

The TENTH ANNIVERSARY of Receiving the Status of a University. The 622nd academic year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow

In the 2018–2019 academic year, we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow, which previously functioned under the name of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow. Due to the decision of Pope Benedict XVI, the Congregation for Catholic Education issued a decree on June 19, 2009, that elevated our university to the rank of a pontifical university. The decree was signed by its then-prefect, Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, and it states: “Responding positively to the requests of the most distinguished Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Metropolitan Archbishop of Krakow and the Great Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow and honoring the memory of his magnificent predecessor, Servant of God Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI has decided (*decrevit*) to elevate (*promovere*) the Pontifical Academy of Theology to the status of the Pontifical University of John Paul II for the development of ecclesiastical studies, deciding that its organization would fully and faithfully correspond to Church norms, above all the Apostolic Constitution *Sapientia Christiana* and the *Ordinances* attached to it, granting it rights and duties that in accordance with canonical legislation pertain to legally erected Church universities, while respecting other legal principles that should be followed regardless of any contrary decrees.”¹

Pursuant to this decision, our university remained an ecclesiastical university, and its aim is to “develop ecclesiastical studies” (*ad disciplinas ecclesiasticas colendas*, see: *Code of Canon Law*, 1983, Canon 815), which include theological studies, canon law, and Church history. In addition to such institutions of post-secondary education, there are also Catholic universities in the Church that develop other disciplines, which lead to “a more profound human culture [and] the fuller development of the human person” (*Code of Canon Law*, 1983, Canon 807). In implementing its aims, our university is led by Christ’s missionary imperative: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19), which is expressed in our institution’s Latin motto: *Euntes docete*.

¹ For a copy of the original (Latin) version of the “Decree” (n. 1344/2005) and its Polish translation, see: “Analecta Cracoviensia” 41 (2009), pp. 3–4.

The change of the university's status and the resulting change of its name were accepted by the Polish state upon the decision of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, which required amendments to two laws: "The law on the financing of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Krakow from the state budget" (June 26, 1997) as well as "The law on the relationship between the State and the Catholic Church in the Republic of Poland" (May 17, 1989). The law from December 2, 2009, introduced a change of name in both above-mentioned laws. In the amended law on its financing, Article 1 is as follows: "Art. 1: The Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow receives subsidies and other funds from the state budget according to the rules that have been established for public universities."² The bill was quickly signed into law by Mr. Lech Kaczyński, President of Poland, and came into force on January 6, 2010.

The celebrations of the tenth anniversary went on for virtually the entire academic year and were included in various academic initiatives, including conferences and academic symposiums. Some of them will be presented below along with other events from the previous academic year. The anniversary was most frequently emphasized by special banners which were prepared for this occasion and exhibited during various university functions, academic conferences, symposiums, and other events that were held at the university.

One of the most important events or, rather, tasks that the university undertook in the previous year was the implementation of legal changes, which was discussed in the previous *Chronicle* (in Church law: "The *Veritatis gaudium* Constitution," December 8, 2017; in state law: the "Constitution for Science" or the "Law on Higher Education and Science," July 20, 2018). Thus, a new "Statue of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow" was compiled and submitted to the Holy See for confirmation, as were the statutes of specific faculties. Furthermore, the "Regulations of Doctoral Schools at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow" were compiled (they will be binding beginning on October 1, 2019), while a Doctoral School was established at our university; it will begin the education of doctoral candidates in the new academic year (October 1, 2019).

The Inauguration of the 2018–2019 Academic Year

The beginning of didactic coursework in the new academic year was preceded by a traditional pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. John Paul II in the so-called White Sea (for the fourth time); it took place on October 2, 2018 (Tuesday). Its program was analogous to the previous year's program. The first part of the program was a spiritual talk titled: "Christian Thought and Philosophical Reflection," which was presented

² Dz. U. z 2009 r. Nr 219 poz. 1710 ("Journal of Laws" 2009 Nr. 219, pos. 1710).

by Rev. Dr. Hab. Marek Urban, cSSR, Associate Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at the Pontifical University of John Paul II. In it, he dealt with the mutual relationship between theology and philosophy as presented by the Swiss theologian Hans Urs von Balthasar and emphasized the role that Christian philosophy can play in bringing back real value to contemporary, secularized philosophical thought. Next, there was a special concelebrated Mass which was presided by the rector of our university, Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, and during which the homily was given by Rev. Dr. Andrzej Duk, OFM, rector of the Major Seminary of the Order of Friars Minor. In it, he referred to Rev. Prof. Michał Heller and underlined the significance of rationality in understanding and practicing faith. Faith and science cooperate harmoniously because science brings us knowledge about the world and ourselves, while faith brings meaning to our lives. A lunch break followed the Mass, after which the rosary was prayed in the rosary garden by the shrine; it was prepared and led by seminarians who are also students of theology enrolled at our university's Faculty of Theology. The pilgrimage was attended by professors, administrative staff, library employees, 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.

The ceremony inaugurating the 2018–2019 academic year took place on October 15, 2018 (Monday), one day before the fortieth anniversary of the election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, Archbishop of Krakow, to the Chair of St. Peter. The solemn Mass was presided by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Krakow and our university's Great Chancellor. Meanwhile, the homily was preached by Bishop Ignacy Dec of Swidnica, who presented a synthesis of the state of contemporary culture and the related situation of ecclesiastical universities and even theology itself as well as recalled the aims of the university outlined by Pope John Paul II.

Bishop Dec recalled that Father Karol Wojtyła began his ministry as a priest in the middle of the twentieth century, a time when the drama of truth and power, two valuable things given to humanity in order to build the world according to its dignity, became powerfully evident in the world. In totalitarian systems, however, the primacy of truth, which is expressed in the expression *Plus ratio quam vis* ("More reason than strength"), which for centuries has been the Jagiellonian University's motto, was violated in favor of brute force. In Europe, many nation-states recognized the principle *Plus vis quam ratio* ("More strength than reason") as the principle behind the construction of the state and legislation: military and economic force. The horrors of World War II as well as the Bolshevik and Nazi camps were symptomatic of such a view of the world. Falsehood always stood behind force, because it needs force to defend itself.

Consequently, depriving people of the truth leads to the deprivation of their freedom, as the truth is always the fundament of freedom. This drama of truth and force played before the eyes of the young Karol Wojtyła. He contrasted the truth of the Gospel with the enslaving Marxist ideology and was saddened by the use of science for the purposes of atheistic propaganda. As a student of underground theological studies, he understood how important the truth is not only in private, but also sociopolitical life and that all activity has its source in the human mind. Thus, the Latin maxim *Nil est in homine bona mente melius* (“Nothing is better in man than a good thought”), which is on an inscription on the door to the Długosz House in Krakow, where the rectorate of our university is located, was dear to him. Thoughts give birth to words, and actions follow words. The source of good deeds is thinking in truth and love, which is impossible without the support of the Holy Spirit.

In the second part of the homily, Bishop Dec spoke about the models of the university during the time of Karol Wojtyła’s academic youth and his later activity. At that time, there were three models: the first was the classical model, which dated back to the Middle Ages under the influence of the Church and in which universities were universal in nature and accessible to all (*universitas magistrorum et scholarum*). Next, there was the positivist model, which appeared in the nineteenth century and promoted criticism of the Church’s authority and the development of a secular society as well as a separation of science and religion and even ethics and was based on the philosophical assumption that the material world is the only reality. This meant the exclusion of theology as an academic discipline and, consequently, the ideological enslavement of scholarship (particularly in totalitarian states; the gender ideology is a contemporary example of this). Finally, there was the postmodernist model of the university (the most recent model, which is an expression of opposition to the positivist model). Universities criticized positivist teachings about the capacities of human reason and the conviction about the existence of absolute values (truth, good, beauty) while simultaneously promoting ambiguity, subjectivism, moral permissivism, and absolute freedom; in other words, relativism and liberalism. Pope John Paul II’s response to such a model of scholarship was the encyclical *Fides et ratio* (1998).

