prof. Dr. Valentina Constantinova of the Universitatea de Stat din Tiraspol (Moldova). The lecture took place on May 22, 2018. It was organized by the Institute of Social Work in cooperation with our university’s Institute of Journalism and Social Communication.

The lecture “Nuclear Weapons and Human Survival: Two Minutes to Midnight” was given by Mr. John Hallam, who is an activist of an organization that forms part of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). The lecture took place on May 29, 2018, and was organized by our university’s Study Circle of Philosophy Students.

Additionally, two series of open lectures were held. One took place on May 22–23, 2018. Open lectures as part of the CEEPUS program were given by Dr. Ljudevit Ježić of the Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb (Croatia). He was invited by the Faculty of Philosophy as well as our university’s Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation. Lectures were devoted to the following topics: “Religious Interpretation of Mythology in Schelling’s Philosophy of Mythology,” “Philosophy as a Way of Life and Ancient Spiritual Exercises,” and “Ancient Philosophical Attitudes towards Animals and Vegetarianism.”

The second series of lectures took place on May 28–29, 2018. They were given by Prof. Tomas Sodeika of Vilnius University. They were organized by our Faculty of Philosophy’s Chair in the Philosophy of Religion. The lectures took place in the Dominican church in Krakow. Their topics were the following: “The Post-Metaphysical Implications of Post-Modernism” and “Post-Secularism and Post-Metaphysics.”

The last guest lecture held last year was by Dr. Vadzim Anipiarkou of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in Minsk, titled: *Konfederacja targowicka (1792–1793) w świetle stereotypów społecznych i dyskusji naukowych* (“The Targowica Confederation [1792–1793] in Light of Social Stereotypes and Academic Discussions”). The lecture took place on June 14, 2017, at our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage; it was attended by undergraduate and doctoral students of history.

The Church's Concern for Religious and European Unity

A very important international event is the international conference organized each year by the Pontifical University of John Paul II from the cycle: "The Role of the Church in the Process of European Integration" (*Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej*). It usually was held in the second half of September. However, in the previous academic year it instead took place in the second half of October; thus it is discussed here. Along with the change of date, the location of the meeting was also ("experimentally") changed from Tomaszowice outside Krakow to the very heart of the royal city, to the International Cultural Center of the Main Market Square. The aim of this meeting was to make it possible for the youngest academic staff, students, and all those engaged in the popularization of European integration not only in Poland, but also abroad, especially in Central and Eastern Europe, to participate in this debate.

The most recent, seventeenth conference was devoted to the search for an answer to the question: *Dokąd zmierza Europa?* ("Where Is Europe Headed?"). It took place on October 27–28, 2017, in the aforementioned cultural center. The question concerned the topic of the leadership, identity, and search for future solutions to the crises that Europe faces from time to time. The conference was organized by our university in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg. The organization's partners also included the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament, the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union – COMECE in Brussels, and the "Wokół nas" publisher in Gliwice. More than 320 persons, including more than thirty from countries encompassed by the European Union's Eastern Partnership program (especially Ukraine, Georgia, Belarus, and Armenia) participated in this year's conference. A total of twenty lecturers and experts as well as four moderators presented.

The conference was opened by the chairman of the Organizational Committee, Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Pieronek. Next, Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation; Ms. Ria Oomen Ruijten, chairperson of the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg; and Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, the Apostolic Nuncio to Poland and representative of the Holy See, spoke. The introductory lecture to the conference topic of "Where Is Europe Headed?" was given by the president of the European Parliament, Mr. Antonio Tajani (via videoconference).

Three panel sessions took place during the first day of the conference. The first was devoted to the topic of leadership and the question: "Does Europe need strong leadership?" was pondered. The discussion was introduced by Dr. Janusz Lewandowski, Deputy Chairman of the Polish Delegation in the European People's Party Fraction in the European Parliament. The following spoke during the discussion: Mons. Antoine Camilleri, Under-Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See; Prof. Vaira

Vike-Freiberga, former President of Latvia and President of the Club de Madrid; and Dr. Jan Olbrycht, Member of the European Parliament and a member of its Committee on Budgets. The discussion was headed by Rev. Dr. Leszek Gęsiak, SJ, the former head of the Polish Section of Vatican Radio and an academic and didactic staff member of the Jesuit University Ignatianum.

The second panel session dealt with the topic of identity as expressed in the question: “Will Europe defend an identity based on Christianity?” Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, introduced the discussion. The following spoke during the discussion: Prof. Vaja Vardidze, Rector of the Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University in Tbilisi; Dr. Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz, MD, chairman of the Polish People’s Party; and Mr. Marcin Mamoń, a documentary filmmaker and member of Reporters Without Borders. The discussion was led by Mr. Marek Zając, Secretary of the International Auschwitz Committee.

The third panel session dealt with the topic: “The Future: How to Get out of the Crisis.” The discussion was introduced by Mr. David McAllister, Member of the European Parliament and Chairman of its Committee on Foreign Affairs. The discussion’s participants were: Mr. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, former Prime Minister of Ukraine and President of the People’s Front; Prof. Thomas Sternberg, Chairman of the Central Committee of German Catholics; and Mr. Johannes Han, European Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations. The discussion was presided by Dr. Katarzyna Pisarska, Director of the European Academy of Diplomacy.

On the evening of the first day, the conference participants had the opportunity to participate in a Mass in St. Mary’s Church presided by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, who also gave the homily. During the Mass, our Psalmodia Choir sang, while the altar servers were students of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow. Next, the conference participants were invited to a special reception organized by Mr. Jacek Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region.

On the second day, only one panel session took place; it deal with: “Unity: The Consequences of the Brexit.” The discussion was introduced by Mr. Elmar Brok, Member of the European Parliament and a member of its Committee on Foreign Affairs. The discussion’s participants were: Prof. Maciej Szpunar, Advocate General of the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg; Ms. Agata Gostyńska-Jakubowska, an Analyst at the Centre for European Reform; Bishop Donal McKeown of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Derry in Ireland; and Dr. Rafał Trzaskowski, Vice Chairman of the European People’s Party. The discussion was chaired by Ms. Karolina Zbytniewska, Editor-in-Chief of EurActiv.pl.

The entire conference was summed up by our university’s Rector Rev. Zyzak, who said that the panel discussions “revolved around four basic concepts pertinent to the

fundamentals of Europe: unity related to Greek universalism, leadership based on Roman law, identity resulting from the Christian faith, and questions about the future that constantly require boldness to be asked.” The philosophical thought of Edith Stein, whom Pope St. John Paul II made a patron of Europe and who was capable of bringing together the richness of the classical philosophy of antiquity with that of her time and the legacy of Judaism as well as Christianity, aided in these reflections. To conclude, Rev. Zyzak thanked all those engaged in the organization of the conference, especially Bishop Tadeusz Pieronek.¹⁰

Meanwhile, various initiatives promoting interreligious dialogue are an expression of the Church’s concern for the unity of Christians. The popularization of concern for Christian unity is one of the main aims of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue. For this reason, each year the institute plays an active role in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the accompanying Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church and Day of Islam in the Catholic Church. Thus in the previous year the institute was also the co-organizer of the “Week of Prayer,” which was held in Krakow, as in the entire Polish Church, on January 18–25, 2018. The week’s motto consisted of the words: “Your right hand, o Lord, magnificent in power” (Exodus 15: 6). The remaining co-organizers of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were: the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow, the Krakow Branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council, the Głos na Pustyni (“Voice in the Desert”) Community, and the Club of Catholic Intelligentsia in Krakow. An ecumenical service of the Word of God took place in various churches and chapels belonging to the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession, Orthodox Church, Evangelical-Methodist Church, the Polish Catholic Church, and the Roman Catholic Church.

The Krakow “Week of Prayer for Christian Unity” began with a special service in St. Martin’s parish of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Krakow. It concluded with a discussion in the Club of Catholic Intelligentsia on the topic: “What Did the Reformation Give Us?” It was attended by Rev. Roman Pracki of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski from the already-mentioned Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue. The meeting was led by Ms. Dominika Kozłowska, Editor-in-Chief of the monthly magazine „Znak”. Meanwhile, the culmination of the Week of Prayer was an ecumenical service that was held on Sunday January 21, 2018, in the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II in Krakow. Its participants were the Archbishop of Krakow Marek Jędraszewski and the leaders of Christian churches in Krakow. The direct preparation

¹⁰ For more on the topic of the presented conference (in Polish): <http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl/archiwum/konferencja-2017/> (September 12, 2018). There, you can find original recordings of all the presentations.

for this meeting was the liturgical prayer “The Office for Unity,” which took place on Saturday January 20, in St. Barbara’s Church in Krakow. The Chemin Neuf Community led the prayer.

Meanwhile the Twenty-First Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church in Poland was celebrated on January 17, 2018. The motto of last year’s day came from the words of the prophet Isaiah: “Peace! Peace to those who are far and near” (Isaiah 57: 19). In Krakow, the ceremony began with a service of the Word of God and prayer for the Jews as well as for Christian-Jewish relations; it took place in the Franciscan basilica. The service was graced by the singing of the musical group Jarmuła Band i Goście. The organizers of the Day of Judaism were: the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow; the Franciscan Order; the “Covenant” Club of Christians and Jews; the Jewish Community Center of Krakow; and the Polania Foundation. After the service, a meeting with Ms. Urszula Antosz-Rekucka, a catechist from Mszana Dolna engaged in interreligious dialogue and the commemoration of the legacy of Polish Jews, was held. She explained what Catholics could learn from religious Jews. On the eve of the Day of Judaism (January 16, 2018), a debate regarding a book published by our university’s press, Rev. Prof. Łukasz Kamykowski’s *Obraz Żydów w myśli chrześcijańskiej* (“The Image of Jews in Christian Thinking;” Krakow 2017) took place. Members of the Club of Christians and Jews participated: the book’s author, Dr. Zofia Radzikowska, and Mr. Janusz Poniewierski. The debate was led by Mr. Henryk Woźniakowski (Chairman of the Znak Publishing House). The debate took place in the Jewish Community Centre of Krakow.

Meanwhile, the Krakow celebrations of the Seventeenth Day of Islam in the Catholic Church were held on January 26, 31, 2018. Their motto was “Christians and Muslims: Concern for a Common Home.” The celebrations were organized by the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow; the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow; and the Franciscan friars. As in previous years they began with a service of the Word of God in the Franciscan basilica, which once again was presided by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski of our university, Spokesman of the Archdiocese of Krakow on Interreligious Dialogue. After the service, the participants of the meeting went to the university building, where they attended a panel titled: *Pokój w oczach kobiet* (“Peace in the Eyes of Women”). Three women, one Muslim, one Jewish, and one Christian (Ms. Dżenneta Bogdanowicz from the “Asman” Foundation of the Regional Center of the Culture of Polish Tartars, Dr. Edyta Gawron from the Institute of Jewish Studies of the Jagiellonian University and the Jewish Community Center of Krakow, and Dr. Joanna Barcik from

our university's Chair in the Philosophy of Religion) discussed what could be done in the service of peace between the world's religions.

The Popularization of the Results of Research

In addition to the above-mentioned cyclical initiatives that serve to increase knowledge conferred during regular didactic classes, symposiums, conferences, and guest lectures, which at the same time are a means of popularizing the results of research undertaken by various academic-didactic staff from our university, were also held. Some were organized with the participation of institutions outside our university. Here are some of them presented in chronological order.

The interpretation of the results of the research of contemporary physics, including cosmology, is a major challenge for philosophers of nature and even theologians. Hence methodological questions are very important. Last year's "Twenty-First Krakow Conference on Methodology" was devoted to the ontology of contemporary physics and was titled: "On What Exists in Physics." The conference took place on October 5–6, 2017, in the building of the Polish Academy of Learning in Krakow. Its organizers were our university (the Faculty of Philosophy), the Polish Academy of Learning, the Copernicus Center in Krakow, and the John Templeton Foundation. All the papers were presented in English. The following topics were discussed in the papers: the methodological aspects of existence, the unity of mind and matter, the existence of real possibilities in physics, the existence of the quantum mechanical wave function, some kind of nonexistence and its possible application in information transmission (quantum contextuality), Plato versus Aristotle in Modern Physics, known and missing fundamental particles, the observability of the early universe, and the existence of the space-time, existence of black holes.

Papers were presented by academic staff from our university (Z. Liana, M. Heller) as well as the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (E. Kałuszyńska), the Jagiellonian University (T. Placek, P. Horodecki, E. Malec), the University of Cologne (C. Kiefer), the University of Warsaw (K. Meissner), CERN – Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (the European Organization for Nuclear Research, A. Zalewska), the University of Milan (M. Bersanelli), and the University of Gdansk (M. Eckstein). A discussion panel led by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Heller concluded the conference.

Pilgrimage is a form of activity in which the religious dimension is intertwined with the cultural one. An important example of this is walking pilgrimages to the tomb of St. James in Santiago de Compostela (Spain). Thirty years ago, in 1987, the Council of Europe recognized the trail to St. James' tomb as the first European Cultural Route. To mark this occasion, several institutions organized a conference titled: *Dziedzictwo religijne i kulturowe. Drogi św. Jakuba w 30. rocznicę uznania szlaku za pierwszy*

Europejski Szlak Kulturowy (“Religious and Cultural Heritage: The Ways of St. James on the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Recognition of the Trail as the First European Cultural Route”). The conference took place on October 10, 2017, in the university building on 3 Bernardyńska Street. This was the Tenth International Academic Conference devoted to the Way of St. James. Its organizers were: our university, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the Faculty of Theology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, the Municipal Government in Michałowice, the Fraternity of St. James the Apostle in Więclawice, and the Polish Geographical Society (the Committee on the Geography of Religion).

The following topics were discussed during the conference: the latest research on the tomb of St. James, the Mozarabic dimension of the Way of St. James, and the migration context of pilgrimage do Compostela (first session); St. Julian and refugees (*albergues*) on the road to Santiago de Compostela, devotion to St. James in Poland, devotion to St. James in the Diocese of Tarnow, presentations of St. James (in the past and present) devotion to St. James in pilgrims’ tales, and the Way of St. James as a product of religious tourism (second session); the religious and cultural legacy of selected segments of the Camino de Santiago in Europe, the Camino and the escape from problems (escapism), the transgressive dimension of the pilgrimage of the Way of St. James, and the musical traces of the Middle Ages in the Camino de Santiago (third session).

Papers were presented by academic staff from Spain and Polish universities as well as several other institutions: the University of Navarra, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Archeological-Historical Museum in Glogow, the Municipal Cultural Center in Przeworsk, the Diocesan Center of Tourist Information in Pelplin, the Club of Friends of the Camino in Upper Silesia, the Fraternity of St. James in Więclawice Stare, and the Pedagogical University of Krakow.

During the conference, our university’s Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala informed its participants that the Pontifical University of John Paul II has received the St. James Academic Accreditation and has been incorporated in the *Campus Stellae* project, whose aim is to encourage university students as well as the academic and didactic staff of post-secondary schools to walk the Way of St. James. Mr. Santiago Sierra Gonzáles, the Counsel on Culture of the Embassy of Poland in Spain also participated in the conference; at the beginning of the second session, he addressed those gathered. The last part of the conference was the premiere of the film cycle *Grunt to Droga* (“The Way Is the Essence”) directed by Ms. Teresa Kudyba. This is a cycle of five films devoted to persons who come from various milieus but are somehow connected to the Camino de Santiago.