In the third part of the homily, Bishop Dec dealt with the topic of serving the truth in shaping the upright individual, family, and nation. He recalled that in his speeches to scholars the pope emphasized the tasks of institutions of post-secondary education, the autonomy of academic research, the intellectual and moral attributes of the scholar and his or her responsibility, and dialogue between faith and reason. The most important tasks of the university include serving the truth and humanity. This is particularly so in the case of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. In his address to scholars and people of culture in this collegiate church (Krakow, June 8, 1997), Pope

John Paul II recalled that “[t]he vocation of every university is to serve truth: to discover it and to hand it on to others. [...] Man has a lively awareness of the fact that the truth is above and beyond him. Man does not create truth; rather truth discloses itself to man when he perseveringly seeks it. The knowledge of truth begets a spiritual joy (*Gaudium veritatis*), alone of its kind.” In an address to Polish scholars two years later, he recalled: “The men and women of science and of culture have been entrusted with a special responsibility for truth – to strive for it, to defend it and to live in accordance with it. [...] Attempts are often made to convince people that we have reached the twilight of the age of certitude in the knowledge of truth” (Torun, June 7, 1999). The pope noted the ethical sensitivity of the scholar in the above-quoted address in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church: “Being a scholar entails obligations! First of all, it entails the obligation of a particular concern for the development of one’s own humanity. [...] In the daily work of a scholar a particular ethical sensitivity is also needed. For it is not enough to be concerned about the logical, formal correctness of one’s thinking. The workings of the mind must necessarily be nourished by the spiritual climate of indispensable moral virtues like sincerity, courage, humility, honesty, and an authentic concern for man. Moral sensitivity makes it possible to preserve a connection between truth and goodness which is very essential for science. These two problems cannot in fact be separated! The principle of freedom of scientific research cannot be separated from the ethical responsibility of every scholar.” The pope emphasized that scholarship is a kind of service during his address to the rectors of Polish universities in Castel Gandolfo on August 30, 2001: “This is why it is so important that the universities and institutes for scientific research not be limited to imparting knowledge, but be groups of persons who form ethical consciences. The mystery of wisdom resides in the ethically formed conscience and not just in the breadth of knowledge.” With regards to the autonomy of scholarship, the pope said the following during the above-mentioned meeting in Torun: “The unprecedented development of the sciences and technological progress are raising fundamental questions about the limits of experimentation, the meaning and direction of technological development, the limits of man’s tampering with nature and the natural environment. This progress gives rise to both wonderment and fear. Man is becoming ever more fearful of the products of his own intelligence and freedom. He feels endangered. Hence it is more important and timelier than ever to recall the fundamental truth that the world is a gift of God the Creator, who is Love, and that man as a creature is called to a prudent and responsible dominion over the world of nature, and not its heedless destruction. We also need to remember that reason is God’s gift, a mark of the likeness to God which every man bears within himself. Hence it is quite important to remember constantly that authentic freedom of scientific research cannot prescind from the criterion of truth and of goodness.

Concern for the moral conscience and the sense of individual responsibility has today become a fundamental imperative for men and women of science.” The pope returned to the topic of the freedom of academic research in his address in Castel Gandolfo: “[I]t is necessary to admit the right of sciences to apply their own methods of research, but [...] one cannot agree with the declaration that the province of research is subject to no restrictions. The fundamental distinction between good and evil sets up one boundary. This distinction is known by the human conscience. One can say that the autonomy of science ends where the honest conscience of the scientist admits evil – evil in method, product or effect.” This advice should be applied above all to the fields of genetics and biology. On many occasions, the pope recalled that not everything that is technically possible of being accomplished is ethically acceptable. Ignoring this limitation leads to threats to a specific person and to all of humanity. Theologians are obliged to diligently respect this papal advice. Concluding the tasks of the university, Bishop Dec said that the main requirement of scholarship is to assist those who teach, those who are taught, and all people it impacts so that they may become better and wiser people. Thus, it is also necessary to pray to the Holy Spirit that the Pontifical University of John Paul II and all other universities radiate with truth through love so that they may shape our minds, hearts, and consciences.³ After the Mass, the participants of the inauguration walked in a procession to the main hall of 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, our university’s rector, spoke. He greeted all the participants of the ceremony, above all: our university’s Great Chancellor Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski as well as our former Great Chancellor Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; Bishop Ignacy Dec of Swidnica; Archbishop Wacław Depo of Czestochowa; Bishop Leszek Leszkiewicz, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Tarnow; and the following bishops of the Archdiocese of Krakow: Bishop Damian Muskus, Bishop Jan Szkodoń, Bishop Jan Zając, and Rev. Bronisław Fidelus, PA.

Next, Rev. Zyzak greeted the representatives of secular government, members of parliament, and diplomats: Mr. Piotr Ziółkowski, Chair of the Political Cabinet of the Deputy of the Council of Ministers and of the Minister of Science and Higher Education; Mr. Piotr Ćwik, Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region; Mr. Stanisław Sorys, Deputy Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Prof. Kazimierz Wiatr, Senator of the Republic of Poland; Ms. Lidia Gądek, Member of Parliament; Mr. Józef Lassota, Member of Parliament; Mr. Ireneusz Raś, Member of Parliament; Mr. Carl Anderson, Supreme

³ This has been written on the basis of the recording available at: <https://diecezja.pl/aktualnosci/inauguracja-roku-akademickiego-upjpii/> (23.11.2019).

Knight of the Knights of Columbus; Ms. Katarzyna Likus, Honorary Consul of Italy; Ms. Agnieszka Kamińska, Consul of the Republic of Malta; Ms. Urtnasan Tsakhiur, Honorary Consul of Mongolia; Mr. Andrzej Tombiński, Honorary Consul General of Austria; Mr. Slavomir Nagy, Consul of the Slovak Republic; Mr. Jan Homburg, Deputy Consul of Germany; and Mr. Ziyad Raof, Plenipotentiary of the Kurdistan Regional Government in Poland.

Next, the rectors and representatives of universities as well as the rectors of seminaries and other Church institutions were greeted: Prof. Jerzy Malec, Rector of the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University; Prof. Mariusz Cygnar, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Sacz; Prof. Anna Marchewka, Vice-Rector of the University School of Physical Education in Krakow; Prof. Dorota Malec, Vice-Rector of the Jagiellonian University; Dr. Hab. Robert Stawarz, Vice-Rector of the Pedagogical University of Krakow; Dr. Monika Stankiewicz-Kopeć, Vice-Rector of the Jesuit University Ignatianum; Prof. Jerzy Lis, Vice-Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology; Prof. Andrzej Białkiewicz, Vice-Rector of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology; Prof. Florian Gambuś, Vice-Rector of the University of Agriculture in Krakow; Prof. Andrzej Białko, Vice-Rector of the Academy of Music in Krakow; Dr. Jolanta Ewartowska, Chancellor of the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow; Rev. Dr. Robert Wawer, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw; Rev. Prof. Jerzy Tupikowski, Vice-Rector of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław; Rev. Prof. Radosław Chałupniak, Dean of the Faculty of Theology at the University of Opole; Rev. Prof. Jaroslav Coranić, Associate Dean of the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology in Prešov; Rev. Prof. Janusz Mastalski, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow; Rev. Dr. Hab. Mariusz Chamarczuk, SDB, Rector of the Major Salesian Seminary in Łąd nad Wartą; Rev. Dr. Konrad Dyrda, Rector of the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Przemyśl; Rev. Adam Fogelman, Vice-Rector of the Major Seminary in Częstochowa; Rev. Dr. Mikołaj Węgrzyn, Director of the Higher Theological Institute in Częstochowa; Rev. Dr. Manfred Deselaers, Vice-President of the Krakow Foundation for the Center of Dialogue and Prayer in Oświęcim; Rev. Dr. Jacek Pietruszka, Director of the Family House of the Holy Father John Paul II Museum in Wadowice; and Rev. Dr. Paweł Gałuszka from the Department of Family Ministry of the Metropolitan Curia in Krakow.

Finally, the following among the last group of guests were greeted: Ms. Dorota Puka, President and Director of the Hospital of the Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John of God; Rev. Paweł Kulka, a representative of the Hospital of the Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John of God; Sister Olga Podsadnia, Mother General of the Assembly Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; Sister Małgorzata Burek, Superior of the Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary; and Ms. Marzena Gzyl, Vice-Principal of the Seventh High School

and a representative of Catholic schools that are connected to our university through patronage. At the conclusion, all the distinguished guests were greeted (without naming their names), as were the professors and staff from our university (including retired staff) as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

Understandably, not all who were invited to the inauguration of the academic year were able to attend. Among those who sent their telegrams and letters of congratulations, it is especially worth noting Dr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, whose letter was read during the inauguration by Mr. Piotr Ćwik, Voivode of the Lesser Poland Region. The letters and telegrams of other people were published on our university's website. They were sent by members of the episcopate as well as the representatives of Polish universities and secular authorities: Mr. Władysław Kosiniak-Kamysz, Chairman of the Polish People's Party; Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz, Archbishop Emeritus of Wrocław; Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw; Cardinal Marian Jaworski, Archbishop Emeritus of Lviv of the Latins; Archbishop Grzegorz Ryś, Archbishop of Łódź; Archbishop Wiktor Skworec, Archbishop of Katowice; Archbishop Henryk J. Muszyński, Archbishop Emeritus of Gniezno; Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk, Primate Emeritus of Poland; Bishop Adam Bałabuch, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Świdnica; Bishop Józef Guzdek, Military Ordinary of the Polish Armed Forces; Bishop Paweł Socha, CM, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Zielona Góra-Gorzów; Bishop Piotr Greger, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Bielsko-Zywiec; Bishop Stanisław Stefank, TChr, Bishop Emeritus of Łomża; Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Słomka, Rector of the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków; Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Janicki, Rector of the University of Bielsko-Biala; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Antoni Dębiński, Rector of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin; Dr. Elżbieta Cipora, Associate Professor and Rector of the Jan Grodek State Vocational Academy in Sanok; Prof. Dr. Hab. Grzegorz Przebinda, Rector of the State Higher Vocational School in Krosno; Prof. Dr. Hab. Witold Stankowski, Rector of the Witold Pilecki University of Applied Sciences in Oświęcim; Prof. Dr. Hab. Bogusław Machaliński, MD, Rector of the Pomeranian Medical University in Szczecin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Przemysław Jałowiecki, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Silesia in Katowice; Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Lesicki, Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań; Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Semaniak, Rector of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce; Prof. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Michałowski, Rector of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin; Prof. Halyna Kyryczuk, Rector of the Zhytomyr State University of Ivan Franko (Ukraine); Prof. Dr. Hab. Zygmunt Litwińczuk, Rector of the University of Life Sciences in Lublin; Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Trziszka, Rector of the Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences; Prof. Dr. Hab. Sylwester Czopek, Rector of Rzeszów University; Prof. Dr. Hab. Edward Włodarczyk, Rector of the University of Szczecin;

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. Mirosław Wielgoś, MD, Rector of the Medical University of Warsaw; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Paweł Wygralak, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań; Ms. Urszula Nowogórska, Chairperson of the Lesser Poland Voivodeship Sejmik; Rev. Prof. Dr. H. C. Wendelin Knoch (Bochum, Germany); Rev. Dr. Piotr Bajor, Congregation for Catholic Education (Vatican); and Ms. Józefa Szczurek-Żelazko, Member of Parliament.⁴

In the next part of the inauguration speech, Rev. Wojciech Zyzak recalled the most important events and achievements of the previous academic year. At the beginning, he referenced the resolution of the Polish Senate on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the election of our university's patron, St. John Paul II, to the Chair of St. Peter. The resolution recalled that in accordance with John Paul II's deep conviction "good and love, justice and peace, freedom and truth can once again become valuable to human consciences and become the fundament of every responsible ethical system."⁵ Our rector also informed of the upcoming academic conference: *Veritatis splendor. Jan Paweł II, który zmienił oblicze świata* ("Veritatis splendor: John Paul II, Who Changed the Face of the World"), which is discussed later below. Next, Rev. Zyzak expressed his joy at the increase in the number of first year students with respect to the previous academic year. Among important achievements, he named receiving the "A" and "B" categories in the most recent parametrization. The Faculty of Theology in Krakow and the Faculty of Philosophy received the „A” Category. Both are among the best in the country. Furthermore, the Faculty of Philosophy organized the International Center for Studies on the Phenomenon of Solidarity in collaboration with the Solidarity trade union. It will study and promote the ideas of Solidarity. The Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at the Faculty of Social Sciences received the right to grant the title of doctor in media studies, while the Institute for Family Studies of the same faculty became the first in Poland to grant a doctorate in family studies. As part of the European Union's Operational Program "Knowledge Education Development," the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage began the implementation of a two-year educational project titled: *Uniwersytet Młodego Odkrywcy* ("The University of the Young Discoverer"). Rev. Zyzak included the organization of the conference: *Kościół*

⁴ You can read the text of the telegrams and letters of congratulations at: <http://upjp2.edu.pl/uczelnia/x-uroczysta-inauguracja-roku-akademickiego-20182019-upjpii> (11.11.2019).

⁵ "Monitor Polski. Dziennik Urzędowy Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej" 9.10.2018, pos. 951 (Resolution of the Senate of Poland from September 28, 2018, on the fortieth anniversary of the election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła – Pope John Paul II to the Chair of St. Peter).

wobec osób wykluczonych (“The Church and Those Who are Excluded”) in cooperation with the Ruhr University Bochum (Germany) as among the successes of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow. These successes of individual faculties were possible thanks to the engagement of undergraduate and graduate students, academic teachers, and administrative staff, all of whom deserve high praise. Next, Rev. Zyzak discussed the celebrations of the tenth anniversary of our university’s elevation to the status of a pontifical university, the fiftieth anniversary of the Liturgical Institute, the tenth anniversary of the Inter-University Institute of Church Music, and the implementation of the Polish “Constitution for Science” and Pope Francis’ apostolic constitution *Veritatis gaudium*. Subsequently, our rector mentioned our university’s staff who had passed away in the previous year and concluded his inauguration speech with wishes of God’s blessings in the new academic year.

Next, our university’s Great Chancellor Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Krakow, spoke. In reference to Bishop Dec’s homily, he discussed the topic of theological studies within the context of the most recent reform of post-secondary education introduced by the law known as the “Constitution for Science.” Archbishop Jędraszewski recalled that the Academy of Krakow had become a university as thanks to the foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland it became enriched by the presence of a Faculty of Theology in 1397. Unfortunately, beginning with the Enlightenment the role of theology as an academic discipline in the structure of university studies has been questioned. In our time, Benedict XVI defended the scientific nature of theology in his famous Regensburg lecture. With regards to Polish legislation, theology has been on the list of academic disciplines established by the Central Commission for Academic Degrees and Titles since 2005. From time to time, however, the status of theology is questioned. The Church in Poland cannot agree to this. In his address to the Academic Council of the Episcopal Conference of Poland in 1979, as our Great Chancellor reminded us, Pope John Paul II emphasized the responsibility of the Church in Poland for its own scholarship at the academic level and at the same time noted the significance of the social dimension of theology. Meanwhile, in discussions during the preparations of the new bill on post-secondary education there was an attempt at changing the place of theology in the “network” of disciplines recognized in Polish academia. Theology was to become a discipline in the field of the humanities. Fortunately, as the archbishop emphasized, theology was protected from being included in the humanities thanks to the engagement of the secretary of the Academic Council at the time, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Krzysztof Pawlina. Thus, theology can continue to be a partner in academic discussions that contribute to progress in scholarship itself. A group of scholars who call themselves “The Citizens of Science” (*Obywatele Nauki*) opposed such a position of theology. On August 16, 2018, they published an “Opinion

on the Draft of the Decree of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education Regarding Areas of Science and Academic as Well as Artistic Disciplines.” In Point 4 of this document, they rejected the scientific nature of theology, because “theology is an ecclesiastical field of study and thus it does not fulfill the conditions of the autonomy of the university and the freedom of academic research and the proclamation of its results, as well as the freedom of teaching, as it is subject to the oversight of Church authorities.”⁶ Although this opinion was fortunately not taken into consideration, it remains in the public sphere. Thus, one should take it into consideration and present its incompatibility with reality, because there is full liberty of academic research in theology; the procedures of attaining academic degrees and titles are maintained, as there is a clearly designated subject of research and a distinct methodology. Thus, although theology is a unique science, it deserves to be recognized as a science, nonetheless. At the end of his address, Archbishop Jędraszewski expressed his wishes to our rector and the entire Pontifical University of John Paul II, that they may demonstrate that theology fully deserves to be recognized as a science in their competent academic activity. The fact that *fides* must always search for the intellect allows us to go and encounter the world with our heads up high to preach Christ, without whom humanity cannot understand itself, as St. John Paul II often emphasized, to it.⁷

Next, Mr. Piotr Ziółkowski, President of the Political Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Science and Higher Education, Mr. Jarosław Gowin, spoke. On behalf of the minister, he presented to our university as an institution the “Government Bond Increasing the University’s Capital.” The “Bond” is intended “for the financing of investments” at our university. Its nominal value is 17,725,000 zlotys. This is a sum that is intended for investments in 2019 and 2020. It will make the expansion of our university campus to include new didactic buildings next to the already-existing Main Library at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street in Krakow possible.

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 led by the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and Didactics, Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II. As in previous year, 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

⁶ For the full text of the document in Polish, see: http://obywatelenauki.pl/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/opinia_ON_dot.roz_o.dyscyplinach.16.08.2018.pdf (15.11.2019).

⁷ This has been written on the basis of the recording available at: <https://diecezja.pl/aktualnosci/inauguracja-roku-akademickiego-upjpii/> (23.11.2019).

opportunities offered by the university and to become engaged in the work of the Students' Union.

Subsequently, awards and distinctions were presented. The Vice-Rector for Development and Human Resources, Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Świerczek, Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II, announced the state distinctions bestowed upon our university's distinguished staff. This was an award 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 Cross of Merit was presented to Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Adam Napiórkowski, OP. Meanwhile, the Silver Cross of Merit was presented to: Rev. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Mirosław Bruździński, Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II; Rev. Dr. Hab. Zdzisław Władysław Gogola, OFMConv, Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II; Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Władysław Szczepaniak; Rev. Dr. Hab. Dariusz Franciszek Tabor CR, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II; Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II; and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Wojciech Witko. Finally, the Bronze Cross of Merit was presented to Mr. Dr. Józef Skrabski. The Voivode of Lesser Poland, Mr. Piotr Ćwik, presented these medals.