The natural world that surrounds us is not only the appropriate environment of life, but it is also a sign of the Creator's wisdom and beauty. Pope Francis has made note of this, writing that: "the world is a joyful mystery to be contemplated with gladness and praise" (*Laudato si'*, n. 12). For years, this sacral dimension of nature has been the subject of academic reflection during the academic seminar (symposium) devoted to the sacred and nature. In cooperation with the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia) as well as the Ojców National Park and the Krakow Branch of the Rev. Karol Wojtyła Polish Society for Tourism and Sightseeing (Circle No. 1, "Pilgrim") organized the "Twenty-fifth International Symposium 'The Sacred and Nature,'" titled: *Edukacja i duchowość ekologiczna* ("Ecological Education and Spirituality"). It took place on October 7–8, 2017, in the Didactic-Educational Center of Ojców National Park in Ojców (about forty kilometers north of Krakow). The topics of the papers included: ecological spirituality; the pedagogical and pastoral aspects of the encyclical *Laudato si'*; appreciating ecology in the process of education; preparation for the covenant with God, people, and nature; the pro-ecological attitudes motivated by the word of God; Christian ecological education in Ukraine; pro-landscape efforts inspired by the encyclical *Laudato si'*; the ecological crisis and conversion; minor sacred architecture; the ecological spiritual education of young people and their consumerism; and the painted landscape as the place of the encounter of the sacred and the profane.

Papers were presented by academic staff from our university, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Institute of Botany of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (Ukraine), the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and persons not affiliated with any universities (a total of fifteen papers).

Apart from the academic papers, the symposium program also included the visiting of landmarks, exhibits, and interesting places attesting to the relationship between the sacred and nature. A special occasion for personal encounter of the sacred by symposium's participants was participation in religious services such as Mass in the chapel "On the Water" of St. Joseph the Worker in Ojców and the evening service by the figure of St. John Cantius in the former Spring Park in Ojców.

The pontificate of John Paul II was a catalyst for the development of contacts with predominantly Catholic nations. One example is the cooperation with Croatia expressed in the organization of a Polish-Croatian conference on John Paul II that coincided with the twentieth anniversary of his apostolic trip to the Balkan country (1998). It was titled: *Wpływ papieża Polaka, św. Jana Pawła II na chorwacką społeczność* ("The Impact of St. John Paul II, the Polish Pope, on Croatian Society"). The conference took place on October 9, 2017, in the building of our university's Main Library. The conference's

honorary patrons were Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, President of Croatia, and Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland. From the initiative of Mr. Paweł Włodarczyk, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Croatia in Krakow, our university organized this conference thanks to the efforts of its Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala and the cooperation of the Catholic University of Croatia in Zagreb and the University of Split. The conference in Krakow forms a whole with another analogous conference that took place on May 4, 2018 in Split (discussed below). Immediately before the beginning of the conference, Dr. Andrea Bekić, the Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia, opened an exhibit titled: *Bądźcie narodem nadziei. Wystawa o Janie Pawle II i Chorwacji* (“Be a Nation of Hope: An Exhibit on John Paul II and Croatia”) in the same building of our main library at the university campus. The exhibit was organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia and the Museum of John Paul II and Primate Wyszyński in Warsaw. It was open to the public through October 28, 2017.

The Polish-Croatian conference in Krakow was devoted to the following topics: John Paul II’s Croatian inspirations; the place of the pope in Croatia’s recent history; a hypothesis on John Paul II’s kinship with the Croats; the impact of papal visits on the activity of Croatian youth organizations; Croatian publications on the pope’s teaching; the pope’s impact on youth music (the musical group Papa Band); public places dedicated to John Paul II; athletes’ admiration for John Paul II; the pope’s presence in Croatian electronic media; faculties of theology in Croatia; Croatian Marian devotion; and the attitude of Croatian communists to the pope (1978–2000).

The following guests from Croatia participated in the conference: Archbishop Marin Barišić of Split-Makarska; members of parliament; and other persons engaged in public life (a total of twenty-two persons); and representatives of the consular corps from Austria, France, Malta, Germany, and Hungary. The Polish side was represented at the conference by Archbishop Prof. Marek Jędraszewski of Krakow; Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz (who presented a paper); Mr. Paweł Włodarczyk, Honorary Consul (who also spoke); staff from our university; and other guests. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following Croatian universities: the Catholic Faculty of Theology in Zagreb, the University of Zagreb (Faculty of Philosophy), the University of Split (Catholic Faculty of Theology), and several institutions: the Episcopal Conference of Croatia’s Office on Young People, Croatian Catholic Radio, and even the Hajduk Split athletic club. There are plans to publish materials from confederation.

John Paul II frequently said that young people are the future of the Church and of every other society. The conference titled: *Wychowanie młodzieży dostosowane do XXI wieku* (“Educating Young People for the Twenty-First Century”), which took place on October 17, 2017, in the building of the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Tarnow, referred to this idea. The conference was organized by our Faculty

of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow in collaboration with the staff of the Department of Pedagogy – Institute of the Humanities of the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow. Papers were presented in English and were devoted to the following topics: young people's spirituality of today, education as accompanying, the big concerns for twenty-first century teenagers, the World Youth Day generation, and the young generation in Czech Republic. Papers were presented by staff from the staff of the Tarnow Faculty of Theology and the aforementioned Department of Pedagogy as well as international speakers from: the Australian Catholic University (Sydney, Australia), the Sacred Heart College (Sydney, Australia), and the Conference of the Czech Bishops (Czech Republic). A discussion took place at the end.

Conferences from the *Etyka i życie publiczne* ("Ethics and Public Life") cycle are devoted to important and current ethical problems as well as their presence in public life. In previous editions, the following topics were dealt with: freedom and authority, lying, authenticity, equality, greed, trust, hatred, sensitivity and indifference, and honesty and reliability. The topic of the last conference was: *Prawo i moralność w życiu publicznym* ("The Law and Morality in Public Life"). Its aim was a philosophical analysis of the relationship between the law and morality as well as studying its symptoms in such areas of public life such as: the economy, the media, medicine, science, and politics. The conference took place on October 24–25, 2017. Its organizers were the Chair in Ethics and the Chair in Social Philosophy and Politics at our university's Faculty of Philosophy. The following topics were discussed: the ethical codes of councilors, the impact of morality on legal systems, the question of the death penalty, the moral aspects of consumption, criminal ethical liability in the context of the principle of twofold consequences, the limiting of parents' rights of courts, morality in canon law, the principle of equality and the principle of the opposition of the conscience, morality in educational leadership, the majority and the truth about good, the principle of rule of law in the public debate, the category of "repulsion" in the social narrative on people with disabilities, law and morality in the historical painting of Jan Matejko, the real axiological "I" according to Husserl and Tischner, law and morality with regards to the dehumanizing process of war, the ethical dilemmas of a civil servant, the ethical bases for everyday life, the right to a divorce and the ethics of responsibility, the inviolability of the right to life according to Benedict XVI, and the significance of legal resolutions with regards to Tom L. Beauchamp's and James F. Childress's bioethical principles. In total, twenty-four papers were presented during the conference.

Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as from the following universities: the Medical University of Białystok, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Wrocław, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the University of Rzeszów, the University of Warsaw, the Catholic University of Eichstätt-

-Ingolstadt (Germany), the University of Szczecin, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the State Higher Vocational School in Wloclawek, the Rzeszow University of Technology, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin.

Concern for an authentic and beautiful liturgy is at the same time concern for an effective communication of the faith. This concern is expressed in international symposiums from the *Ad fontes liturgicos* cycle. Last year's "Annual International Liturgical Symposium *Ad fontes liturgicos*," held for the eighth time, was devoted to the topic: "The Search for the Sources of Monastic and Cathedral Liturgy" (У пошуках джерел катедрального та монашого богослужіння). It took place on October 25–26, 2017, at the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology of the Ukrainian Catholic University (Ukraine). It was organized by that faculty as well as the Liturgical Center in Lviv (Ukraine) along with our university's Liturgical Institute, the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Prešov (Slovakia), and the St. Athanasius Greek Catholic Theological Institute (Szent Atanáz Görögkatolikus Hittudományi Főiskola, Hungary). The symposium was part of the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of one of the founders of the contemporary Eastern liturgy, Father Juan Mateos. The symposium's program consisted of fourteen lectures. Their topics included: Juan Mateos and his work; Sunday intonations in the Byzantine tradition; Rome and the Basilica of Constantine; unity between the monastic and Catholic rite in the Byzantine tradition; the missal of Isidore, metropolitan of Kyiv (1433–1458) as a living source of knowledge about the Church's liturgical life in Kyiv; the liturgy in the Wawel cathedral in the first half of the seventeenth century; service to God in parishes and monasteries; the relationships between the cathedral and monastic liturgies in the history of Hungary's Greek-Catholic Church; the Levite Irmologion as a source of the cathedral tradition of the Diocese of Przemysl; the Slavic liturgy during the beginnings of Christianity in Poland; the typikon of the Great Church of the nineteenth century (Isidor Dolnytsky and the general form of worship in the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church); decrees of diocesan synods concerning the unity and discipline of liturgical life in the first half of the eighteenth century; Ivan Posnik's nomocanon in his Slavic version; and the *Officium Parvum* in the cathedral tradition. The speakers were scholars from Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Ukraine who represented the universities organizing the symposium. There are plans to publish materials from this symposium.

Although Pope Francis' pontificate has led to very different reactions, certainly everyone can agree that it is a sort of media phenomenon. This phenomenon was dealt with during the most recent international conference from the *Media – kultura – komunikacja* ("The Media, Culture, Communication") series. Its most recent edition, titled *Fenomen papieża Franciszka* ("The Phenomenon of Pope Francis"), took place on October 26, 2017, in the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Collegium Novum*.

It was organized by our university, the Jagiellonian University, the Polish Bar Council, and the District Bar Council in Krakow.

The following topics were discussed in papers during this conference: the consistency of the pope's vision of theology, politics, attitude towards religion, attitude towards Jews and Judaism, and attitude towards Jewish culture and theology; the authenticity of the pope's message in interpersonal communications; mercy as tenderness; the attitude of the media to trust and hope; opposition to dehumanization; the political context of Pope Francis' activity (Argentina and the Vatican); the ability to listen to Pope Francis; the language of communication of the three most recent popes; mercy in communication according to Pope Francis; the image of Pope Francis in „News-week” in 2013; the inclusiveness of the pope's language as a challenge to the Church of the twenty-first century; the legal profession and culture; celebrities; culture and indifference; the harmony of references during World Youth Day in 2016 (the pope-young people-journalists); Pope Francis' personal witness; and the phenomenon of his communication.

Papers were presented by the representatives of various milieus: universities, journalism, and the diplomatic corps. The universities represented during the conference were: the University of Haifa (Israel. Prof. Dr. Hab. Shevah Weiss); the Jagiellonian University, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, and, of course, our own university. The media whose representatives spoke during the conference were: Telewizja Polsatnews, Telewizja Krakow, and the press secretary of the Archbishop of Wrocław. The diplomatic corps were represented by the apostolic nuncio in Poland (Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio) and the Honorary Consul of Malta (Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska, Esq.). Introductory remarks at the beginning of the conference were given by Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Nowak, MD, Rector of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow; Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, Apostolic Nuncio to Poland; Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, former Archbishop of Krakow; and our university's Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal.

The audience of the conference consisted of the rectors of post-secondary universities; the consuls of Hungary, Slovakia, Germany, and Austria; scholars from our country and from abroad; journalists and historians; and, of course, the students of our university as well as other universities (especially of journalism and social communication), in addition to many other persons interested in Francis' pontificate. Upon the conclusion of the sessions, a special concert celebrating Pope Francis took place in the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Collegium Maius*; it was organized by the Polish Bar Council.

The problem of refugees and immigrants has yet to be resolved, at least fully. It is also a subject of particular interest to Pope Francis. The international academic conference titled: *Uchodźcy i migranci w globalnym świecie – odpowiedzialność i odpowiedź uniwersytetów* (“Refugees and Migrants in a Globalized World: The Responsibility and Responses of Universities”) was a reaction to these expectations. It was held at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome (Italy) on November 1–4, 2017. It was organized by: the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU, of which our university is a member), Being the Blessing Foundation, the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and the Center for Interreligious Understanding. The organization of the conference was supported by the recently established Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. The aim of the conference was a better understanding of the situation of refugees and migrants in the world and creating such educational solutions that would allow them and societies to discern the appropriate approach to the problem of migration. At the end of the conference, Pope Francis met in the Apostolic Palace in the Vatican with its participants (November 4, 2017). The fruit of the conference was the creation of an international network called the International Initiatives for Migrant and Refugee Education; our university is the only Polish university belonging to it. Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, our university’s rector, also participated in the conference, as did Dr. Paulina Guzik (an Assistant Professor of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication), who was among the organizers of the conference, and was a moderator during the conference’s discussion panels, and Mr. Jakub Stoszek, a student of the aforementioned institute, who was responsible for photographic and film documentation of the event for our university.

Images of the end of the world continue to spark great emotions and questions. It is best to try to respond to them in Divine revelation, especially the Book of Revelation. Cosmology also provides us with valuable information. The Third Father Augustyn Jankowski Symposium titled: *Eschatologia, apokalipsa, a może po prostu koniec świata?* (“Eschatology, the Apocalypse, or Perhaps Simply the End of the World?”) was devoted to an interdisciplinary conception of this matter. It took place in the Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec outside Krakow on November 6, 2017, and was organized by the Tyniec Abbey under our university’s patronage. Rev. Prof. Augustyn Jankowski (d. 2005) was a member of the Tyniec community and was its professor. With regards to cosmology, Roger Penrose’s hypothesis that the end of our universe could be the beginning of another was discussed in a paper by Prof. K. Meissner of the University of Warsaw. In the second non-theological paper, Shakespeare’s apocalypticism were presented by Prof. Małgorzata Grzegorzewska, also from the University of Warsaw. The remaining papers were devoted to the theological aspects of eschatology: traditional and modern ways of presenting apocalyptic topics; the apocalypticism of Adam Mickiewicz; eschatology in the

Book of Job; eschatology as presented in the Aramaic Bible; eschatological prophecies in the Book of Daniel; the concept of the Lord's Day according to Malachy; the voice of God in the Book of Revelation; and two apocalyptic witnesses (Revelation 11) as a sign for the persecuted Church. Papers were presented by academic staff from the following universities: the University of Warsaw, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and, of course, our university as well.

Without a doubt, many contemporary political matters are rooted in both recent and more distant history. For the countries that make up the so-called Visegrad Group (Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary; also known as the V4), knowledge of both common and different elements in the past is of great significance for the contemporary development of their harmonious cooperation. In order to bolster this process, an international academic conference titled: *Wspólnota różnorodności – dziedzictwo kulturowe Czwórki Wyszehradzkiej* ("The Unity of Diversities: The Cultural Heritage of the Visegrad Four") was held on November 14–15, 2017, at our university. It was organized by the Department of Archival Studies and Auxiliary Studies of History at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage of our university in collaboration with: the Greek-Catholic Faculty of the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the Catholic Faculty of Theology of Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), and the Saint Athanasius Greek-Catholic Theological Institute (Hungary). The aim of the conference was the presentation of topics related to the history, culture, and religious symbolism of the Visegrad Group countries, especially emphasizing that which these countries have shared for decades that has contributed to their construction of a shared cultural heritage.