Next, awards were presented by His Magnificence, our university's rector. The Rector's Award for achievements in research, teaching, and organizational work was presented to twenty-one persons, while thirteen persons among the administrative and library staff received awards for conscientious administrative work. Four persons received the rector's award for the best doctoral dissertation; two persons received an award for the best Licentiate of Sacred Theology dissertation; eleven persons received awards for the best M. A. thesis; and eight persons received awards for the best B. A. thesis.

Typically, the last part of the inauguration ceremony is the inaugural lecture. That was also the case this year. In light of the fortieth anniversary of the election of St. John Paul II to the Chair of St. Peter, His Eminence Cardinal Dr. Stanisław Dziwisz gave a lecture titled: *Pontyfikat dla Kościoła i świata* ("A Pontificate for the Church and the World"). In the first part, Cardinal Dziwisz presented John Paul II's service to the universal Church. This was service that played an essential role in: the expansion of devotion to Divine Mercy; the deepening of Marian piety (introducing new Mysteries of Light to the rosary); reinforcing the People of God in their faith through apostolic pilgrimages (104 of which were outside Italy, including eight to Poland, while ninety-five were inside Italy); implementing the idea of World Youth Day; expanding the work of the new evangelization (the pope himself used the term "the new evangelization" in Nowa Huta in Krakow in 1979); increasing concern for the poor ("the preferential

option for the poor”); preparing the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*; implementing the reforms of post-conciliar Church law (the Code of Canon Law, 1983); and reforming the Roman Curia and ecclesiastical studies. Cardinal Dziwisz noted that in his speeches during apostolic travels, the pope took into consideration local conditions and at times spoke very harshly, such as “when he condemned the participation of priests involved in liberation theology in the communist government of Nicaragua or the Sicilian mafia. We also heard such strong words in Poland; for example, in defense of life in Kielce.” In the second part of the homily, the cardinal presented John Paul II’s engagement in the renewal of the created world in the spirit of the Gospel. He recalled John Paul II’s contribution to the collapse of communism; the evolution of Catholic social teaching (three social encyclicals) with a strong accent on human dignity; the promotion of solidarity between persons (his address at the Polish Baltic coast in 1987); great engagement in the promotion of the civilization of life and human rights (concern for the sick and those with disabilities); and energizing the Church’s dialogue with contemporary secular culture (science, art, and the means mass communications). In his conclusion, Cardinal Dziwisz emphasized that John Paul II was “a great advocate of peace in the world,” as expressed by the unprecedented prayer meeting in Assisi in the intention of peace or the mediation of the Holy See in the Falkland conflict. To summarize, the cardinal emphasized that “John Paul II’s service to the Church and the world were in many ways groundbreaking. The pope was not a politician but a pastor. However, by pouring courage and hope into human hearts he became a catalyst for historical changes.”⁸

At the end of the inauguration ceremony, Rev. Zyzak spoke, sincerely wishing God’s blessings to all the students, professors, and other university staff. He expressed his gratitude to all the participants in the inauguration for their presence.

The entire inauguration ceremony was graced by the singing of the *Psalmody* Choir of the Pontifical University of John Paul II under the direction of Mr. Dr. Hab. Włodzimierz Siedlik, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II who performed the song “Jubilate Deo” (Colin Mawby) and “Laudate Dominum” (Charles Gounod). The singing was accompanied by Mr. Marek Pawełek on the organ.

Important Events

The place and role of the Church in today’s Europe is an emotionally charged topic about which it is difficult to speak objectively. The international conference from the cycle: *Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej* (“The Role of the

⁸ This has been written on the basis of the recording available at: <https://diecezja.pl/aktualnosci/inauguracja-roku-akademickiego-upjpii/> (23.11.2019).

Catholic Church in the Process of European Integration”), organized by the Pontifical University of John Paul II, served to popularize knowledge on this topic. This was an international event that unquestionably was very important in popularizing European integration not only in the Polish milieu, but in academic centers in other East-Central European countries as well.

The eighteenth edition of the conference was devoted to trying to answer the question of: “The Perspectives of the Development of the European Union.” It took place on October 5–6, 2018, in the International Cultural Center at the Main Market Square in Krakow (previously, it had been held in Tomaszowice outside Krakow). The papers dealt with topics concerning the future of the European Union from the perspective of the Catholic Church and encompassed the following matters: the euro as a social, political, and economic binding force of the European Union (EU); Schengen as a zone of stability and topics related to the external border of the European Union; rule of law as a guarantee of a strong EU; and nationality and identity in Europe. Like previous editions, the conference was organized by our university in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg. The organization’s collaborators also included the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats) in the European Parliament, the Polish Club in 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.

This time, the conference was opened by the chairman of the Organizational Committee, Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Pieronek. He was followed by: Dr. Janusz Lewandowski (Member of the European Parliament, Co-President of the Polish Delegation of Civic Platform and the Polish People’s Party in the European Parliament, and former European Commissioner for Budget and Human Resources); Mr. Andrzej Grzyb (Member of the European Parliament, Co-President of the Polish Delegation of Civic Platform and the Polish People’s Party in the European Parliament); Prof. Dr. Thomas Sternberg (board member of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and President of the Central Committee of German Catholics); Mr. Jacek Krupa (Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region); and Bishop Rimantas Norvila (Chairman of the COMECE Commission for the International Cooperation of the EU and Bishop of the Diocese of Vilkaiviškis, Lithuania).

Apart from the above-mentioned presentations, a special introductory speech by Mr. Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, which was broadcast via Internet, provided topics for conversation. Mr. Tajani noticed that Europeans are brave and creative, and the European Union is a democratic community based on rule of law and freedom of speech that breaks down walls and is open to people and

capital. In order to continue to dynamically develop, the European Union “needs Poland as a country that helps to create our future” more than ever, because the Polish economy is one of the pillars of the European economy. Thus, he wished Poland that its engagement in European integration would lead to the creation of a successful future for the entire European Union.

Next, three panel sessions were held: one before lunch and two after it. The first was devoted to the topic: “The Euro: The Social, Political, and Economic Binding Force of the EU.” The topic was introduced by the above-mentioned Dr. Janusz Lewandowski, who expressed his belief that Europeans dislike cumbersome legal regulations, while they care most about broadly understood safety “from cultural rather than social safety to cyber safety.” He also argued that adopting the euro currency would be beneficial to Poland, noting that no countries that belong to this currency union want to leave it. Participants in this discussion were: Mr. Kai Wynands (Chairman of the Cabinet of Valdis Dombrovskis, European Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union); Dr. Ivan Štefanec (Member of the European Parliament and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Government on the Adoption of the Euro); and Mr. Janusz Jankowiak (Main Economist of the Polish Business Council). The discussion was led by Mr. Andrzej Godlewski, a journalist and lecturer at the SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities.

The second panel session was devoted to the topic: “Schengen: A Zone of Stability and the External Border of the EU.” Mr. Jacques Santer (former President of the European Commission and former President of the Robert Schuman Foundation in Luxembourg) gave the opening remarks, during which he recalled that the history of this zone began in 1985 in the village of Schengen at the border of the Benelux countries (Luxembourg), France, and Germany. There, a treaty known as the “Schengen Agreement” was signed aboard a ship on the Moselle River. Participants in the discussion on the role of the agreement in European integration were Ms. Željana Zovko, Member of the European Parliament for Croatia; Mr. Konrad Szymański, Secretary of State for European Affairs at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Ms. Maria Mykolaivna Ionova (Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on European Integration in the Ukrainian Parliament). The discussion was led by Dr. Hab. Katarzyna Pisarska (Director of the European Academy of Diplomacy).

The topic of the third panel session was: “Rule of Law: The Guarantor of a Strong EU.” Introductory remarks were given by Prof. Hanna Suchocka (Honorary President of the Venice Commission and former Prime Minister of Poland), who admitted that the concept of rule of law seemed clear when the countries of East-Central Europe joined the European Union. Today, however, this is no longer the case, and “rule of law” has become a subject of negotiations and “we have a need to complement the

definition of rule of law.” The following took part in the discussion on complementing rule of law and related matters (including the independence of judges): Ms. Nuria Díaz Abad (former President of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary), Prof. Zoltán Fleck (Director of the Center for Legal and Social Theory at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest), and Dr. Hab. Włodzimierz Wróbel (Judge of the Supreme Court of Poland and a lecturer at the Jagiellonian University). The discussion was led by Ms. Urszula Gacek (former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Poland at the Council of Europe and a member of the Council of the Institute for Strategic Studies in Krakow).

The last part of the program of the first day of the conference was a Mass celebrated by the bishops and priests who took part in the sessions. The concelebration was led by Bishop Jan Kopiec of the Diocese of Gliwice, while the homily was given by Rev. Adam Boniecki, MTC (Senior Editor of “Tygodnik Powszechny”). The liturgy was celebrated in St. Barbara’s Church in the vicinity of the Main Market Square in Krakow. After the Mass, a special reception organized by the Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region, Mr. Jacek Krupa, was held for the participants of the conference.

The following day, the conference began with a speech by the special guest, Mr. Donald Tusk (President of the European Council, former Prime Minister of Poland) on the topic: “The Perspectives of the Development of Poland in the European Union.” He argued that “there is no alternative for a better Poland, if such a thing even exists, than its presence in Europe understood as a political community.” The former prime minister recalled Pope John Paul II’s words encouraging the Poles to join the European Union and expressed his regret over the deep political divisions in Poland, which were not conducive to an appropriate celebration of the looming centenary of the restoration of Polish independence (November 11, 1918).

Finally, the topic of “Nationality and Identity in Europe” was discussed during the fourth and final morning session. Dr. Jan Olbrycht’s (Member of the European Parliament) presentation was an introduction to the discussion on this topic. He criticized the tendency to contrast national values with European ones and noted that we should support the new European cultural identity by the respecting cultural and religious diversity of the nations that contribute to it. The discussion was attended by: Bishop Theodorus Cornelis Maria Hoogenboom (Chairman of COMECE on Legal Affairs and Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Utrecht), Bishop Dr. Piotr Jarecki (Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Warsaw), and Dr. Thomas Schrapel (Director of the Office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in the Southern Caucasus). The discussion was led by Dr. Hab. Sławomir Sowiński (a lecturer at the Institute of Political Science at the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw).

At the conclusion, the conference was summed up by Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, Rector of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, who recalled John Paul II's words: "There will be no European unity as long as it will not be a community of spirit." Rev. Prof. Zyzak added: "At the same time, we realize that in the future only a united Europe has the potential to be something more than a 'peninsula of Asia' in the world's eyes."

Thirty speakers and panelists as well as more than 450 audience members took part in the conference. They included politicians representing the European Parliament, the Polish Parliament, and the German Federal Parliament (the Bundestag). The conference was also attended by numerous Polish and European journalists as well as the representatives of international press agencies. The participants represented Polish and international universities and included experts as well as Catholic clergy from Poland and Orthodox clergy from Ukraine. They all represented such nations as: Austria, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia, the United States, and Canada.⁹

The Days of John Paul II are another important academic event that is held each year. This is a major organizational effort, because numerous Krakow universities take part in it, while the College of the Rectors of Higher Schools in Krakow oversees the whole event. They are of an academic, interdisciplinary, popular, and cultural nature. They 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). Last year's Days of John Paul II were held for the thirteenth time and took place on November 6–8, 2018; their main theme was "Independence." In this way, the organizers of this edition of the Days of John Paul II wanted to recall the pope's teachings on sociopolitical topics related to the struggle for independence and concern for preserving Poland's sovereignty, which had been restored in 1918. As in previous years, the Days of John Paul II were held at the campuses of several Krakow universities. This year, the honorary patrons were the Archbishop of Krakow Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski; Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz; the Voivode of Lesser Poland Mr. Piotr Cwik; the Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region Mr. Jacek Krupa; and the Mayor of Krakow Mr. Jacek Majchrowski.

⁹ For more information, see: M. Góra, *Perspektywy rozwoju Unii Europejskiej – XVIII Międzynarodowa Konferencja z cyklu „Rola Kościoła katolickiego w procesie integracji europejskiej”*, "Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie" 2018 nr 96/3, pp. 33–35; <https://ekai.pl/duchowni-i-politycy-europejscy-o-perspektywach-rozwoju-unii/> (4.12.2019); K. Tracz, *Cała naprzód, babciu Europo!*, <https://www.tygodnikpowszechny.pl/calana-przod-babciu-europa-155820> (4.12.2019). The texts from the conference are available in English at: <http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl/wp-content/uploads/krakow2018-EN.pdf> (30.12.2019).

The thirteenth Days of John Paul II began with a press conference of the event's organizers, who presented the program of that year's edition, in the Palace of the Archbishops of Krakow. They consisted of the following events: the national conference: *Jan Paweł II a polski mesjanizm. Wokół "Liturgii dziejów" Pawła Rojka* ("John Paul II and Polish Messianism: Concerning Paweł Rojek's *Liturgy of History*"), which was organized by the Institute of Dogmatic Theology of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow (November 6, 2018); the academic conference: *Jan Paweł II – patron Niepodległej* ("John Paul II: Patron of an Independent Poland") organized by the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow (November 6, 2018); the national academic session: *Muzyka wobec poezji i nauczania Karola Wojtyły i Jana Pawła II* ("Music and Karol Wojtyła's/John Paul II's Poetry and Teaching;" Part Nine) organized by the Academy of Music in Krakow (November 6–7, 2018); Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Artur Śliwiński's open lecture titled: *Suverenność i rozwój narodu w świetle nauczania Jana Pawła II* ("Sovereignty and the Development of the Nation in Light of John Paul II's Teaching") at the Krakow University of Economics (November 7 2018); the academic session *Encyklika "Fides et ratio" po 20 latach* ("The Encyclical *Fides et ratio*: Twenty Years Later") organized by the Fides et Ratio International Academic Society (November 7, 2018); and the main academic session *Niepodległość* ("Independence"), which is discussed below. Parallel to the main academic session, the academic symposium titled: *Hanna Chrzanowska – jedna z nas. Kto następnym?* ("Hanna Chrzanowska – One of Us: Who's Next?"), which was held on November 8, 2018, and was devoted to the spiritual legacy of Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska in her service as a nurse to the ill. It was organized by the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the election of Cardinal Wojtyła to the Chair of St. Peter. The academic sessions were accompanied by the following cultural events: a concert in the Krakow Philharmonic organized by the Academy of Music in Krakow (November 6, 2018); the presentation of works that received awards in the photography contest organized by the Tadeusz Kosciuszko University of Technology in the Gil Gallery at 24 Warszawska Street in Krakow (November 7, 2018). The literary and above-mentioned photographic contests for university 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 thirteenth edition was the academic session titled: *Niepodległość* ("Independence"), which 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 8, 2018). The session was opened by His Magnificence Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Nowak, Rector of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. In his brief speech, he said that, in his opinion, which not all share, "there would be no Solidarity and no transition to democracy in 1989 without John Paul II.

Those who weren't around in 1979 and don't remember John Paul II's first pilgrimage to Poland will never understand this." Next, he expressed his astonishment that intellectuals, writers, and artists are incapable of transmitting this experience in a work of literature, film, or theater to the younger generation, and added: "Those who were around then and saw that first pilgrimage understand why Solidarity was formed and why we regained hope for freedom and independence." After recalling one of the most frequently quoted fragments of the pope's homily in 1979, which contains the famous words "May Your Spirit descend," he asked: "As a result of political events, which at times are embarrassing and at others terrible, but in any case are rarely wonderful, cause young people to ask if we have any moral authorities, if there is a person we can trust and believe. This is a difficult question today, when everything can be denied, scoffed at, ridiculed [...] one just has to reach for that source. That is why today's event is held." Next, our university's Great Chancellor Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski spoke and recalled John Paul II's meeting with a delegation of the Solidarity trade union in the Vatican on November 11, 2003. Archbishop Jędraszewski recalled the fragment of the pope's speech on three kinds of freedom: national, external, and spiritual freedom. Freedom of the spirit is the fundament of all other kinds of freedom. "Although that freedom of spirit," the pope said then, "has been suppressed since the end of the Second World War and the Yalta agreement has survived and has become the fundament of peaceful changes in our country and then throughout Europe." Archbishop Jędraszewski concluded his speech by expressing his wishes that not only that session but all other initiatives that make up that edition of the Days of John Paul II would be fruitful.¹⁰

Four speakers presented during the main part of the session. They discussed the following topics: "Cultural and Spiritual Capital as the Foundation of Freedom and Independence in the Life of Karol Wojtyła" (Prof. Tracey Rowland, University of Notre Dame, Sydney, Australia); "John Paul II's Dialogues" (Archbishop Mieczysław Mokrzycki, Archbishop of Lviv of the Latins, Ukraine); "St. John Paul II and Independence" (Prof. Paulius V. Subačius, Vilnius University, Lithuania); and "Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic: Two Independences and John Paul II" (Rev. Dr. Hieronim Kaczmarek, Prague, Czech Republic).