The papers dealt with the following topics: music as a tool for the building of unity and peace in the case of the activity of *Pueri Cantores* in East-Central Europe; Velehrad as a symbol of the mission of the Slavic nations; the culture and tradition of the Polish-Slovak borderlands in the context of globalization; June 1956 in Poznan and the Hungarian Revolution of 1956; the pervasiveness of devotion to the saints on the lands of the V4 countries; the pilgrimage as a way of personal and social renewal; the contribution of the martyrs of the Greek-Catholic Church in Slovakia to the construction of a Europe based around values; Marian images and symbols in the coats of arms of cities in the Visegrad Group countries; the forgotten legacy of ancient Rome (family, society, and the state); the "Visegrad4Art" painting exhibition ("Painting Rediscovered") and its testimony to unity and diversity; proverbs and proverbial expressions about the nations of the V4 Group; the digital protection of cultural heritage in the countries of the Visegrad Group; Polish sejmiks according to Jean-Pierre Norblin de La Gourdain (painter, d. 1830); St. Jadwiga, Queen in East-Central Europe; the culture-creating role

of the Polish nobility; the dilemmas of the leaders of the Academy of Krakow in the first half of the seventeenth century (with respect to heritage); nineteenth century jewelry in the lands of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary (its historicism); similarities and differences in the national and folk dress of the V4 countries; Christian religious symbols and their functioning in contemporary culture; European and Byzantine traditions in art in the seventeenth century in the Diocese of Mukachevo; the activity of the Greek-Catholic Church in the incorporation of Carpathian Ruthenia into the Soviet Union; the establishment and growth of the Hungarian Greek-Catholic Diocese; national motifs in the literature of Poland and Hungary; the image of vernacular history in selected didactic materials used for the teaching of Polish as a second language; and the literary text as an expression of cultural heritage in the teaching of Polish as a second language. At the end of the first day of the conference, an exhibition of historical dances by the Jane Austen Dance School in Krakow took place.

The papers, which were twenty-five in total, were presented by the academic and didactic staff of our university and the remaining universities organizing the conference as well as Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (and its Pedagogical-Artistic Faculty in Kalisz), the Pedagogical University of Krakow, Rzeszow University, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the Major Diocesan Seminary in Kielce, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University (Kosice, Slovakia), and the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia).

The proper formulation of legislation allowing a given community to function and solve its problems is not only a valuable, but also a very difficult art. It can grow through the development of legislation in a given field. That was the mission of the organizers of the academic symposium titled: *Granice prawa do sakramentów. Między kodeksem prawa kanonicznego z 1917 roku a kodeksem z 1983 roku* ("The Limits of the Right to the Sacraments: Between the Codes of Canon Law in 1917 and in 1983"). It took place on November 16, 2017, in the auditorium of the Institute of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow. It was organized by our university's Faculty of Canon Law. The symposium was opened by our university's Great Chancellor Archbishop Prof. Marek Jędraszewski, while the introductory remarks were given by our university's Vice-Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal.

During the symposium, five papers were presented on the following topics: the criteria for allowing children to receive First Holy Communion; the use of reason as a condition for administering the sacrament of confirmation (related to age and intellectual disability); allowing persons with psychological disorders (from confusion to borderline personality disorder) to receive the sacrament of marriage; candidates for the priesthood with homosexual tendencies and their formation; and the sacrament of the anointing of the sick and the state of the health of a person preparing to receive it. During the discussions, a distinction was made between being "prepared" and being

“disposed” to receive a given a sacrament. Meanwhile, concern for the genuineness of signs of various sacraments during the liturgy was emphasized. The distinction between the psychological and legal orders was also noted. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as guests from the following universities: the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin.

The already-mentioned topic of refugees was the subject of another academic symposium titled: *Ekonomiczne i socjalne prawa imigranta* (“The Economic and Social Rights of the Immigrant”), which was organized by our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences (the Chair in Family Law and the Chair in Social Policy) along with the Department of Statistics of the Krakow University of Economics. It took place on November 23, 2017, at our university.

The participants of the conference discussed topics concerning the rights of immigrants in the context of penal and civil law as well as the rights of immigrants to access the job market and, more generally, human rights. Specifically, they concerned such topics as: the social rights of emigrants in selected countries of the European Union; the salaries of immigrants and their remittances; the rights of migrants in the regulations of canon law; post-conciliar papal teaching on the significance of migration to developing countries; limitations in the purchase of real estate (including farmland) by foreigners in Poland; the foreigner in Polish penal law, including as a convict; the economic and social situation of Ukrainians in Poland; Syrian immigrants in Canada; the legal aspects of the liquidation of the refugee camp in Calais (France); the right of the foreigner to free legal assistance; and citizenship as a criterion for membership in religious organizations in Poland within the context of the rights of immigrants to religious freedom.

Twelve speakers participated in the symposium. They represented both universities that organized the symposium as well as: the University of Lodz, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, the University of Silesia, the Jagiellonian University, the Jesuit University Ignatianum, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and Oulton College in Moncton (Canada). At the end of the conference, the *Biblioteczka Prawa* (“Little Library of Law;” Volume 1) was presented by the Department of Family Law. It contains materials from the previous symposium on migration (*Prawne i ekonomiczne aspekty imigracji do Polski – “The Legal and Economic Aspects of Immigration to Poland,”* red. M. Butrymowicz, P. KroczeK, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UJPII 2017, pp. 166). There are plans to publish materials from this symposium as well.

Concern for the family as the basic unit of society is of interest to both state and Church institutions. Our Faculty of Social Sciences organizes studies on this topic. Its

significance was the subject of a national academic conference titled: *Nauki o rodzinie w służbie polskiej rodziny* ("Studies on the Family in the Service of the Polish Family"), which was held at our university on November 27, 2017. It was organized by the above-mentioned faculty as well as the Polish Familiology Association. The topics of the papers included the following: the state and situation of Polish families; the concern of the Polish state for the family; a historical outline of the efforts to create the discipline of family studies; stimulating its academic quality; family studies from the perspective of the Polish Accreditation Committee; and current challenges related to family studies. There were seven authors of papers. Apart from the organizers of the conference, they represented the following institutions (some authors represented two different ones): the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles; the Ministry of Family, Labor, and Social Policy; the University of Silesia in Katowice; the Polish Accreditation Committee (Section on the Humanities); the University Committee on Science; Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw; the Pedagogical University of Krakow; and the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow. After the conference, the general assembly of the Polish Familiology Association was held.

In Catholic circles, there is a growing interest in Jewish messianism. At our university, this was expressed in a conference titled: *Odkrywając tajemnicę Kościoła. Dialog chrześcijańsko-mesjański* ("Discovering the Secrets of the Church: Christian-Messianic Dialogue"). It took place on December 12, 2017, in the Franciscan Basilica in Krakow. The main leaders of the conference were Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski, Director of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue at our university, and Dr. Mark S. Kinzer, a rabbi of a Jewish messianic congregation. Each of them presented his point of view on the other side of dialogue, simultaneously aiming to emphasize the places where there is room for closer relations. There were no other presentations during the conference. The conference was organized by: the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue; the "Bratni Zew" Franciscan Publishing House; the Franciscan Major Seminary in Krakow; the Franciscan Basilica in Krakow; and the School of the Servants of the Spirit Foundation. After the conference, a promotion of the Polish edition of Dr. Mark Kinzer's book *Zgłębiając własną tajemnicę. Kościół w żydowskiej myśli mesjańskiej* (*Searching Her Own Mystery*), published by Wydawnictwo "Bratni Zew" (Kraków 2017, pp. 359), took place.

The question of the impact of the media on the person today continues to be posed. The organizers of the international conference titled: "Man for the Media or the Media for Man" sought answers to the question of what is more important, the person, whom the media should serve, or media that subject the person to them. Answers to this question were sought in the experiences of Poland and Portugal. The conference took place on December 12, 2017, and was organized by the Institute of Journalism and

Social Communication at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. Papers concerned the following topics from the Portuguese perspective: the media's role in the history perspective of xx century; and "fake news" – the role of the social media; and the responsibility of the journalistic discourse in the contemporary media. Meanwhile, the following topics were presented from the Polish perspective: the conscience clause in journalistic ethics; the response to contemporary dilemmas of people in the media through advertising; the service of journalism from a historical perspective; the communication of major events in the Church (the example of World Youth Day); the ethical dimension of images in film (the image of ethics in the discourse of film); and the autonomy of the media and their instrumental nature. Apart from our university, the authors of the papers represented the following institutions: the School of Communication and Media Studies (Escola Superior de Comunicação Social – Instituto Politécnico) of Lisbon (Portugal) – two persons, as well as the New University of Lisbon's Institute of Contemporary History. The conference presented the complexity of the relationship between man and the media and, at the same time, the great significance and relevance of the question posed in its title.

The history of the Catholic Church in Poland after World War II is particularly dramatic. The most painful period of confrontation with the communist authorities was 1953, a year when unusual repressions took place. In 1952–1953, the regime strongly attacked the Church, hoping to break it down. Approximately one thousand priests were arrested then, including Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, the Primate of Poland, on September 25, 1953, as well as the director of his secretariat, Bishop Antoni Baraniak (September 26, 1953). In Krakow, a show trial of the curia took place in September 1953. The academic session titled: *Proces kurii krakowskiej w 65. rocznicę* ("The Sixty-Fifth Anniversary of the Trial of the Krakow Curia") was devoted to this event. It took place on January 25, 2018, at our university. It was organized by our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage as well as the Krakow Branch of the Institute of National Remembrance. The following topics were discussed in the papers: the propaganda nature of the trial of the Krakow Curia; the humiliation of the Church; the image of the Krakow Diocese in the context of the trial; the methods of investigation; and the chronology of the trial. Papers were presented by academic staff from both institutions organizing the conference. Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski also participated in the session. One of the professors noted at the end of the session that: "It appeared that this would be the end of the Church, but the strength of the Krakow Church lay not only in powerful, beautiful, and wonderful clergy, but above all in the faithful, who were capable of preserving their religious identity" (Rev. Prof. Józef Marecki).

In recent years, the growing number of migrants from the Middle East has led to an increase in the life and tradition of Christians living there. The academic symposium

titled: *Spotkania z chrześcijańskim Orientem* („An Encounter with the Christian Orient”) was one of those initiatives that made it possible for us to better know and understand our brothers in the faith. The symposium took place on February 1, 2018, and was organized by our university’s Faculty of Theology. The conference was devoted to three topics: the common tradition of Christians (*L’Œuvre d’Orient*), the concept of God in the Eastern and Western traditions, and *L’Œuvre d’Orient* as a work of salvation from oblivion. The conference was introduced by speeches by guests representing the following institutions: a delegate of the Archbishop of Krakow; the Rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Zyzak; the Dean of our Faculty of Theology, Rev. Dr. Hab. Arkadiusz Baron, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Panuś, President of the Polish Theological Society. Staff from our university presented on the first two above-mentioned topics. Meanwhile, Bishop Pascal Gollnish, present Director of the *L’Œuvre d’Orient* French Catholic association, spoke about his organization. This association has been active since 1856; thus for over 160 it has worked on behalf of Eastern Christians living in twenty-three countries in the Middle East, the Horn of Africa (the Somali Peninsula), Eastern Europe, and India. During times of both peace and war the association supports the work of bishops, priests, and religious orders that help all, irrespective of religious affiliation. The areas of its activity are: education, healthcare and social work, assistance to priests and religious orders, and the protection of objects of Christian culture.

The notion that all religions are good, which has been popular for years, is difficult for Catholics to accept. What is unique in the substance of the Church’s faith is above all the supernatural revelation given by Jesus Christ. The question of what specifically distinguishes the Church from other Christian and non-Christian communities was the subject of a national academic conference titled: *Wyjątkowość Kościoła* (“The Uniqueness of the Church”). It took place on February 20, 2018, and was organized by our university’s Faculty of Theology’s Department of Ecclesiology as well as the Committee of Theological Disciplines at the Polish Academy of Sciences. Six papers were presented during the conference (although eight were planned). They were devoted to the following topics: the understanding of the Church by the Greek fathers; the Church as the bridegroom of the Lamb (*nigra sed formosa*) as presented by Benedict XVI; the Church as an icon of the Holy Trinity in Orthodox theology; the Church as a way of existence; the Catholic Church’s mystery salvation; and the originality of Hans Urs von Balthasar’s conception of the Church. Papers were presented by staff from our university as well as the University of Silesia in Katowice and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Materials from the conference were published in a book titled: *Wyjątkowość Kościoła katolickiego*, ed. A. A. Napiórkowski OSPPE, Krakow: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2018, pp. 251 (seria: Cracoviensis Cogitatio Ecclesialis 9).

The popularization of the spirituality of religious orders and emphasis of the spiritual legacy of its masters is continued by the conference from the *Duchowość Klasztorów Polskich: Przekaz i Komunikacja* (“The Spirituality of Polish Monasteries: Message and Communication”) series. The Sixteenth National Academic Conference in this series was titled: *Ks. Paweł Smolikowski CR: życie dla Boga, Kościoła i społeczeństwa* (“Rev. Paweł Smolikowski, CR: A Life for God, the Church, and Society”) and took place on February 21, 2018, in Krakow’s Centrum Resurrectionis. It was organized by our university as well as the Polish Province of the Resurrectionist Congregation. The organization of this conference was motivated by Pope Francis’ recognition of the heroic virtue of Rev. Paweł Smolikowski, CR, in a decree dated December 15, 2017. Servant of God Father Paweł Smolikowski, CR (1849–1926), was a priest of the Resurrectionist Congregation. He was a lecturer, historian and philosopher, spiritual director, and influential figure in the Church and in Poland in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The following topics were the subject of the conference: the history of Paweł Smolikowski’s cause for beatification and its present state; the idea of “the unification of the Slavs for the Church” and the position of the Bulgarians; the mission of Rev. Paweł Smolikowski, CR, to the Ruthenians; the impact of his own writing on the perfection of the person; the image of the Poles in *Rekolekcje, czyli ćwiczenia duchowe* (“Retreats, or Spiritual Exercises”) by Paweł Smolikowski, CR; the fruits of cooperation with God’s grace according to the writings of Rev. Paweł Smolikowski, CR; the ways of communicating spirituality in the work of Rev. Paweł Smolikowski, CR; and the legal possibility of changing one’s rite in his case. Eight papers were included in the conference’s program. They were presented by former and current academic staff from our university as well as representatives of the Resurrectionist Congregation.

Studying a local Church’s history undoubtedly serves its inner cohesion. An academic session devoted to the life and work of the auxiliary bishop of Tarnow Bishop Karol Pękała, known as the “almoner of the Diocese of Tarnow,” organized by the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow, an integral part of our university, served the popularization of such studies. The session was organized on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his death and took place on March 5, 2018, in the building of the Major Seminary of the Diocese of Tarnow. In a total of seven speeches, the following topics were presented: the bishop’s life and the functions he performed; the situation of the Church in Poland in the 1950s and 1960s; Bishop Pękała’s works of charity; his engagement on behalf of the Second Vatican Council; the archival resources of the Diocese of Tarnow concerning the figure of the bishop; and reminiscences about him. During the session, presentations were given by theologians and historians from our university (affiliated with the Diocese of Tarnow); Prof. Dr. Józefa Gądek-Węsierski,

a Professor of the Medical University of Vienna (Austria); and a representative of the Diocesan Archive in Tarnow.