The thirteenth edition of the Days of John Paul II" ended on November 8, 2018, with a Mass at 5:00 PM in the Shrine of St. John Paul II in Krakow's White Sea presided

¹⁰ This has been written on the basis of the video recording: J. Adamik, K. Katyrzyńska, *Rozpoczęcie XIII Dni Jana Pawła II*, Redakcja Programów Katolickich, Kraków 2018 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLnxN1RmWt8>; <https://diecezja.pl/aktualnosci/xiii-dni-jana-pawla-ii-niepodleglosc/> (26.11.2019)).

by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski of Krakow. During the homily, he emphasized that: "For us, John Paul II became a major teacher of love of the fatherland, freedom, and responsibility." After Mass, awards were presented to laureates of the literary contest of the Thirteenth Edition of the Days of John Paul II.¹¹

In addition to the above-mentioned Days of John Paul II, the legacy of Pope St. John Paul II is popularized by monthly open lectures that are part of the *Posługa myślenia* ("In Service of Thought") cycle. 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, lectures were given by the following representatives of various academic and cultural milieus throughout Poland: *Charyzma przywództwa Jana Pawła II w ujęciu semantycznym i behawioralnym* ("The Charisma of the Leadership of John Paul II in a Semantic and Behavioral Conception;" Ms. Małgorzata Klimczyk, Perła Szkolenia i Coaching, Krakow); *Kim jestem "ja", syn/córka polskiej ziemi? O tożsamości narodowej Polaków w świetle nauczania Karola Wojtyły – Jana Pawła II* ("Who Am 'I', the Son/Daughter of Poland? On the National Identity of Poles in Light of the Teaching of Karol Wojtyła/John Paul II;" Ms. Dr. Katarzyna Wilczek, Silesian Center for Heart Diseases in Zabrze); *Mysleć dialogicznie – Jana Pawła II filozofia komunikacji* ("Thinking Dialogically: John Paul II and the Philosophy of Communication;" Mrs. Dr. Hab. Katarzyna Parzych-Blakiewicz, Professor at the University of Warmia and Mazury, Olsztyn); *Wolność miłości w ujęciu Edyty Stein i Karola Wojtyły* ("Freedom as Conceived by Edith Stein and Karol Wojtyła;" Mr. Dr. Marek Olejniczak, Medical University of Gdansk, Gdansk); *Autentyczna miłość wobec współczesnych antropologii* ("Authentic Love and Contemporary Anthropology;" Rev. Dr. Paweł Gałuszka, Pontifical University of John Paul II, Krakow); *Jana Pawła II nauka o planie Bożym ukrytym przed wiekami w Stwórcy. Wstęp do mariologii obiektywnej* ("John Paul II's Teaching on the Divine Plan Hidden in the Creator Before the Ages: An Introduction to Objective Mariology;" Rev. Dr. Sławomir Kunka, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun); *Jan Paweł II i media* ("John Paul II and the Media;" Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow); and *Karol Wojtyła i fenomenologia* ("Karol Wojtyła and Phenomenology;" Mr. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Gielarowski, Jesuit University Ignatianum, Krakow).

The lectures mentioned above are published by the center in the editorial series titled: *Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II* ("Studies on the Thought of John Paul II"), which is edited by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Kupczak, OP. In the previous year, the

¹¹ For more information (in Polish), see: [http://edycja2018.jp2.krakow.pl/program/\(26.11.2019\)](http://edycja2018.jp2.krakow.pl/program/(26.11.2019)).

nineteenth volume was published: T. Grabińska, *O filozofii Karola Wojtyły i nauczaniu Jana Pawła II w kontekście ochrony osoby i wspólnoty* ("On the Philosophy of Karol Wojtyła and the Teaching of John Paul II in the Context of the Protection of the Person and the Community," Krakow: Wydawnictwo Naukowe UPJPII 2019, pp. 200 (*Studia nad Myślą Jana Pawła II*, vol. 19).

Other important cyclical events in the life of our university include jubilees. It is especially worth noting the anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow (January 11, 1397) as part 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 Friday January 11, 2019, in St. Anne's Collegiate Church. The university thanked God for 622 years of protection over the faculty by celebrating a special concelebrated Mass that was presided by our university's Great Chancellor Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski. The homily was given by Bishop Janusz Mastalski, who presented the seven illnesses of contemporary education (the trap of utility, the "flannelization" of education, the lack of originality, depersonalization, synergic egotism, multifaceted consumerism, and relativistic and individualistic postmodernism). After the Mass, a promotion ceremony was held, during which twenty-nine persons received their PhD diplomas (seventeen at the Faculty of Theology, six at the Faculty of Philosophy, two at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and one each at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow and the Faculty of Social Sciences). Meanwhile, one person from the Faculty of Theology received the diploma of habilitated doctor (Sister Dr. Hab. Joanna Nowińska, SM). Next, Archbishop Jędraszewski presented professors' diplomas to nine persons: the academic title of professor of theological studies was bestowed upon two persons (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Arkadiusz Baron, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Królikowski), while the title of academic professor of the humanities was granted to three persons (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Biesaga, Sister Prof. Dr. Hab. Tereza Obolevich, and Prof. Dr. Hab. Mieszko Tałasiewicz) and four persons received diplomas signifying that they had become associate professors (Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wiesław Delimat, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wiesław Przyczyna, Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Wolny-Zmorzyński, and Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Wołczański). Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Wołczański expressed his gratitude in the name of those who had been promoted. In reference to the Lviv philosopher Kazimierz Twardowski's reflection *O dostojęństwie uniwersytetu* ("On the Majesty of the University"), he also recalled that the aim of the university is the attainment and discovery of new truths. 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 jubilee and promotion ceremonies were graced by the singing of the *Psalmodia* Choir under the direction of Mr. Prof. Włodzimierz Siedlik.

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 of Poland more generally. The Tischner Days are a form of popularizing his philosophical and sociopolitical thought. They are 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, Nineteenth Tischner Days were held on March 27–30, 2019, in Kraków. Their slogan was *Człowiek. Nowe wyzwania* (“Man: New Challenges”). The Tischner Days began with a Mass in Rev. Prof. Tischner's intention, which was presided by His Magnificence Rev. Prof. Wojciech Zyzak, our university's rector. Meanwhile, the homily was given by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Jagiełło, Dean of our university's Faculty of Philosophy. In it, he called for fidelity to God's laws: if we respect them, “then we will be faithful to humanity and to ourselves. Then, we will not betray, humiliate, or mock the person who stands next to us.” The nineteenth edition of the event included: a showing of documentaries titled: *Tischner na ekranie* (“Tischner On Screen”), which was led by Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz and took place at the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage at the AST National Academy of Theater Arts in Krakow; a discussion on the topic “Tischner's Thinking About Humanity,” which was led by Ms. Maria Karolczak with the participation of Mr. Marek Drwięga, Mr. Adam Workowski, and Mr. Wojciech Załuski (the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Collegium Novum*); a discussion meeting from the “Cave of Philosophers” series on the topic “The Value of Humanity,” which was led by Ms. Anna Mateja and Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz, whose participants were: Mr. Bogdan de Barbaro, Sister Barbara Chyrowicz, Mr. Marek Krawczyk, and Mr. Piotr Grzegorz Nowak (auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Auditorium Maximum*); a discussion on the topic “How to Stop the Spiral of Violence?” led by Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz with the participation of Ms. Anna Dymna, Rev. Józef Krawiec, Ms. Małgorzata Ołasińska-Chart, and Mr. Jakub Wygnański (the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage of the AST National Academy of Theater Arts in Krakow; a reading of Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner's essay *Kot pilnujący myszy* (“A Cat Looking After Mice”) by Mr. Robert Więckiewicz, which was accompanied by a public discussion led by Ms. Agnieszka Forys and Mr. Wojciech Bonowicz (the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage of the AST National Academy of Theater Arts in Krakow); “OFF Tischner,” or the Open Philosophical Forum devoted to a discussion on who heard what during the Nineteenth Tischner Days (the Józef Tischner Institute in Krakow).

The central event of those days was a lecture from the *Colloquia Tischneriana* cycle (March 28, 2019), titled: *Etyka w medycynie zabiegowej – czy nowe technologie wpłynęły na nasze zachowania etyczne?* (“Ethics in Interventional Medicine: Do the

New Technologies Influence Our Ethical Behaviors?”), which was given by Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Krawczyk, MD, an accomplished surgeon and transplantologist from the Medical University of Warsaw (*Auditorium Maximum* Auditorium of the Jagiellonian University). Prof. Krawczyk noted that transplantation is among the most controversial procedures in clinical medicine. Parallel to the expansion of transplantology, there is an increase in the number of ethical and moral dilemmas related to taking organs from both living and deceased donors. They result from the still-relevant Hippocratic Oath (then given to people and the gods), which treats the medical profession as a mission. Such a mission entails the physician's responsibility towards people, which is increased responsibility with regards to God. The oath is the basis of the still-binding code of medical practice, in which concern for the good of the patient, respecting physician-patient privilege, and making efforts to maintain respect for the authority of the medical profession are the physician's basic duties. In the case of transplantology, examples of activities that gives birth to ethical dilemmas include the purchasing of organs for transplantation from poor people, the robotization of the simplest surgical tasks, and plastic surgery motivated by fashion.¹²

The Nineteenth Tischner Days concluded with the gala of the Rev. Józef Tischner Znak and Hestia Award for 2019 (the Stanisław Wyspiański Stage at the AST National Academy of Theater Arts in Krakow). Rev. Adam Boniecki and Mr. Henryk Woźniakowski spoke with the laureates of the award: Rev. Ludwik Wiśniewski, Mr. Łukasz Garbał, Ms. Lidia Niedźwiedzka-Owsiak, and Mr. Jerzy Owsiak. The gala concluded with a concert of the Bester Quartet, whose members are Mr. Jarosław Bester (accordion), Mr. Dawid Lubowicz (violin), Mr. Ryszard Pałka (percussion), and Mr. Maciej Adamczak (bass).¹³

The expansion of the campus at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street, which is adjacent to the Jagiellonian University's campus and which includes the already-functioning building of the Main Library, one of the most modern in Poland, is a great challenge for our university's authorities. After receiving the "Government Bond Increasing the University's Capital," which was mentioned in the context of the inauguration of the academic year, the opportunity to begin the construction of didactic spaces on campus appeared. However, to the surprising of many university employees, a decision was made, as a result of which on April 12, 2019, a letter of intent concerning the location of the center of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow at the Have No Fear!