Krakow is home to many religious orders. For more than a century and a half, the Felician Sisters, whose full name is Congregation of Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice Third Order Regular of St. Francis of Assisi (CSSF), have played an important role in our city's history. Their present activity and life were the subject of a national academic conference titled: *Praca i życie Sióstr Felicjanek* ("The Life and Work of the Felician Sisters"), which took place on March 8, 2018, in the St. Father Pio Center of Help in Krakow (11 Loretańska Street). This was a conference from the *W Społeczno-Medialnej Sieci* ("In the Social-Media Network") cycle titled: *Modlitwa – Zdrowie – Komunikacja* ("Prayer, Health, Communication"). Our university's Faculty of Social Sciences' Institute of Journalism and Social Communication organized it. Introductory remarks at the start of the conference were given by: Sister Alina Płoszczyca, the Provincial Head of the Felician Sisters; Mr. Józef Gawron, the Deputy Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region; and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal, Vice-Rector of our university. The following topics were presented in the conference's eight papers: prayer as the path to holiness; petitionary prayer in light of the mystery of Divine Providence; religious maturity and the criteria for it; concern for health in the writings of Blessed Maria Angela Truszkowska; the treatment of kidney stones; taking care of one's health and its impact on disease occurrence; the implementation of the Felician mission in the age of the internet; and the presentation of religious life in the media. In addition to staff from our university and the University of Szczecin, papers were presented by representatives of the following institutions: the Congregation for the Causes of Saints (Vatican; Rev. Dr. Krzysztof M. Białowąg); the Polish Urological Association; and Polish Television (TVP3). There are plans to print materials from this conference, which will undoubtedly contribute to increased knowledge of the Church's teaching.

Pope Francis' statement on psychotherapy, which once helped him, was the inspiration for an academic conference titled: *Psychoterapia osób duchownych i zakonnych* ("The Psychotherapy of Priests and Members of Religious Orders"). It was organized by the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow as well as our university. The conference took place on March 9, 2018, in our university's building. The structure of the conference was more extensive than usual, because the program included discussions in addition to lectures. During them, representatives of the Church as well as laypeople (therapists) spoke. An Oxford debate took place on the following question: "Does psychotherapy destroy one's vocation?" During the conference, the following topics were discussed in twelve papers: the main problems related to the psychotherapy of the clergy and members of religious orders; changes in the Church's attitude towards the psychotherapy of the clergy; changes in psychotherapy; the psychotherapy of

consecrated persons; difficulties in the psychotherapy of nuns; depression among the clergy; the dark night of soul (mysticism and psychotherapy); the shaping of a priest's identity; the psychosexual development of priests (from the perspective of therapeutic practice); sexual abuse (diagnosis and treatment); the psychological and psychotherapeutic criteria for the maturity of the act of faith; and the case of Joseph and his family. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the University Hospital in Krakow, the Jagiellonian University Medical College, the Inigo Foundation for Psychological and Spiritual Assistance in Warsaw, the Carmelite Institute of Spirituality, the Dr. Babiński Hospital in Krakow, and the "On the Trail" Foundation for the Development of Family Therapy in Krakow. The conference was an attempt at responding to the anxieties of the clergy and members of religious orders with regards to psychotherapy.

The rapid development of the media poses a challenge to media studies, which need strong fundamentals. The search for such fundamentals was the subject of an academic conference titled: *W poszukiwaniu fundamentów nauk o mediach* ("The Search for the Fundamentals of Media Studies"). It was organized by our university's Faculty of Social Sciences' Institute of Journalism and Social Communication; the University of Warsaw's Faculty of Journalism, Information, and Book Studies; the Media Studies Committee of the Polish Academy of Learning; and the Journalism Studies Association. It took place on March 20, 2018, in the headquarters of the Polish Academy of Learning in Krakow. The conference was divided into the following five parts: general topics; fundamental matters and the related methodology; and the problems of media studies and the methodology itself (two parts).

With regards to general topics, the following were discussed: the map of media studies (a geneological proposal); the traditions and main currents in research on the publicity of the media; and the qualifications for bestowing academic titles in the field of media studies (academic criteria). There were no papers in the section devoted to fundamental matters and methodology, but there was a panel discussion with the participation of professors from five different Polish universities. The following were the topics of papers presented during the part of the conference dealing with media studies: a short overview of media fears (ostensible knowledge, gossip, and an excess of information); algorithmic fields of post-media, post-humanism, and post-convergence; comments on the formal and material subject of media studies; the scarcity of media studies; the interdisciplinary dimension of media studies; the utopia of interdisciplinary studies and the dispersion of theories (as a research problem); and the question of the methodological perspective of media studies (interdisciplinarity, transdisciplinarity, multidisciplinarity, and metadisciplinarity). Finally, in the block devoted to methodology (the last two parts), the following problems were dealt with: the subject and

methodology of press studies; prolegomena to radio studies; the linguistic fundamentals of media studies (an outline of the problem); language in the media as a subject of media studies research; questions about the place of philosophy in the media; the axiology of the media as an integral part of research; the topic of the uniqueness of media studies and their methodology (a theological perspective); the question of the narrowness of the horizon of thinking; the place of theology in media studies; research on education in the journalistic profession (its place in media studies); the place of media studies in light of the development of biometric methodology (from the perspective of the recipient); the projection and study of communicating imagery in the case of advertising (a methodological proposal); religious advertisements (research on them and their place in media studies); journalistic pragmatism in media studies (in the case of radio studies); and the meaning of theoretical knowledge on the media for radio practice.

In total, more than twenty papers were presented. Their authors were academic staff from the institutions organizing the conference as well as employees from the following institutions: the University of Silesia in Katowice, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Warsaw, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Rzeszow University, the Jagiellonian University, the University of Lower Silesia, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, the University of Gdansk, the Pułtusk Academy of Humanities, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and Radio Akadera. There are plans to publish the papers in order to immortalize and make known the fruits of this conference.

Common sense requires concern for the younger generation, because the future of society lies in its hands. For this reason, an initiative to organize an academic seminar devoted to the attitude of young people to values arose. The Senate Committee on Science, Education, and Sport as well as the Senate Team for the Education of the Young Generation in cooperation with our university organized an international academic seminar titled: *Młodzież i wartości: perspektywy społeczno-pedagogiczne* ("Youths and Values: Social-Pedagogical Perspectives"). It took place on April 11, 2018, in the Senate of the Republic of Poland in Warsaw. The initiators of this event were Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Wiatr (President of the Senate Committee on Science, Education, and Sport as well as the Senate Team for the Education of the Young Generation) as well as Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala (Vice-Rector of our university). Four papers were presented during the seminar. The following topics were discussed during them: Polish youths' attitude towards values; assisting young people in the formation of a mature personality; Italian youths after World Youth Day in Krakow (bringing them up "today and tomorrow"); and changes in the preferences of values of Czech youths. The representatives of four institutions took part in the seminar: our university, the State Higher Vocational

School in Tarnow, the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome (Italy), and the Czech Episcopal Conference (Prague, Czech Republic). Thanks to this seminar, our university was hosted by the Polish Parliament, thus paying witness to the fundamental values in bringing up young people.

Concern for the sick is equally important as concern for young people. One of the ways in which it has been appreciated by the Church was the beatification of Hanna Chrzanowska (a nurse and the initiator of domestic hospice care), which took place on April 28, 2018. In anticipation of this event, an international academic conference titled: *Siostra naszego Boga – w przeddzień beatyfikacji Hanny Chrzanowskiej* (“Our God’s Sister: On the Eve of the Beatification of Hanna Chrzanowska”) was organized. The title of the conference was a reference to St. Brother Albert (Adam Chmielowski), whom Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, the future Pope St. John Paul II, called “Our God’s Brother” and to whom Chrzanowska was frequently compared. The conference took place on April 12, 2018, at our university. It was organized by the Institute for Family Studies and Institute of Social Work at our Faculty of Social Sciences as well as the Lesser Poland Branch of the National Disabled Persons’ Rehabilitation Fund. The conference consisted of two parts; the first was composed primarily of lectures, while the second was a discussion panel. The subjects of the first part were the following topics: closeness to those in need; the implementation of the idea of home nursing today; long-term care in environmental conditions; the integral vision of the sick person in Hanna Chrzanowska’s service and apostolate; and support of the National Disabled Persons’ Rehabilitation Fund for care outside of healthcare facilities. Papers were presented by academic staff from the following institutions: the Pontifical University of St. Bonaventure in Rome (Italy), the Poznan University of Medical Sciences, the Ministry to Nurses of the Archdiocese of Krakow, and the Lesser Poland Branch of the National Disabled Persons’ Rehabilitation Fund. The conference shed light and increased knowledge on Hanna Chrzanowska’s life and activity, which aided in the preparations for her beatification.

Concern for the unity of the Church is not limited to the previously mentioned week of prayer in this intention. It is also expressed in research on ecumenical theology. The results of such research were presented during an academic conference titled: *Ekumenizm doktrynalny. Schyłek czy nowy początek?* (“Doctrinal Ecumenism: The End or the Beginning?”), which took place at our university on April 17, 21, 2018. It was organized by our university’s Institute of Fundamental Theology at the Faculty of Theology. The conference was opened by Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski of Krakow. The conference consisted of two sessions: in the first, the approach to ecumenical dialogue from the Catholic, Orthodox, and Lutheran perspectives as well as the current state of Lutheran-Roman Catholic theological dialogue were presented.

In the second session, papers were devoted to the following topics: the Church's dialogue with Pentecostals; the contribution of the "Faith and System Commission" to multilateral dialogue on the Church; the methods of doctrinal dialogue and the need to change them; and the problem of the reception of the achievements of dialogue in the everyday life of the Churches and church communities. Papers were presented by staff from our university as well as the representatives of such institutions as: Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw, the University of Opole, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Szczecin, the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, and the Katowice Diocese of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland. The papers presented during the conference have been published in book form under the title: *Ekumenizm doktrynalny. Schyłek czy nowy początek?* ("Is Doctrinal Ecumenism Approaching Its End or a New Beginning?"), red. T. Kałużny SCJ, Z. J. Kijas OFMConv, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2018, 240 pp.

The development of modern technology, biotechnology, and nanotechnology gives rise to hope that man can be perfected at the genetic, cognitive, and moral levels. However, this gives birth to serious threats at all of these levels, in part because it presupposes the creation of an elite group of people equipped with exceptional properties that are inaccessible to the rest. Answers to the resulting questions were sought during the national academic conference titled: *Ulepszanie człowieka – perspektywa filozoficzna* ("Perfecting Man: A Philosophical Perspective"). The conference took place on April 25, 2018, at our university. It was organized by our Faculty of Philosophy as well as the Faculty of Philosophy of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. The conference was divided into three sections, each of which consisted of three papers. Papers presented during the first session were devoted to such topics as: aiming to make man immortal and the threat of the death of civilization; eudaimonism and the practice of transhumanism; and arguments against the radical improvement of man. During the second part, papers dealt with certain axiological matters: the axiologically neutral concept of "human enhancement;" the difference between "enhancement" and transhumanism; and the nature of the human person and the illusion of perfecting man. In the third session, the authors of papers emphasized new technologies: classical medicine in the context of the phenomenon of the perfection of man; the philosophical aspects of the use of new technology; and the meaning of the imperfection of human nature. Finally, during the fourth part primarily dealt with ideological topics: evanthropy (the project of perfecting man) and immortality; the image of the world in transhumanism; and "post-humanism" as a new ethical project. Papers were presented by academic staff from both institutions organizing the conference as well as: the Aleksander Zelwerowicz National Academy of Dramatic Art in Warsaw,

the Tadeusz Kościuszko Land Forces Military Academy in Wrocław, the Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw, Tischner European University in Kraków, and the Jagiellonian University. The culmination of the conference was a discussion panel with the participation of several speakers. A publication containing the presented papers was published; it is titled: *Ulepszanie człowieka. Perspektywa filozoficzna* ("Perfecting Man: A Philosophical Perspective"), red. G. Hołub, P. Duchliński, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Akademii «Ignatianum» w Krakowie 2018, pp. 309.

The dynamic growth of Polish-Croatian cooperation is expressed in the second academic conference in the past academic year (or, rather, the second part) devoted to John Paul II and his impact on the Croatian people. The first conference, took place in Kraków on October 9, 2017, is described above. The second took place on May 4, 2018, in the great auditorium of the Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Split (Croatia) and was titled: *Papież Jan Paweł II w życiu chorwackiego narodu* ("Pope John Paul II in the Life of the Croatian People"). Its aim was the commemoration and closer relations of the Polish and Croatian nations beloved by Pope John Paul II. Just like the first part of the conference, the second part was organized in cooperation with the University of Split, the Catholic University of Croatia in Zagreb, and our university.

The Polish-Croatian conference in Split was devoted to the following topics: Croatia as a source of inspiration for John Paul II; the pope's concern for peace in Croatia; the Vatican and the war in Croatia; the pope's visit in 1994 (political aspects); memories of meetings with John Paul II; St. John Paul II on the role of the Croats in Europe; the impact of the pope on the events in Croatia in 1991–1995 from the Polish perspective; memories of encounters with John Paul II (especially his visit in Split); the anthropological accents of John Paul II's visit in Split and Solin (1998); Croatian identity in the speeches and documents of Pope St. John Paul II (1998); the significance of the pope's words: "May God bless the Croatian land!" "I've always wanted to visit Dubrovnik" (John Paul II – June 6, 2003).

The above topics were presented by academic staff from the universities organizing this conference as well as the Institute of History and Political Science of the Pomeranian University in Słupsk (Poland) as well as Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, the former Archbishop of Kraków; Archbishop Želimir Puljić, the Archbishop of Zadar; members of parliament; and ambassadors. From the initiative of Mr. Paweł Włodarczyk, Honorary Consul of Croatia, there are preparations for a book containing materials from both parts of the conference for both today's generation and future generations in both Poland and Croatia.

The activity of Sebastian Petrycy of Pilzno (1554–1626) is of great significance to the history of philosophy in Poland. In order to make his accomplishments better known,

the Department of Philosophy of Man of our Faculty of Philosophy organized a national academic conference titled: *Sebastian Petrycy z Pilzna – 400 lat od polskiego wydania «Etyki nikomachejskiej»* (“Sebastian Petrycy of Pilzno: 400 Years since the Polish Publication of the Nicomachean Ethics”) The conference took place on May 9, 2018, at our university. Its program consisted of seven papers. The dealt with the following topics: the Aristotelian concept of philosophy; Krakow’s philosophical culture in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries; Sebastian Petrycy of Pilzno as a Polish Aristotelian philosopher and scholar; virtue and rhetoric in his works; his philosophy of education and pedagogical terminology; and his ethics and epistemology of virtue. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as: the Polish Academy of Sciences, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the University of Warsaw, and the University of Lodz. Thanks to this conference, memory of this forgotten Polish scholar and philosopher who lived four centuries ago has been restored.

One social problem that has yet to be resolved is that of exclusion. Concern for such persons is the realization of the commandment to love one’s neighbor. In order to search for effective ways of preventing this phenomenon, last year an academic conference devoted to this topic was organized as part of our university’s cooperation with the Catholic Faculty of Theology of the Ruhr University Bochum (Germany), which has been mentioned above. As part of this cooperation, an international conference titled: *Kościół wobec osób wykluczonych/Die Kirche gegenüber den Ausgeschlossenen* (“The Church and Excluded People”) took place on May 17, 2018. It is discussed above in the section dealing with our university’s international cooperation.

The struggle for peace and building it in international relations, especially in relations with Russia, is a major challenge for contemporary academics in the humanities. Our university also has made its contribution to these efforts. Along with the Moscow State Linguistic University, our Institute of the Theology of Spirituality has organized an academic conference titled: *Pokój – szukajmy dróg. Humanistyka «duchowa» wobec wyzwań współczesności* (Мир – ищите пути. ‘Духовная’ гуманистика ввиду вызовов современности; “Let’s Search for the Way to Peace: The ‘Spiritual’ Humanities and the Challenges of Today”). The conference took place on May 23–24, 2018, in the Auditorium of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow in Krakow. The conference was part of the *Stremir – Dążenie do pokoju. Poszukiwanie dróg* (Стремление к миру. Поиск путей; “Stremir: Aiming for Peace – The Search for Paths to Peace”) project, which brings together scholars from Krakow, Moscow, and Omsk. They want to use academic methods to search for way for building peaceful relations in the areas in which there are political, historical, and other difficulties. The confederation’s program consisted of eleven papers. Their topics included: the diversity

of contemporary culture; the assumptions of Christian personalism; the dynamism of good and the role of contemplation; the cognitive aspect of liking; strategies in the struggle for intellectual domination in the world; slaves and lords as the servants of one Lord; peace in the teaching of John Paul II; the act of forgiveness as a life phenomenon; the need for reconciliation; the religious-mystical experience in philosophical reflection; and the role of tradition in the perception of the world. The authors of the papers were academic staff and PhD students from both universities. Two panels took place during the second day of the conference. The first was titled: *Pokój – szukajmy dróg: inspiracje wnioski, praktyka* (“Let’s Search for the Way to Peace: Inspirations, Conclusions, and Practice”). Meanwhile, the second working panel was titled: *Perspektywy współpracy międzynarodowej* (“The Perspectives of International Cooperation”).

Ethics play an exceptionally important role in the functioning of the media. Truth and honesty are fundamental values that are the criterion for the evaluation of the media and allow us to distinguish between true and false ones. In the previous academic year, these topics were discussed on May 24–25, 2018, in the Twelfth Academic Conference on the Ethics of the Media titled: *Prawdziwe media – uczciwość i prawda w mediach* (“Truthful Media: Honesty and the Truth in the Media”). It was organized by the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication as well as the Polish Communication Association and took place in our university’s Main Library.

The program featured fifty papers in three plenary sessions and eight thematic sessions. The plenary sessions were devoted to the following topics: “The Truth in the Media;” “The Truth and the New Challenges of the Media;” and “Honesty in the Truth: The Inviolable Fundament of the Media.” Papers during these sessions were presented by staff from: the National Broadcasting Council, the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Rzeszow University, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, and our university.

Meanwhile, the thematic sessions (two simultaneously took place) dealt with the following topics: “Concern for Truth in the Media;” “The Search for Fundaments of the Truth;” “Truth and Honesty in the Public Discourse;” “Honesty and Truth in the Media;” “The Truth in the New Media;” “The Truth in Marketing Communications and in Film;” “Communicating the Truth: Journalists’ Dilemmas;” and “The (Un)True Image of Reality.” One thematic session was in English. During these sessions, the speakers were the representatives of such universities as: the Higher School of Social and Media Culture in Torun, the University of Warsaw, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the University of Economics in Katowice, the University of Gdansk, the Committee on the Ethics of the Word of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Rzeszow University, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University

of Wrocław, the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Silvermedia S.A., the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Pułtusk Academy of Humanities, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, and our university.

On the first day of the conference, a panel discussion was held on the topic: “Truthful Media in Theory and Practice.” The participants in the discussion represented the following universities: Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and our university as well as the following institutions: Synaj TV, Radio Krakow, *Znak* (magazine), and Grupa RMF (radio).

There are plans for a publication containing the presented papers. Materials from this and previous conferences are published in the *Etyka Mediów* series. So far, thirteen volumes from this series have been published. You can find more information about these publications and this discussion on the website *Etyka Mediów*.¹¹

The hundredth anniversary of the restoration of Polish independence (1918) presented a unique occasion for academic research related to this great event and the participation of various institutions in it. The Catholic Church also had its contributions to this. In order to make its role in the struggle for the full sovereignty of the Polish nation better known, the Department of Archival Studies and Auxiliary Historical Sciences of our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage along with the Historical Section of the Polish Theological Society in Krakow organized a national academic conference titled: *Drogi ku niepodległości i troska o wolność w II Rzeczypospolitej w świetle archiwaliów kościelnych* (“The Paths to Independence and the Concern for Freedom in the Second Republic in Light of Church Archives”). The conference took place on May 24–25, 2018, at our university. The program of the conference consisted of eleven papers devoted to the following topics: the clergy of the Diocese of Krakow in the January Insurrection; the Legions in the struggle for independence; the First World War in the Archdiocese of Lviv of the Latins; war activity in 1918–1920; the Eastern Galician houses of the Felician Sisters in 1918–1920; the struggle for Polish independence in 1914–1920; the Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John of God in the Polish lands in 1918–1922; concern for the clergy and the lay faithful of the local Church in the first decade of Polish independence (the Diocese of Podlachia); the patriotic education of young people in Piarist schools; and the Dominican fathers in Poland after the regaining of independence. The authors of the papers represented our university as well as the following Church institutions: the Parish of the Holy Sepulcher in Miechów, the Archive of the Southern Polish Province of the Jesuits in Krakow, the Archive of the Polish Province of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow, the General Archive

¹¹ <http://beta.etykamediuw.pl/index.php> (December 21, 2018).

of the Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel in Marki-Struga, the Archive and Library of the Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John of God in Cieszyn, the Archive of the Diocese of Siedlce, the Archive of the Polish Province of the Piarists in Krakow, and the Archive of the Polish Province of the Dominican Fathers in Krakow. The conference presented the great contribution of both the clergy and various Church communities, mostly religious orders, to the rebirth of the Republic.

Not many are aware of the relationship between the icon and philosophy. The first who made note of this relationship was the Russian philosopher and lawyer Prince Eugene Trubetskoy (1863–1920), a supporter of Vladimir Solovyov's (1853–1900) metaphysics of All-Unity. Another international conference from the *Krakow Meetings: Krakow Conferences on Russian Philosophy IX* series was devoted to his life. It was titled: "Eugene Trubetskoy: Icon and Philosophy." The conference took place on June 3–6, 2018, in the Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec outside Krakow and was organized by our university's Department of the Philosophy of Religion, the Edith Stein Institute in Granada (Spain), as well as the Center for the Study of the Christian Orient in Granada (Spain). At the beginning of the conference, three introductory papers devoted to the following topics were presented: "The Theology of Icons: Stages of the Development of Theological Thought in the Understanding of the Icon in the Twentieth Century" ("Богословие иконы. Этапы развития богословской мысли в осмыслении иконы осмыслении иконы в XX веке" – Irina Yazykova, St. Andrews Biblical-Theological Institute, Moscow, Russia); "Eugene Trubetskoy: Russian Religious Philosopher, Russian Liberal Philosopher" (Randall Poole, College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minnesota, USA); and "A Meaningful Life Century: The Thinking of Eugene Trubetskoy, Soteriological Aesthetics, and Poland" ("Смыслжизненное столетие: мышление Евгения Трубецкого, сотериологическая эстетика, Польша" – Rev. George Belkind, Educational Fund of Brothers Sergey and Evgeny Troubetski's, Russia) The remaining papers were divided into nine double sessions (A and B) that occurred simultaneously with the exception of the last one, which took place on its own. Two or three papers were presented in each section. In total, nearly forty papers were presented in Russian and English.

The following topics were discussed in the papers in the sections: the symbolism of the icon; the Russian renaissance of the philosophy of religion; Russian icons of the pre-Mongolian times; the bases of Solovyov's moral philosophy; the philosophical meaning of "art history;" Trubetskoy's master of arts thesis on Augustine; the icon in film; Russian Augustinianism in the nineteenth century; criticism of V. Solovyov; the project of a community of unity; cultural differences in an aesthetic context; the meaning of life in the phenomenological context; the logic of the image; the meaning of life as the justification for philosophy; creative freedom in light of „negative ability;"

the concept of the Absolute („the subject of knowledge” and the „metaphysical assumptions of cognition”); eschatologism in the perception of the crisis of European culture; Trubetskoy’s Platonism; his presence in the Moscow Psychological Association; the icon as historical discourse in Dostoevsky’s work; the meaning of history and the meaning of life in Trubetskoy’s philosophy; the icon and the myth in later works; the iconography and philosophy in his work; the icon and the Eucharist (two images of Christ’s presence in the world according to Bulgakov); the „meaning of life” and the way to overcome the Russian catastrophe; discovering the unseen world (P. Florensky’s *Iconostas*); Trubetskoy’s and Florensky’s attitude towards Solovyov’s ideas; between being god-man and man-the-animal („The Mystery of Man”); time and iconography in Trubetskoy’s and Florensky’s philosophy; the concept of religious experience; the role of antinomy in theology; „Kitezh’s Charm” (Очарование Китежем); studying icons in the context of metaphysics; Christian meaning in „Russian fairy tale images;” the phenomenology of artistic work and the icon (M. Heidegger and E. Trubetskoy); Trubetskoy’s „philosophy of consciousness;” his search for peaceful political renewal; icons and political philosophy and the philosophy of history; and Trubetskoy’s idealist grounding of the religious meaning of life.

The authors of the papers came from twelve countries (including Poland) and represented the following academic centers (apart from the organizers) and other institutions: Catholic Church (Karaganda, Kazakhstan), the Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, Russia), the University of Zielona Gora (Poland), the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration Baden-Württemberg (Germany), the State Academic University for the Humanities in Moscow (Russia), St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University (Moscow, Russia), the Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow, Russia), the Northumbria University (United Kingdom), the Federal University of Pará (Brazil), the Russian Christian Academy for Humanities (St. Petersburg, Russia), Heythrop College – University of London (United Kingdom), Saint-Petersburg State Economy University (Russia), Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), IRES Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies – Uppsala University (Sweden), Saint Petersburg State University (Russia), Poltava National Technical Yuri Kondratyuk University (Ukraine), National Research University – Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia), Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), the University of Texas at Austin (USA), Russian State University for the Humanities (Russia), the Memorial House Museum of S. N. Durylin (Moscow, Russia), Saratov State University (Russia), St. Nicholas Monastery (Gomel, Belarus), Tzur-Hadassah (Israel), Maxim Gorky Literature Institute (Moscow, Russia), the University of Tokyo – the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Japan), the University of Oxford (United Kingdom), Moscow Teachers Training State University (Russia), Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University (Ukraine), Kursk State

Agricultural Academy (Russia), Oles Honchar Dnipro National University (Ukraine), American University (Washington, USA), and D'Youville College (Buffalo, USA).

The conference ended with a discussion, after which there was a "philosophical walk" to a unique Exhibition of Orthodox Art of the Old Polish Republic at the Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace on Kanonicza Street 17. There are plans to publish materials from the conference. Information about the published materials from the previous conference (as well as the conferences themselves) can be found on the website *Krakow Meetings*.¹²

Half a century after the events of 1968, known as the anthropological revolution, there arises the question of the causes, events, and consequences of this revolution. It is obvious that it did not only bring social and cultural changes but it also decisively modified the way in which man was perceived in general. The national academic conference titled: *Rok 1968 – 50 lat od rewolucji antropologicznej* ("The Year 1968: Fifty Years after the Anthropological Revolution") was devoted to these topics. The conference took place on June 4–5, 2018, at our university. It was organized by the Chair in the Philosophy of Man at our university's Faculty of Philosophy. Topics discussed during the conference were related to four main phenomena: the essence of the anthropological revolution of 1968; the reactions of Christian thinkers to this revolution; contemporary Christian thought and the legacy of 1968; and the ideas of the revolution of 1968 present in contemporary philosophical anthropology. The conference program consisted of thirteen papers as well as a concluding discussion panel on the topic: "Fifty Years since the Anthropological Revolution." Individual papers were devoted to the following topics: the dialectics of freedom and slavery; Sartre's impact on the anthropological revolution; the revolution's historical and social conditions in Germany; H. Marcuse's project of the new anthropology; the attitudes of Rev. Joseph Ratzinger and Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger to the 1968 events; the essence of these events; the "Revolution of 1968" as a challenge for moral theology; an outline of the theological problems of the time; the Frankfurt School as one of the sources of gender theory; the post-Marxist concept of man; and Chantal Delsol on the consequences of the revolution of 1968. Papers were presented by many professors from our university as well as: the University of Lodz, the University of Silesia, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. The conference showed the state of the discussion on anthropological topics from the perspective of the Christian thought of our times.

The movement of migrants, which has recently intensified, leads to philosophical-anthropological reflection. Answers to questions that arise in this context were sought

¹² Information in English is available at: <http://krakowmeetings.eu/> (December 18, 2018).

in the philosophy of E. Levinas and F. Rosenzweig during an academic symposium titled: *Wdowa? Sierota? Obcokrajowiec? Aktualność myśli E. Levinasa i F. Rosenzweiga* (“A Widow? An Orphan? A Foreigner? The Relevance of the Thought of E. Levinas and F. Rosenzweig”). It took place on June 8, 2018, in Krakow’s Jesuit University Ignatianum. It was organized by the Institute of Philosophy of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow as well as our university’s Department of the Philosophy of Religion at the Faculty of Philosophy. The occasion for this event was the twentieth anniversary of the publication of the Polish translation of Emmanuel Lévinas’ *Totality and Infinity* and Franz Rosenzweig’s *The Star of Redemption*. The program of the symposium consisted of twelve papers (in three sessions) concerning the following topics: Rosenzweig’s philosophy of love; the debate on the ring of Gyges; Christian-Jewish relations according to Rosenzweig; on distancing nearness; opposition to the idea of totality; the question of the philosophy of encounter; the fragility of objectivity; the ethics of inhabiting (in Lévinas and Murdoch); the pedagogy of multiculturalism; the philosophy of dialogue and the philosophy of hope; and listening as a condition of dialogue. The authors of the papers represented the following institutions (in addition to the organizers of the symposium): the University of Białystok, AGH University of Science and Technology, the University of Warsaw, the Józef Tischner Institute in Krakow, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Thanks to this symposium, the value of dialogue was emphasized.