¹² On the basis of the audio recording: <https://tischner.pl/dni-tischnerowskie-2019-wyklad-prof-marka-krawczyka/> (30.11.2019).

¹³ For more on the Nineteenth Tischner Days (in Polish), see: <https://dni.tischner.pl/program-19-dni-tischnerowskich/>; <https://tischner.pl/nagroda-tischnera-po-raz-dziewietnasty/> (27.11.2019).

John Paul II Center was signed in the Krakow Archbishops' Palace (3 Franciszkańska Street). The center is located in another part of the city (in the so-called White Seas), not far from the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow-Łagiewniki. According to a communique published in relation to this fact, "we want to include the continuation of the ideal of the project of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in the task of the construction of the Have No Fear! John Paul II Center, serving its academic potential, including academic staff, students, and well-equipped academic and research facilities."¹⁴ In essence, the decision on the "relocation of the university's center" from the center of Krakow to the "White Seas," and thus not to the campus, would mean abandonment of the expansion of the campus and once again transferring its collection of books to buildings in need of costly adaptation. Soon, however, it turned out that such a plan cannot be implemented. Thus, procedures whose aim was the expansion of the didactic building on campus in the direct vicinity of the Main Library, taking into consideration the initial plans, were implemented.

The tenth anniversary of our university coincided with the twentieth anniversary of its Students' Union, which was celebrated on May 29–30, 2019. The celebrations began with a special session of the Students' Union in the University Senate Hall with the participation of His Magnificence, our Rector Rev. Prof. W. Zyzak and other university authorities. In their addresses, students (Ms. Sylwia Sperling, former president, and Mr. Mateusz Więcek, current president of the Students' Union) summarized the union's achievements and expressed their gratitude to the university, while Rev. Prof. Zyzak thanked the students for their engagement and proper attitude. Likewise, Ms. Celina Budzowska, advisor of the Students' Union, thanked the students for their work, many ideas, and desire to be active. On the evening of the first day, the Final Gala of the Students' Awards, during which students honored those who helped to make their university lives easier, took place in the John Paul II Auditorium in the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow-Łagiewniki. The gala was graced by a performance of the Sonbird group. On the morning of the following day (May 30, 2019), a special session of the University Council of the Students' Union with a panel of experts of "Emeritus" Presidents (former presidents) took place at 3 Bernardyńska Street. At noon, meanwhile, the exhibit *20 lat Samorządu Studentów na fotografii* ("Twenty Years of the Students' Union in Photography") was inaugurated, also in the building on 3 Bernardyńska Street. The ceremony culminated in an afternoon meeting in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist, which is our university's academic church. A Mass was concelebrated there and presided by our university's Vice-Rector

¹⁴ <https://upjp2.edu.pl/aktualnosci/podpisano-list-intencyjny-w-sprawie-ustanowienia-siedziby-universytetu-papieskiego-jana-pawla-ii-w-krakowie-na-terenie-centrum-j-1244.html> (30.12.2019).

Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, who also gave the homily

International and Domestic Cooperation

An important area of our university's activity that is conducive to its development is also collaboration with international academic centers. 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 five international universities as well as two Polish ones.

Our university's previous contacts with the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, took on an institutional form thanks to the initiation of formal cooperation. In a resolution from October 22, 2018, our university's Senate agreed to permanently enter into cooperation with it and accepted the draft of the Agreement of Affiliation (Memorandum of Understanding). The aim of this agreement is to allow American students to participate in our program of study. The agreement will be effective for a period of three years. The John Paul II Project from Orlando, Florida, is also engaged in this agreement as an intermediary institution. It is responsible for the protection of the personal data (in accordance with the legislation of the European Union) of students who participate in the above-mentioned program of study. On behalf of our university, the agreement will be signed by our Great Chancellor and our Rector, Rev. Prof. W. Zyzak, while the Catholic University of America will be represented by Mr. Victor Nakas, M. Phil., Vice Provost for Administration and Mrs. Corinne MacDonald will represent the John Paul II Project, of which she is President.

Another international agreement concerned an Austrian university. Our university's Senate voted in favor of an agreement on cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland in Austria (Eisenstadt campus). Our Senate made this decision on October 22, 2018, and also accepted a draft of this agreement. As in many other analogous agreements, the subject of cooperation is the exchange of academic and didactic staff and students; academic publications and the published results of research; knowledge on didactics and the education of didactic staff; and undergraduate as well as graduate students. The agreement will be effective for three years. From the Polish side, Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences; Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Kazimierz Wolny-Zmorzyński, Director of Doctoral Studies at that faculty; and Mr. Tomasz Kniaż, an employee of our Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation, are responsible for its implementation. Meanwhile, the Director of Doctoral Studies, Mrs. Prof. Dr. Hab. Dr. H.C. Irena Zavrl, is responsible for these tasks for the Austrian side. As usual, the signatories on our part are our Great Chancellor as well

as our Rector Rev. Prof. W. Zyzak, while the Austrian side is represented by Prof. Zavrł and Mr. Georg Pehm (chief executive officer).

With regards to Polish universities, on February 18, 2019, our university's Senate adopted a resolution on forming an agreement of cooperation with the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Our Senate also accepted the draft of an "Agreement on Academic and Didactic Cooperation" with that university. This agreement encompasses the exchange of academic didactic staff, students, academic publications and the results of research; 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. On behalf of our university, the agreement will be signed by our Great Chancellor as well as our Rector Rev. Prof. W. Zyzak, while in the name of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin it will be signed by its Great Chancellor Archbishop Stanisław Budzik and its Rector Prof. Dr. Hab. Antoni Dębiński. Mr. Tomasz Książ of the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation as well as Dr. Monika Borowska of the Institute for Family Studies are responsible for coordination on our part, while Ms. Aleksandra Tokarska, Director of the Organizational-Legal Department of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, and Dr. Hab. Elżbieta Rydz from the Institute of Psychology are responsible for the coordination on behalf of our partner university in Lublin.

Other international agreements concern universities in Skopje, Rome, and Grand Rapids. Thus, on February 18, 2019, our university's Senate adopted a resolution on entering into cooperation with the International Balkan University in Skopje (North Macedonia) and adopted the draft of the Agreement of International Cooperation. As in similar agreements, the subject of this document is the exchange of teaching staff, research staff, and students; scientific publications and research results; knowledge pertaining to didactics and the training of teaching staff, doctoral students, graduate and undergraduate students; advanced teaching materials; and the application of modern teaching methods. On our part, Mr. Tomasz Książ from the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation will be responsible for coordination of the exchange, while his counterpart from the International Balkan University will be Mrs. Prof. Dr. Snezana Bilic as the Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator.

On April 15, 2019, the Senate adopted a resolution on a new collaboration with the Pontifical Gregorian University and adopted the draft of the Memorandum of Understanding. The subject of this agreement is: the creation of programs of international study; entering into agreements facilitating the exchange of students interested in specific subjects, disciplines, or research; entering into agreements concerning the exchange of academic and administrative staff; the joint creation of programs of teaching with the aim of facilitating student mobility; other forms of cooperation

encompassing research and the implementation of joint lectures; the exchange of academic information encompassing library resources and academic publications; and joint participation in projects financed by international resources. In the name of our university, the agreement will be signed by our Great Chancellor and our Rector Rev. Prof. W. Zyzak, while the Pontifical Gregorian University will be represented by its Rector Rev. Prof. Nuno da Silva Gonçalves, SJ. This agreement does not discuss people responsible for the coordination of cooperation.

Next, on May 20, 2019, our university's Senate adopted a resolution on collaboration with Aquinas College in Grand Rapids (Michigan, United States) and the John Paul II Project (Florida, United States) as an intermediary institution. The Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding above all deals with the exchange of students. It will be in effect for two years and will be implemented until the spring 2020 semester. Our university was represented by His Magnificence Rector Zyzak along with Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university's Great Chancellor, while Aquinas College was represented by Dr. Stephen Barrows (Executive Vice President) along with Mr. Timothy Ramsay (Director of International Programs). Meanwhile, the John Paul II Project was represented by Ms. Corinne MacDonald (President).