An international Biblical-pedagogical conference titled: *Wolność człowieka i narodu w perspektywie Pisma Świętego* (“Human Freedom and National Freedom from the Perspective of Sacred Scripture”) was one more initiative aimed at deepening the understanding of freedom, which is of great significance on the one-hundredth anniversary of Poland’s regaining of independence. The conference took place on June 14, 2018, at our university. Its organizers were: the Institute of Biblical Studies at our Faculty of Theology, the Polish Theological Society in Krakow, and the John Paul II Biblical Work of the Archdiocese of Krakow. The conference was a continuation of the *Biblia w kulturze świata* (“The Bible in World Culture”) cycle of conferences, although this was not clearly emphasized at the beginning in its program. It was divided into three blocks during which six short communiqués were presented to inspire further discussion. These topics were discussed in the first block: redemption as liberation; freedom and God’s call; Judith and her contribution to liberation; sandals as a Biblical symbol of freedom; Exodus as a paradigm of national liberation; and the essence of freedom as conceived by St. Paul. During the second block the following topics were presented: extreme views on freedom in the times of St. Paul and Pope John Paul II; freedom as the Torah of authentic existence; freedom as conceived by G. Marcel; the Christian roots of freedom; the hermeneutics of the symbolism of freedom in celebration of Passover; and

the freedom of slaves in light of the Old Testament. Finally, these topics were discussed in the third block: the pedagogy of freedom according to the Epistle of James; “untying the thongs of the yoke” as a condition for one’s own salvation; freedom of expression in preaching the Gospel in the case of Ephesians 6: 10–20; the song of a nation without a fatherland (Psalm 137); Biblical pericopes on freedom in catechesis; and the freedom of God’s sons (Romans 8: 12–17 and Galatians 4: 1–7). Papers were presented by academic staff from the institutions that organized the conference as well as academics from the following universities: the University of Trnava (Slovakia), the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra (Slovakia), the Theological Institute in Lviv (Ukraine), the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic), the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. The publication of materials from the conference is expected.

At the end of this part of the *Chronicle*, it is worth noting that this year’s edition of the *Wokół Myśli Michała Hellera* (“Around the Thought of Michał Heller”), which was usually organized in the fall did not take place in the previous academic year because of objective obstacles that precluded the participation of Rev. Prof. Heller himself.

The Academic Activity of Undergraduates, Doctoral Students, and Seniors

By organizing conferences and academic symposiums, students popularize their own research. As an example, here we can mention the following student initiatives.

Exhibits are a special occasion for of the popularization of the results of historical research. The looming hundredth anniversary of Poland’s regaining of independence was an opportunity to recall the events leading to this fact. The *Phronesis* Study Circle, whose members are our university’s history students, along with Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard Terlecki, Deputy Speaker of the Sejm, as well as the Krakow branch of the Institute of National Remembrance organized an exhibit titled: *Dla Ciebie, Polsko. W stulecie czynu legionowego* (“For You, Poland: On the Hundredth Anniversary of the Legions’ Effort”) in the building of the Sejm, the lower chamber of the Parliament of the Republic of Poland. The opening ceremony took place on November 8, 2017. Its authors were Ms. Joanna Dutka-Kącka and Dr. Maciej Zakrzewski (a lecturer at our university), the supervisor of the *Phronesis* Study Circle. The exhibit presented the complicated fate of the Polish Legions during World War I from their march from Oleandry in Krakow in August 1914 up through Poland’s regaining of independence in 1918. Thirty-seven boards (100 × 70 cm) presented the most important battles the Legions participated in as well as their soldiers and commanders. The organizers of the event from the *Phronesis* Study Circle were Ms. Agnieszka Paderewska and Mr. Paweł Gofron. The opening of the exhibit was attended by the members of the aforementioned study circle as well as

the High School of the Presentation Sisters in Krakow; they were invited by the Deputy Speaker of the Sejm Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard Terlecki. The event was accompanied by a thematic discussion attended by Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard Terlecki; Dr. Jarosław Szarek, Chairman of the Institute of National Remembrance; Prof. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Gąsowski; and Dr. Zbigniew Girzyński. Mr. Roman Gieroń, a PhD candidate at our university, presided over the discussion.

Undergraduate and doctoral students from our Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage belonging to the Study Circle of Undergraduate and Doctoral Students want to spread the conviction that history teaches life (Lat. *Historia magistra vitae*); thus they organized the fourth edition of the academic conference *Jak osiągnąć sukces? Kariery w Europie na przestrzeni stuleci* (“How to Achieve Success? Careers in Europe across the Centuries”). The conference took place on May 17–18, 2018. Its participants pondered the paths to success of many persons who from antiquity up through today’s age left a mark in European history. Twenty-three papers were presented during the conference, twenty of which were devoted to specific persons (for example, St. Augustine, the bishop of Hippo, 354–430), including women (such as Sophia Alekseyevna of Russia, the uncrowned tsarina of Russia, 1657–1704). Meanwhile, the remaining papers were devoted to general topics, such as: the successes of fashion designers; the careers and successes of the protagonists of the television series *Ranczo* (TVP1, 2006–2016); and a critique of the post-modern ideology of success. The authors of the papers represented the following universities: our university, the Jagiellonian University, the University of Opole, Pomeranian University, and Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz. The diversity of the presented roads to success lead to the conclusion that it was conceived of and achieved in diverse ways in different eras. The entirety of the conference can thus be summed up in one short sentence: There is no single recipe for success.

The hundredth anniversary of Poland’s regaining of independence inspired the organization of an academic conference on the topic: *Niepodległość. Idee, fakty, perspektywy* (“Independence: Ideas, Facts, and Perspectives”). The conference took place on May 21–22, 2018. It was organized by the Oral History Section of the Student-Doctoral Study Circle *Phronesis* at our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage. On the first day of the conference, a total of eleven papers were presented; they dealt mostly with the political context of the topic of independence. They focused on the presentation of the political science, political, and legal aspects related to the regaining of independence, specifically such topics as: Cieszyn Silesia under Polish rule; the capital market of the Second Republic of Poland; the conflict over the shape of the state; preventative war (German policy in the 1930s); the Blue Army; the Polish question at the Versailles conference; the Parisian idea regarding Polish independence (the duo of Dmowski and Zamojski); Roman Dmowski’s nation-building thought; the

beginnings of Polish politics based on realism and consequential efforts; the impact of the nobility on Polish history; and the nineteenth century debate over the synthesis of Polish history (pessimism versus optimism). On the second day of the conference, twelve papers were presented. They dealt with regional efforts to regain independence: Wieliczka mementos from the First World War; Bohdan Hulewicz's struggle for the independence of Greater Poland; Marshall Piłsudski's Mound as a manifestation of Polish patriotism; the struggle for Polishness in Eastern Lesser Poland; local historical sources on war and independence (the example of villages outside Krakow); the independence movement in the Trzebinia area in 1910–1918; social organizations in Nowy Sacz during the Great War; the Great War in the parish of Jednorożec (Mazovia region); the topic of independence in „Gazeta Polska” in Brazil in 1914–1917; the Polish-Ukrainian conflict in the Lubaczow region (1914–1918); the role of military mementos from the Czartoryski collection in preserving national consciousness during the Partitions of Poland; the activity of independence organizations at the Jagiellonian University in 1900–1914; and “The Great War in a Small Land.” Each day, the debate was opened by an introductory lecture. At the end of the conference, an expert discussion panel devoted to independence and its conception by historians took place. It was attended by three doctors from our university, the Jagiellonian University, and the Pedagogical University of Krakow. The doctors who presented papers were from our university as well as the following: the Jagiellonian University, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Pedagogical University of Krakow, the University of Wrocław, Rzeszow University, as well as the Adam Chętnik Scientific Association in Ostrołęka. An addition perk of the conference was a contest held for the best paper. In it, a special commission evaluated the content of the paper and the use of sources in it (the accounts of the witness of the events). Each day, three of the best papers were presented. On the first day, the paper on the debate on the synthesis of Polish history by Mr. Mateusz Kofin from our university was selected as the best paper, while on the second day it was the paper on the Great War in the parish of Jednorożec (Ms. Maria W. Kmoch from the Adam Chętnik Scientific Association in Ostrołęka).

Another interesting student initiative is the cycle of meetings titled: *Ich Areopag wiary* (“Their Areopagus of Faith”), which has been held since 2013. These are meetings with well-known persons who have the courage to publicly talk about their faith. It is organized by seminarians from the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow, who at the same time are students of our Faculty of Theology. Each year, several meetings are organized. One example is the meeting with Mr. Mateusz Banaszekiewicz, known for his performances with the Young Men's Cabaret, which took place on October 25, 2017, in the seminary auditorium. His witness included recalling his time in a seminary of

the Salvatorians and desire to be a missionary. After two years, however, he discerned that God had another plan for him. As a cabaret artist, he above all teaches people distance towards themselves and the respect of the truth.

University studies serve not only to gain knowledge, but also to integrate the academic milieu of young academics. For this reason, Polish theologians organized the Sixth National Conference of Undergraduate and Doctoral Students titled: *Newmanalia – odkrywając ortodoksję* (“Newmanalia: Discovering Orthodoxy”). This year, its motto was: “No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him” (Matthew 11: 27). It was organized by our university’s Study Circle of Theologians and took place at our university on June 5, 2018, with the support of our university as well as the Foundation of St. Jagdwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. The leading idea of this conference was Christology; specifically, systematic and practical Christology. That is why the conference was divided into two parts with the respective titles: *Chrystologia systematyczna* (“Systematic Christology”) and *Chrystologia praktyczna* (“Practical Christology”). The program of the conference consisted of fourteen papers, seven in each section. The part dealing with systematic Christology dealt with the revelation of God the Father through the Word Incarnate and its performativeness, while the Christological view of St. Gregory the Great, J. H. Newman, J. Ratzinger, and J. Milbank were recalled. During the session devoted to practical Christology, the elements of Christological anthropology, the dialogue between theology and science, Messianic figures in fantasy literature (such as Frodo Baggins), the imitation of Christ, and the Christological aspects of marriage were all discussed. The authors of the papers represented the following universities: our university, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław, and Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw. There are plans for a publication containing the presented papers. During the conference, a publication with materials from a previous conference was presented (*Ad extra – ad intra. Oblicza apologii*, red. A. Malek, Ł. Rzepka, Kraków: Koło Naukowe Teologów Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II, 2017, pp. 129).

The history of relations between nations often contains unpleasant experiences that are difficult to present objectively and, at the same time, difficult for those whom they concern to accept. Acquiring the ability to discuss such topics from the past was discussed during a discussion panel titled: *Jak pisać o trudnej historii? Relacje polsko-żydowskie w czasie okupacji niemieckiej* (“How to Write about Difficult History? Polish-Jewish Relations during the German Occupation of Poland”). The panel took place on May 11, 2018, and was organized by our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage as well as the *Phronesis* Study Circle of Undergraduate and Doctoral Students.

A special institution known as the University of the Third Age, devoted to persons over the age of fifty, serves the popularization of knowledge among elderly persons. Active at our university since the 2011–2012 academic year, the University of the Third Age has been dynamically expanding its activity. Studies last for two years (four semesters) and end with the presentation of a diploma. After two years, however, those who are interested in further study can continue them in a concentration they choose. Classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays and include lectures on theology, philosophy, history, and the social sciences; they are led by our lecturers as well as by invited guests. Apart from this, other activities are held for our students, including: guided tours of Krakow and its environs, trips, pilgrimages, computer courses (taught by our library staff), and language courses (taught by teachers from our Department of Foreign Languages). Students also participate in liturgical and artistic workshops, in a chess club, and in the University of the Third Age as well as in cultural events and those held on special occasions (such as the inauguration and commencement of the academic year, the breaking of the Christmas wafer, St. Nicholas Day, and the Stations of the Cross), which are very popular in part because students can attend them along with their grandchildren. Group excursions to the theater and to concerts as well as activities at our gym are also held for them. In the past academic year, 563 people in three groups took part in this program, and a total of 507 persons graduated from the program. Of last year's cultural events, it is worth emphasizing (as an example): the inauguration of the academic year at the University of the Third Age, the breaking of the Christmas wafer and Stations of the Cross for the students of the University of the Third Age, and the eight-day pilgrimage to Rome encompassing Tre Fontane (the place where the Fatima revelations continued), Assisi, Cascia, the Vatican, Monte Cassino, San Giovanni Rotondo, Manoppello, Lanciano, Loreto, Padua, and Venice. The pilgrimage took place on June 3–10, 2018. The commencement of the academic year at the University of the Third Age should also be recalled here.

Not only elderly persons, but they youngest ones also have their own university. Since 2015, our university features the Pontifical University of Children and Parents. The “students” of this university receive indexes and identity cards that allow them access to the university's infrastructure. The Pontifical University of Children and Parents is open to children, adolescents, and adults, and according to its rulebook its aim is to support the development of the interests of its participants in the field of science and culture offered by our university. The meetings take place on Saturdays between 10 AM and 2 PM once a month. Depending on the kind of activity, they are held for parents and children together or for parents and children separately. Classes attended by both parents and children encompass consultations with a physical therapist, for example on the topics of improper posture or the selection of the best forms of physical

activity and even mini-courses in first aid for children and adults. The classes take place in a room called: *Doświadczenie świata* (“Experiencing the World”). There are also plans for common classes in horseback riding, sailing, skiing, and a family city game in Krakow in the footsteps of St. John Paul II. Meanwhile, on Sundays there are additional classes popularizing culture, art, and recreation.¹³

Distinctions

The activity of the Pontifical University of John Paul II described above is respected in academic circles. In addition to the ordinary gratitude of people who make use of our university everyday, a particular cause for joy and satisfaction is the distinctions given to both our entire university and its staff by various institutions.

We can also be proud of recognition by our local environment, which in our case is the city of Krakow. Thus Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Andrzej Kłoczowski, OP, from the Faculty of Philosophy received the highest decoration given by the City of Krakow for special achievements, the *Cracoviae Merenti* medal. During the ceremony of the presentation of the medal, Rev. Kłoczowski said that: “The Faculty of Philosophy is my faculty,” emphasizing that “philosophy is strictly tied to my understanding and experiencing of the faith, close to education in the Dominican tradition, where thinking does not oppose but in fact deepens and broadens the horizons of faith, opening the person to the work of reason and teaching him or her mature freedom.” Without a doubt, this is convincing encouragement to study philosophy, which provides a consistent image of the world, man, and God.

A valuable distinction for our university is the Honorary Gold Award of the Lesser Poland Region – the Cross of Lesser Poland, which was presented to Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, on February 25, 2018. This distinction was presented to him by the Marshall of the Lesser Poland Region at the request of the Academy of Music in Krakow. Thanks to his engagement, our university’s cooperation with the Academy of Music, which led to the establishment of the Inter-University Institute of Church Music, which educates Church musicians, especially organ players, was formed. Rev. Prof. Tyrała was its first director and served in this function for many years. The ceremony of granting him this distinction took place during the celebrations related to the 130th anniversary of the Academy of Music (February 24–25), 2018, at the Krakow Philharmonic. It is worth noting that the institute is preparing to celebrate the jubilee tenth anniversary of its existence, which will be celebrated in November 2018.

¹³ You can find more information about the activity of this “university” on: www.msp.upjp2.edu.pl (December 12, 2018).

Recognition of our staff is also expressed in granting them important functions in the Church or in society. Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Witko became the director of the Archdiocesan Museum of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła in Krakow by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski of Krakow (February 27, 2018). Rev. Prof. Witko is a historian of religious art and is recognized as one of the leading Polish scholars of Spanish art. At our university, he is director of the Department of Modern Art History at the Institute of History of Art and Culture at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage.

Rev. Dr. Hab. Piotr Kroczek, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, became the Church Inspector of Data Protection on May 2, 2018. He was nominated to this position by the Permanent Council of the Episcopal Conference of Poland in relation to the new regulations of the European Union, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), coming into force. Rev. Prof. Kroczek is a priest of the diocese of Bielsko-Zywiec, a theologian, and canon lawyer; he is a habilitated doctor of legal studies in canon law and is a doctor of theology in ecumenical theology. Bishop Artur Miziński, Secretary General of the Polish Episcopal Council, has explained that his task is to “make sure that all personal data used by the Church are used appropriately, respecting all regulations that form the aforementioned GDPR.”

Rev. Dr. Andrzej Kielian, who became Director of the Catechetical Department of the Archdiocese of Krakow last year (June 14, 2017), became head of the Catechetical Council of the Archdiocese of Krakow (June 5, 2018). Starting on September 1, 2018, he will chair the council consisting of twenty-one persons engaged in catechesis (priests, nuns, and laypeople) for five years. At the university, he is an Associate Professor in the Institute of Practical Theology of the Faculty of Theology and is responsible for the pedagogical preparation of students of theology (as director).

For ten years, the editors of the website *Granice.pl* have organized a plebiscite for the best book of the spring. In the 2018 edition, dozens of books were nominated in thirteen categories. More than 45,000 votes were submitted. In this plebiscite, readers selected Rev. Grzegorz Godawa's publication *Rodzina wobec nieuleczalnej choroby dziecka. Aspekty tanatopedagogiczne* (“The Family and a Child's Terminal Illness: Thanatopedagogical Aspects”), Oficyna Wydawnicza «Impuls» 2018, pp. 237). Rev. Rev. Dr. Hab. Godawa is Associate Dean for student affairs at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences and the Director of the Post-Diploma Certification in Joint Ministry of St. John of God. He teaches courses in pedagogy and didactics as well as palliative and hospice care.

A distinction deserving of our attention, this time in the field of Church music originating in Krakow, was the participation of Dr. Hab. Witold Zalewski in the organ concert *Katyń, Smoleńsk – Pamiętamy!* (*The Memory Never Dies*) in Toronto, Canada. Mr. Zalewski works for our university and is the Director of the Inter-University Institute of Church Music, an academic-didactic institution established ten years ago by

our university as well as the Academy of Music in Krakow. He is also an organ player at Wawel Cathedral in Krakow. The concert took place on April 8, in St. Paul's Bloor Street (Anglican) Church in downtown Toronto.

Some Numbers

In order to get a fuller picture of our university, it is worth mentioning several statistics. In the 2017–2017 academic year, 2,981 undergraduates, doctoral students, and participants in post-graduate diploma studies studied at our university. Meanwhile 431 persons were employed at our university (as of September 30, 2018). They were 273 academic staff, including: fifty-four titular professors, ninety-one habilitated doctors, ninety-seven doctors, thirty-one persons with master of arts degrees, and 158 remaining staff (105 employed in administration and twenty-seven in the library). Furthermore, six persons who are considered academic staff work in our library (in total, thirty-three persons work in our library). Twenty-six persons are employed in research and didactic projects. A total of 573 students were admitted to the first year of undergraduate and uniform M. A. studies.

In the past year, 163 bachelor of arts degrees were granted at our university (thirteen at the Faculty of Theology, six at the Faculty of Philosophy, thirty-nine at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and 105 at the Faculty of Social Sciences), as were 375 master of arts degrees (194 at the Faculty of Theology, seventeen at the Faculty of Philosophy, seventeen at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, 112 at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and thirty-five at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow) and sixty-seven licentiates in sacred theology (forty-six at the Faculty of Theology, fourteen at the Faculty of Canon Law, and seven at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow). Thirty-five persons received doctoral degrees (eighteen at the Faculty of Theology, eight at the Faculty of Philosophy, four at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, three at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and two at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow), while four persons became habilitated doctors and five persons received the title of professor.

In order to avoid misunderstandings, we should note that the cited numbers of degrees and academic titles are not always the same as the numbers presented during promotion ceremonies, because usually several months pass between the end of all doctoral proceedings and the actual ceremonies, which is why sometimes proceedings end in one academic year and promotions occur in the next one. Furthermore, in a given academic year persons who received their degrees or academic titles at different institutions are hired.

Promotion of Our University

Several institutions function at our university in order to promote its academic and didactic activity. They include the Office of Information and Promotion, which has been active since the 2004–2005 academic year. In the previous academic year, it also engaged in promotional activity, which included participation in the organization of the *Festiwal Nauki i Sztuki w Krakowie* (“Festival of Science and Art in Krakow”). The main site where the festival is held is the tent camp in Krakow’s Main Square. In the past academic year, it took place on May 17–19, 2018 (eighteenth edition) under the motto: *Moc rozumu* (“The Power of Reason”), which was a reference to the academic legacy of the great Polish psychiatrist Prof. Antoni Kępiński (1918–1972) on the one-hundredth anniversary of his birth. The main organizer of the festival was the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University. As in previous years, our university organized academic panels, workshops, and quizzes, such as *Dostrzec niedostrzegalne* (“Perceiving the Imperceptible,” for those interested in philosophy), *Rozum wzmocniony wiarą* (“Reason Bolstered by Faith,” for those interested in theology), and *Krótkie lekcje z zagadnień prawa kanonicznego* (“Short Lessons on Topics Related to Canon Law,” for lawyers). Participants of the festival could visit our new, ultramodern Workshop of the Inventorying and Digitalization of Landmarks, which realizes, among others, the project *Sakralne Dziedzictwo Małopolski* (“The Sacral Heritage of Lesser Poland”). Other festival attractions prepared by our staff and students included: exhibits of medieval fighting – “The Lugia Team;” various games and entertainment; as well as the “Jane Austen Dance School Exhibit of Nineteenth Century Dances.” Several dozen volunteers from all four faculties were engaged in our participation in the festival.

Radio Bonus, which since 2010 has been broadcasting twenty-four hours a day, works with Vatican Radio, the audio service of the Catholic News Agency (Katolicka Agencja Informacyjna, KAI), and national radios. Radio Bonus is the media patron of many conferences and academic symposiums. This radio is created by students of journalism and social communications who have at their disposal a professionally equipped radio studio as well as modern reporting equipment. Since March 2016, Radio Bonus has been part of the Academic Media Center. In terms of its equipment, the center is a unique place in Poland. You can listen to Radio Bonus at: www.radio.upjp2.edu.pl. The radio is the media patron of numerous events at our university, such as symposiums or academic conferences. Currently, its program consists of the following broadcasts: *BoNews* (current events); *Na przypale albo wcale* (“Embarrassing or Not at All;” novelties from the internet); *SportLOVE Emocje* (“SportLove Emotions”); *Rock for Christ* (Christian-themed music); *Wielokropek* (“Ellipsis;” a commentary on books); *Ladies’ Night* (the musical achievements of women); *Student lista* (“Students’ List;” new music); *Mikro-fale* (“Micro-Waves;” independent music); *Komentary*

Sportowy (“Sport Commentator”); and *Sorry for My English* (broadcast in English). Radio Bonus also prepares broadcasts devoted to specific events (such as from the life of the Church or the university) that are accessible on its website.

In addition to Radio Bonus, since 2014 there has also been an internet television (JP2TV), which also is part of the aforementioned Academic Media Center. It is worth noting that it is the only university student television in Poland that uses professional TriCaster equipment in order to create its programs. Television can be found and watched at: <http://jp2tv.pl/>. JP2TV is unique not only because of the gifted and hard-working students, but also because of its well-equipped television studio, among the most modern in Poland, which facilitates the professional education of young journalists in every field of editorial work. JP2TV Television works with Polish Television (its regional branch in Krakow: TVP3 Krakow). The hard work of journalism students has led to numerous broadcasts that are available on this website. They are: news, reportage (for example, *Erasmus Winter Story*), interviews (with Prof. Dr. Hab. Walery Pisarek, for example), and programs. The latter include: *Archidiecezja Krakowska* (“The Archdiocese of Krakow”); *Kawiarenka Nowych Mediów* (“The New Media Cafe”); *Nasza uczelnia* (“Our University”); *Twarze uczelni* (“The Faces of the University”); *Dzienniczek 2016* (“Diary 2016”); *Konferencje* (“Conferences”); *NieZły HIP-HOP* (“NotBad HIP-HOP”); *Wydarzenia z Krakowa i okolic* (“Events from Krakow and Its Vicinity”); *śDM 2016* (“World Youth Day 2016”); and *Wielkie Nieba* (“The Great Heavens”).¹⁴

An important form of promoting our university is its publishing activity, which the Academic Press deals with. The press publishes academic papers and journals. A university-wide publication that has been regularly published since 1969 is „*Analecta Cracoviensia*”, which contains studies in the areas of philosophy, theology, Church history, canon law, and the social sciences. There have already been published forty-six volumes (forty-nine years, including three double volumes) of this journal. In addition to „*Analecta Cracoviensia*”, each faculty publishes its own journal: „*Polonia Sacra*” is a journal published by the Faculty of Theology (so far, twenty-one volumes have been published), which since 2013 also publishes the English-language journal „*Theological Research: A Journal of Systematic Theology*” (four volumes have been published so far). „*Logos i Ethos*” (“*Logos and Ethos*”) is a journal published by the Faculty of Philosophy (forty-seven volumes over twenty-seven have been published since 1991), while the Faculty of Church History publishes „*Folia Historica Cracoviensia*” (twenty-three volumes), „*Pro Musica Sacra*” (since 2004, fifteen volumes have been published), and „*Orientalia Christiana Cracoviensia*” (since 2009, nine volumes have been published). The Faculty of Social Sciences publishes „*Studia Socialia Cracoviensia*”

¹⁴ For more information on JP2TV, see: <http://nowetv.upjp2.edu.pl/> (December 19, 2018).

(since 2009, ten volumes have been published). The Institute of Canon Law publishes „*Annales Canonici*”. It is an annual journal directed at academic milieus, practicing lawyers, and all who are interested in canon law (so far, fourteen volumes have been published). The Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow publishes two journals: „*Tarnowskie Studia Teologiczne*” (since 1938, thirty-seven volumes have been published) as well as „*The Person and the Challenges*” (since 2011, eight volumes have been published). The Center for Interdisciplinary studies at the Faculty of Philosophy publishes „*Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce*” (“*Philosophical Topics in Science*”). This is a semi-annual journal that deals with the discovery and analysis of philosophical problems intertwined with the natural sciences (so far, sixty-four volumes have been published). „*Semina Scientiarum*”, initially published as a supplement to the aforementioned „*Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce*”, are a similar journal. It is edited by participants of the Academic Seminar in the Philosophy of Science and is devoted to topics at the intersection of philosophy and the natural sciences (so far, fifteen volumes have been published. Since 2011, the Faculty of Philosophy has published the journal „*Racjonalia. Z punktu widzenia humanistyki*” (“*Rationalia: From the Perspective of the Humanities*”), edited by our university’s Philosophy Study Circle. It publishes papers by our B. A. (first cycle) students, M. A. (second cycle) students, doctoral (third cycle) students, integrated M. A. students, participants in post-graduate studies, and the academic staff of post-secondary universities (so far, seven volumes have been published). With the exception of the journal „*Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce*”, all are published on our university’s Digital Platform.¹⁵

Our university’s official informative journal is „*Vita Academica. Biuletyn Informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie*” (“*Vita Academica: The Information Bulletin of the Pontifical University of John Paul II*”) which is published every three months and contains information related to the most important events in our university’s life. Students studying for the priesthood also have their own journal: „*Novum Tempus Liberum*” (*NTL*), which is edited by students of the Major Archdiocesan Seminary of Krakow. Currently, it is published annually and contains information about seminary life and the seminarians’ student lives.

In 2015, several students of journalism and social communications began the project of a journal with Polish traditions. Its title is: „*Traditio. Przestrzeń Cywilizacji Łacińskiej*” (“*Traditio: The Sphere of Latin Civilization*”). „*Traditio*” is not a university publication, nor is it an academic publication, but it is put together at our university by its undergraduates, doctoral students, and also graduates who live their lives according

¹⁵ <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/> (December 12, 2018). *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce* – <https://zfn.edu.pl/index.php/zfn/index> (December 19, 2018).

to such values as: patriotism, Christianity, family, learning, culture, and language. One of the most recent issues of „Traditio” (9/2018) is devoted to the topic of spiritual, religious, national, and personal freedom. Using Christian thinking as a point of departure, the authors of the articles in particular emphasize the unique value of this type of freedom, which is the freedom “to” do good.

The university’s regular publications also include book series. Of those that are published regularly, it is especially worth mentioning *Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II* (“Studies on the Thought of John Paul II”), published by the Center for Studies on the Thought of John Paul II. So far, the center has published seventeen volumes in this series. Throughout the 2017–2018 academic year, our Academic Press published sixty publications, including sixteen volumes of journals as well as the *Biuletyn Informacyjny „Vita Academica”*. A major achievement for the Academic Press in the previous academic year was receiving the „Feniks 2018” award given by the Association of Catholic Publishers for the best editorial series for *Źródła do Dziejów Kultury Duchowej w Polsce* („Sources for the History of Spiritual Culture in Poland;” Volume 1: *Pisma duchowe i mistyczne księdza Piotra Semenki. Wybór* (“The Selected Writings of Piotr Semenka”), red. A. Gąsior, J. Królikowski, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2016, 287 pp. «*Boże, ku wspomózeniu memu wejźrzyj*». *Godzinki staropolskie*, (“‘Lord, Come to My Succor’: The Old Polish Liturgy of the Hours”), red. A. Gąsior, J. Królikowski, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2017, 460 pp.

Furthermore, our press has systematically increased the number of publications available online (on the websites of journals and in our university’s repository).¹⁶ There is also a digital Platform of Journals,¹⁷ where journals published by our university (fourteen at the time of writing) are made available.

In addition to academic and didactic activity, our university also works to promote sacral music, which is the extension of studies on the Church’s liturgy and its musical tradition. Since 1988, the Psalmodia Choir, directed by Dr. Hab. Włodzimierz Siedlik, a professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, who has directed the choir since its founding, has been present at our university. The Psalmodia Choir graces various academic ceremonies, such as the inauguration ceremony of the academic year or celebrations related to the anniversary of the university, with its performances. The choir also promotes Polish culture abroad. Thanks to its collaboration with the Jadwiga, Queen of Poland Foundation, it can take part in various artistic events both in Poland and internationally. Since 2009, there have been two separate choirs attached to the Psalmodia Choir: the Krakow Women’s Choir and the Krakow Men’s Choir, which

¹⁶ <http://bc.upjp2.edu.pl/dlibra> (December 12, 2018).

¹⁷ <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/index/index> (December 12, 2018).

perform works written for universal choirs but also perform their own concerts and receive recognition. In the past academic year, the Academic Female Psalmodia Choir under the direction of Ms. Katarzyna Śmiałkowska, received a valuable honor: The Golden String, the Grand Prix of the Jubilee Twentieth National Concert of Choirs in Niepołomice (April 14–15, 2018).

Concern for Undergraduates and Doctoral Students

Amidst its didactic and research activity, the Pontifical University of John Paul II is also devoted to the spiritual formation of its students and staff. It is provided by the Patmos Student Ministry, which offers Masses, ascetic conferences, individual talks with priests, and Advent as well as Lenten retreats. All of its pastoral activities are coordinated by Rev. Dr. Paweł Pielka.

The *Ogród Maryi* (“Garden of Mary”) student community, which is part of the Patmos Student Ministry, prepared a dance performance titled *Lilia* (“Lily”), which premiered on December 8, 2017. The performance expressed veneration of Mary through various techniques of modern dance. It was inspired by Mary’s life and showed not only her everyday life, but above all her internal experiences, which were very emotionally and spiritually engaging for the audience. Naturally, this was most exciting for the young dancers themselves.

Last year’s Advent Academic Retreat for students took place on December 10–12, in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow. Its topic was: „The Three Fears of Young People (?): Loneliness, Disbelief, and Weakness.” It was preached by Rev. Dr. Wojciech Węgrzyniak, a member of our university’s academic and didactic staff.

Meanwhile the Lenten Academic Retreat for students titled: *Naucz nas, Panie, liczyć dni nasze* (“Teach us to count our days aright”) took place on March 11–13, 2018, also in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist. It was preached by Rev. Rafał Buchinger, a priest of the Archdiocese of Krakow and retreat master. The leitmotif of the retreat was wisdom, to which the please of the Psalmist (Psalm 90:12) used as its title refers.

Furthermore, “Stations of the Cross with Music” were organized during Lent. They took place on March 23, 2018, in the Piarist Church of Our Lady of Ostra Brama in Krakow. It was prepared by the *Congaudeant* Study Circle of Students of the Inter-University Institute of Church Music our university, the Academy of Music in Krakow, and the Parish of Our Lady of Ostra Brama in Krakow. During it, the texts of reflections by Paul Claudel (1868–1955) were used, while the musical accompaniment consisted of Marcel Dupré’s (1886–1971) piece *Le Chemin de la Croix* (op. 29).

Students studying for the priesthood receive spiritual and pastoral formation in their seminaries. Meanwhile, lay students meet for prayer in the Chapel of St. John Paul II, which is in the university’s building at 1 Franciszkańska Street, and since we

began our lease of the building at 3 Bernardyńska Street also in that building, also in its chapel. The ministry organizes the *Zaufanie i Praca* (“Trust and Work”) program for those who want to develop their entrepreneurship inspired by Christian spirituality.¹⁸

In addition to “Patmos,” there is also a second ministry active at our university. For some time, the University Christian Outreach (UCO) community has been active at our university, and since December 2016 it has functioned as the second student ministry at our university. The aims of this ministry can be expressed in three challenges: “Live life to the fullest!” “Pass it on!” and “Grow!” The ministry is led by Rev. Dr. Hab. Szymon Drzyżdzyk.¹⁹

The “Helm” Student Clinic, which was opened in 2014, serves this end. It is an initiative of the “Patmos” Student Ministry and of the students of the Faculty of Social Sciences. The clinic helps students to resolve family crises, look for an appropriate specialist, or search for funding for their research project, or in any matter that makes their student lives more difficult. The clinic is open to the needs of students from all the universities in Krakow. It offers aid in the following areas: counseling related to assistance to families, elderly persons, and people with disabilities; student and family mediation; counseling related to natural family planning and NaProTechnology; dealing with administrative and social matters; spiritual and psychological assistance in times of crisis; and assistance in solving problems. The clinic also organizes the cycle of Student Oxford Debates as well as one-time initiatives such as “The Day of Mediation” or “Be Brave, Close Your Eyes!” or the course in “Public Speaking for Students.”

Naturally, a solid university education not only provides necessary knowledge, but it also develops students’ skills. Since the 2014–2015 academic year, the Academic Business Incubator, which is part of our university’s Career Office (which was launched in March 2006) has functioned at our university. It cooperates with the Academic Business Incubators Foundation. It is an institution that supports students who in the future want to start their own business. Thus the incubator provides specialized legal assistance, training, and accounting services, and it also teaches students to run their own businesses in practice. It also offers the aid of experts who help to evaluate and test their own business ideas while incurring minimal costs in such undertakings. An example of its activity in the previous academic year was the organization of the second Career Days of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow (March 14–16, 2018), organized by our Career Office along with the Academic Business Incubator. The

¹⁸ You can find more information on the website: <http://www.upjp2.edu.pl/duszpasterstwo/duszpasterstwo-akademickie-patmos> (December 19, 2018).

¹⁹ You can find more information on the website: <http://upjp2.edu.pl/node/31> (December 19, 2018).

program of the Career Days included workshops (March 16, 2018: Days of Competences and Skills – Workshops) as well as meetings with the representatives of the Regional Labor Office in Krakow and consulting firms. There are plans for a subsequent, third edition of the Career Days.

Our university's authorities try to ensure that our students with disabilities have the best conditions for studying. They receive the support of the Office for Persons with Disabilities, which organizes various meetings for students with disabilities. Along with other Cracovian universities, each year our office organizes cyclical integration events. They include the inter-university Christmas Eve celebration and the "Integration Days". The eleventh "Krakow Integration Days" were organized on April 4, 2018, just as in previous years. At our university, the office organized two events: the workshop: "Turn on your motivation: To want to want to" (April 19, 2018) as well as the workshop "How to help and not cause harm? A first aid course" (April 20, 2018).

Our university also remembers about its graduates. An example of this are the regular meetings of lay graduates of the Faculty of Theology, which for some time have been held in January as a Christmas wafer meeting. The last such meeting took place on January 20, in the "Kordelianum" at the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow. After Mass, a meeting and a reflection on the teaching of Pope Francis were held. In addition to this group, for some time another one, the graduate group, has been part of our "Patmos" ministry. Since 2016, there has been an association of the graduates of all faculties called "The Association of Graduates and Friends of the Pontifical University of John Paul II."²⁰

Supporting Academic Activity

Our university's library is a specialist one. Our library participates in the creation of the national library information exchange system as well as in the work of the Krakow Library Group, the Central Catalog of Polish Academic Libraries NUKAT, and the Federation of Polish Church Libraries FIDES. Our library continues to expand its catalog in the VTLs/Virtua integrated information system. As of October 1, 2018, the number of volumes was 236,842, while the number of records of continuously published publications was 5,422. This catalog is available online as a database. The number of regular library cardholders is 12,122 (as of October 1, 2018). In the 2017–2018 academic year, the main library of the Pontifical University of John Paul II amassed 8,042 volumes of books, 109 inventory multimedia items, and 769 inventoried journals. At the end of the 2017/ 2018 academic year, our main library's book resources consisted of 165,215 inventoried items. In the previous academic year, the library acquired 970 journals

²⁰ The association has its website: <http://saip.upjp2.edu.pl/> (December 19, 2018).

and subscribed to 305 publications, 140 of which were international. Furthermore, as part of inter-library loan our library acquired 116 domestic and international journals. It receives most international publications in exchange for „Analecta Cracoviensia”.

The acquisition of digital information resources is a dynamically growing field of the library's activity. They are above all textual, bibliographic, and factual databases, as well as the digital versions of journals and books and information from websites. From the perspective of their accessibility, they can be divided into those that are available to all and those that require licenses. Access to the latter is available for our staff, undergraduates, and doctoral students not only from the computers of the main library, but also at home after logging in. The library offers access to the following economic databases: ABE-IPS Books Online Journals, ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials, Communication & Mass Media Complete, Cambridge Journals – Kolekcja HSS, JSTOR – kolekcje Arts & Sciences III, Arts & Sciences XIII, and Religion & Theology. Additionally, our university's computer network makes it possible to access databases financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education as part of the Virtual Library of Science. It includes IBUK Libra, a service belonging to Polish Scientific Publishers PWN, which makes publications available in electronic form (it has existed since 2007). The library also makes access from the most important databases possible: Elsevier, Springer, Web of Science (produced by Thomson Reuters, which also includes access to the Web of Knowledge database), Nature, Science, Scopus, Wiley-Blackwell, and EBSCO Host.

The Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow is responsible for acquiring financial resources to support our university. The university receives funds from the state budget, which covers nearly three-quarters of the university's expenses, but not investment costs. The remaining financial resources must therefore be covered by other sources. Thus the foundation makes the university's activity better known through various available channels and encourages donors to support it.

The foundation also helps fund the activity of organized student groups or student groups that are not organizations pursuant to the “Rules on Financial Aid to Student Initiatives and Activities,” thus supporting their ideas. Units of the Students' Union and Doctoral Students' Union; study, athletic, and musical circles; the academic ministry and other student organizations of our university can apply for such funding.

In accordance with its statute, the foundation provides financial support for our university “in its academic and artistic activity.” In the previous academic year, the foundation helped to support the Fourth National Conference of Undergraduate and Doctoral Students *Newmanalia – odkrywając ortodoksję 2018* (“Newmanalia: Discovering Orthodoxy 2018”), which took place on June 6, 2018, and has been discussed above.

The project “The Inventorying and Digitalization of Selected Archival Resources of the Central Pastoral Center of Poles Living Abroad in Rome,” which was discussed in the previous *Chronicle*, was successfully concluded on December 31, 2017. Furthermore, the foundation financed the publication of: B. Z. Wacholder, *Wspomnienia* (“Memoirs”, Ł. Rzepka, tłum. P. Majdanik, Ożarów–Kraków 2018, Volume 1, pp. 183. This publication appeared as part of the *BOŻNICA. Biblioteka Ożarowa Żydowskiego* (“Temple: The Library of Jewish Ożarów”), which encompasses the search, translation, and academic editing of Jews from Ożarów, a small Jewish town in the Holy Cross region. Additionally, the foundation helped to finance the publications: P. Guzik, C. O’Reilly, *WYD 2016 KRAKÓW. The Largest European Event of the 21st Century*, Krakow, pp. 220; J. Malik, Z. Gogoła OFM Conv, *Fundacje Świętej Królowej Jadwigi* (“The Foundations of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland”), Kraków, pp. 96.

On this occasion, the board of the foundation expresses its gratitude to all its benefactors for the support, kindness, and readiness to assist it. A Mass in St. Mark the Evangelist’s Church in Krakow is celebrated for all the benefactors.²¹

In Loving Memory

A recurring event in our university’s life is prayers for its deceased staff and all the deceased staff of the universities and post-secondary schools in Krakow and Lesser Poland. For many years in November, a special Mass has been held in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow during which we pray for those who left this world in the previous academic year. Since recently (2016), the November prayer for the dead has been linked to the commemoration of the professors of the Jagiellonian University who were arrested by the German Nazis on November 6, 1939. This insidious event has come to be known as *Sonderaktion Krakau*. Then, 183 Krakow professors and academic staff, including 155 from the Jagiellonian University, were imprisoned. They were deported to the Sachsenhausen and Dachau concentration camp, where more than a dozen were killed. In the previous academic year, the special Mass for deceased academic staff and students of Krakow universities was held on Monday November 6, 2017, in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow. Our university was represented by our rector, Rev. W. Zyzak, as well as many staff and students.

In the previous academic year (2017–2018), we said farewell to five of our staff. At the beginning of the academic year (October 7, 2017), Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Waclaw Świerzawski (1927–2017), a former rector of our university (then the Pontifical Academy

²¹ You can find more details about the foundation on the website (in Polish and in English): <http://upjp2.edu.pl/uczelnia/uczelnia/instytucje/fundacja-im-%C5%9Bw-kr%C3%B3lowej-jadwigi> (December 19, 2018).

of Theology), died in Sandomierz. He founded the Liturgical Institute of Blessed Michał Giedroyc in Krakow (1968), which served the liturgical renewal after the Second Vatican II and was an integral part of our university. As professor, he gave lectures in liturgics. For ten years (1992–2002), he was the Bishop of Sandomierz. The funeral ceremony took place in Zawichost on October 15, 2017), where he lived as bishop-emeritus, and in Sandomierz (October 16, 2017). The funeral ceremonies were attended by representatives of our university along with our Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak. Our rector could not personally attend the second day of the funeral in Sandomierz because of the inauguration of the academic year; thus he wrote a letter to the ceremony's participants in which he recalled the spiritual legacy of the deceased as well as his contribution to the growth of our university: "It is thanks to him that it owes its motto *Euntes docete* ("Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations") [...] The bishop was always faithful to this message, also at the end of his life, giving us an example of what beautiful fruits the efforts of a man who works with God's grace can bring." The deceased bishop's body was laid in the crypt of the Sandomierz cathedral.

On November 5, 2017, Prof. Dr. Hab. Walery Pisarek (1931–2017), a highly esteemed expert in media studies, beloved lecturer, and authority to hundreds of students at our Institute of Journalism and Social Communication, where he worked as a professor until the very end, died in Katowice. The funeral ceremony took place in St. Anne's Collegiate Church on November 16, 2017. The concelebrated Mass was presided by our university's Rector Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak. Meanwhile, the homily was given by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wiesław Przyczyna, who noted that the professor died "ready to serve, just before the beginning of the 'Ambassador of the Polish Language' gala during which he was to give a laudation..." This fact reminded us of a great truth: "our place on this earth is not permanent; we are only passengers, travelers..." Prof. Walery Pisarek was interred at the Avenue of the Distinguished at Rakowice Cemetery in Krakow.

Rev. Dr. Kazimierz Kaczmarczyk (1953–2018), who worked at our university for many years, died on January 24, 2018, in Bachowice outside Wadowice. He was a doctor and lecturer of moral theology. For many years, he worked as the Director of the Rectorate. The funeral ceremony took place on January 26, 2018, in the parish church in Bachowice and on January 27, 2018, in the parish church in Rajbrot (Lipnica Murowana County, Diocese of Tarnow). He was also interred there.

Our professor-emeritus of moral theology at the Faculty of Theology, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Kowalski (1930–2018), went to the house of the Lord on February 14, 2018, in Czestochowa. He was an honorary doctor of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw (May 15, 2002). The funeral ceremony took place on February 16, 2018, in the seminary church of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Czestochowa

(where he also was a lecturer in moral theology) and February 17, 2018. The funeral was presided by Archbishop Wacław Depo of Czestochowa in the Arch-cathedral Basilica in Czestochowa as well as in the parish church of the Assumption of Mary in Gołcza outside Miechów on February 19, 2018. The body of the deceased was interred in the parish church there.

On May 27, 2018, Rev. Władysław Bomba, CM (1938–2018), passed away in the house of the Congregation of the Mission in Kleparz. He was a lecturer in liturgics at our university (1982–1988) and at the Institute of Theology of the Congregation of the Mission in Kraków. The funeral ceremony took place on June 1, 2018, in the church of the Congregation of the Mission in Kleparz. After the funeral Mass, the body of the deceased was interred in the tomb of the Congregation of the Mission at the Rakowice Cemetery in Kraków.

In addition to the abovementioned staff, in the previous academic year we also bade farewell to our honorary doctor Rev. Dr. Hieronim Fokciński, SJ (1937–2018), who died on July 30, 2018, in Rome. For nearly fifty years, Rev. Fokciński directed the Pontifical Institute of Church Studies in Rome. In 2009, President Lech Kaczyński awarded him with the Order of Polonia Restituta for increasing knowledge on the history of the Church as well as other accomplishments. He received our university's honorary doctorate on June 11, 2013. His funeral took place in the Chapel of St. Francis Borgia in the General Curia of the Society of Jesus in Rome on August 3, 2018. The body of the deceased was interred in the Jesuit tomb at Campo Verano Cemetery in Rome.

We pray for the souls of our university's deceased staff as well as all the abovementioned deceased persons and keep them in our thoughts, trying to emulate their examples of academic honesty and human kindness.

The above-presented facts attest to the dynamic growth of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; its sensitivity to contemporary scientific, social, and religious problems; and also to its openness to the needs of both the universal and local Church. Every form of supporting its activity at the same time promotes Christian values, the teaching of St. John Paul II, service of the truth, and, finally, participation in Christ's missionary instruction to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Rev. Jan D. Szczurek
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Translation: Filip Mazurczak