Finally, the last domestic agreement signed in the previous year was accepted on April 15, 2019, when our university's Senate agreed to enter into cooperation with the University of Szczecin and confirmed the project of the agreement on this topic. This agreement encompasses the exchange of academic didactic staff, students, academic publications, and the results of research, as well as information in the field of didactics, the training of didactic staff, and the application of modern methods of teaching. Our university was represented by our Rector Rev. Prof. Zyzak and Great Chancellor, while the University of Szczecin was represented by its Rector Prof. Dr. Hab. Edward Włodarczyk. On behalf of our university, Mr. Tomasz Książ from the Center for Scientific Research and International Cooperation will be responsible for coordinating this collaboration, while Ms. Magdalena Manugiewicz will be his counterpart from the University of Szczecin.¹⁵

Furthermore, our university has bilateral agreements that were signed independent of the previous Erasmus exchange program, which now is called Erasmus+ (as of the conclusion of the 2018–2019 academic year, this was a total of thirty-eight 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

¹⁵ The information on the agreements is on the basis of: *Biuletyn Informacji Publicznej* (digital version): <http://upjp2.nowybiep.pl/uchwaly-senatu> (30.12.2019).

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), 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), 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), Moscow State Linguistic University (Moscow, Russia), Studium Theologicum Salesianum (Jerusalem, Israel), the College of Specialist Pedagogical Preparation (Svatý Jan pod Skalou, Czech Republic), the Catholic University of America (Washington, USA), Aquinas College (Grand Rapids, USA), Tiraspol State University (Chişinău [Kishinev], Moldova), International Balkan University (Skopje, North Macedonia), and the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland (Eisenstadt, Austria).

The main sphere of international cooperation is the EU program “+”, in which our university has participated since December 2013 and which will last through the end of the 2020–2021 academic year.

In the 2018–2019 academic year, our university implemented a total of fifty-eight mobilities as part of the “Erasmus+” program and part of the program “International Mobility of Students with Disabilities and Those in a Difficult Financial Situation: Second Edition,” financed from the “Knowledge Education Development Operational Programme” (POWER). Meanwhile, nineteen students traveled abroad to study, while another twelve students completed internships abroad. Nine members of our didactic staff traveled abroad on scholarship, as did eighteen administrative staff members. Meanwhile, forty international students from partner universities in Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany, Slovakia, Austria, Slovenia, and the United States came to our university and completed part of their studies here. Among the didactic staff of our partner universities, ten persons taught at our university. They were from the Comenius University Bratislava (Slovakia), Charles University in Prague, (Czech Republic), and the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia), among others. Meanwhile, fifteen administrative staff members from partner universities including the University

of Ružomberok (Slovakia), the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Kosice (Slovakia), and the University of Debrecen (Hungary) underwent training at our university as part of the “Erasmus+” program. In order to make studying at our university in the 2018–2019 academic year easier, we prepared a total of forty-four courses (subjects) in English.

In the 2018–2019 academic year, we had a total of 118 agreements signed with international universities that engage in the Erasmus+ program with the following organizational units of our university (some were signed in the 2018–2019 academic year; the list has been updated):

Faculty of Theology (twenty-seven) the University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia); Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); University of Vienna (Austria); the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology (Germany); the Newman Institute (Sweden); Ruhr University Bochum (Germany); the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); the University of Navarra (Spain); the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (Germany); the 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); the University of Münster (Germany); Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia); the Pontifical University of Salamanca (Spain); the University of Würzburg (Germany); the University of Tilburg (Netherlands); the University of Tübingen Eberhard Karls (Germany); the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France); Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia); the University of Osijek (Croatia); the University of Zagreb, Catholic Faculty of Theology (Croatia); Gál Ferenc College in Szeged (Hungary, 2018/2019); and the University of Zadar (Croatia, 2018/2019).

Faculty of Theology – Tarnow Branch (six): the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic); the Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt (Germany); Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia); the University of Huelva (Spain); Svatojánská kolej – vyšší odborná škola pedagogická (Czech Republic [only academic staff]);

Faculty of Philosophy (eighteen): Constantine the Philosopher University (Slovakia); the University of Trento (Italy); Vilnius University (Lithuania); the University of Trnava (Slovakia); the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology (Germany); the Newman Institute for Catholic Studies (Sweden); Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania); Albert Ludwig University Freiburg (Germany); the University of Naples Federico II (Italy); the University of Verona (Italy); the University of Fribourg (Switzerland); the Roma Tre University (Italy); the University of Wuerzburg (Germany); the University of Prešov (Slovakia); the Catholic Institute

of Toulouse (France); Instituto de Filosofía Edith Stein-Academia Internacional de Filosofía, Granada (Spain [only academic staff]); the University of Sapienza (Italy); the University of Genoa (Italy, 2018/2019).

Journalism and Social Communication Department (twenty-six): the University of Limerick (Ireland); the Catholic University of Portugal (Portugal); the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia); Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples (Italy); Vilnius University (Lithuania); the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Italy); Madrid Open University (UDIMA, Spain); University of Pisa (Italy); the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia); Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (Lisbon, Portugal); the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France); the Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon (Portugal); University of Bremen (Germany); the University for Foreigners Perugia (Italy); the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain); Lusófona University of Porto (Portugal); the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland (Austria); the University of Ostrava (Czech Republic); Abat Oliba CEU University (Spain); Otto-Friedrich-University Bamberg (Germany); the Catholic University of Croatia (Croatia); Rennes 2 University (France); Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic); Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prague (Czech Republic; 2018/2019); International Balkan University (IBU), Skopje (Macedonia, 2018/2019); the University of Cagliari (2018/2019).

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

Social Work Department (ten): 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); the University of Graz (Austria); the University of Debrecen (Hungary); Stockholm University (Sweden); the University of Turku (Finland); the University of Iceland (Iceland; 2018–2019, academic staff only); and the Complutense University of Madrid (2018–2019).

The Faculty of History and National Heritage (ten): 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); Masaryk University (Czech Republic); and Gál Ferenc College in Szeged (Hungary, 2018–2017).

Church Music Department (three): the Würzburg University of Music (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); the Catholic Institute of Toulouse (France); the University of Pisa (Italy); Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologie (Portugal); Masaryk University (Czech Republic); and Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples (Italy).

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 2, 1982. On the German side, Rev. Prof. Joachim Wiemeyer is responsible for it, while on behalf of our university it is Rev. Dr. Hab. Jan Dziedzic, a professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II, will oversee the implementation of the agreement on the university's behalf. During the previous academic year, a meeting of our professors and those from Bochum was held in the German city. The Polish delegation consisted of seventeen people, including two professors (Rev. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Jagiełło and Rev. Dr. Hab. Dariusz Oko, Professors of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow) as well as fifteen students. On May 23, 2019, a Polish-German conference was held on the topic: "Contemporary Anthropology" (*Współczesna antropologia/Moderne Anthropologie*). During it, papers were presented by Rev. Prof. Oko (*Struktura ludzkiego ducha według Bernarda Lonergana*/ "The Structure of the Human Spirit According to Bernard Lonergan") and Rev. Prof. Jagiełło (*Spór Józefa Tischnera dotyczący ludzkiej egzystencji*/ "Józef Tischner's Dispute Concerning Human Existence").

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. In the past year, our third-year students in religious tourism made use of this openness. On May 27–31, 2019, they had practical lessons in Lviv consisting of the practical application of the knowledge and skills that they acquired during their studies and pertaining to supervising groups of tourists that are religious in nature and in leading them. The students were accommodated at the Blessed Jakub Stremir House for Pilgrims in Lviv-Bryukhovychi. Academic and didactic care for the students was provided by Dr. Anna Wajda and Rev. Dr. Hab. Roman Bogacz, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II and the Associate Dean of our university's Faculty of Theology. The costs for the excursion were subsidized by the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland (which will be mentioned below).

In the context of cooperation with Catholic universities, it is also worth mentioning our university's engagement 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 4, 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.

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: *Polacy w Charkowie w XIX – pocz. XX w.* (“Poles in Kharkov in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries”) was given by Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Lubow Żwanko, Director of the Polish-Ukrainian Center for Culture and Education at the O. M. Beketov National University of Urban Economy in Kharkov (Ukraine). The lecture was related to the presentation of the speaker’s latest book, *Wybitni Polacy i Charków. Słownik biograficzny (1805–1918)* (“Illustrious Poles and Kharkov: A Biographical Encyclopedia, 1805–1918”). The lecture took place on November 11, 2018, upon the invitation of the Dean of our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jacek Urban and the Director of the Workshop for Studies on the History and Culture of Totalitarian and Post-Totalitarian Space (at the Institute of History), Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Szczepaniak.

Interreligious dialogue can serve to stabilize international relations. The guest lecture by Mr. Prof. Dmitri Spivak, Chairman of the UNESCO Chair in Comparative Studies on Spiritual Traditions, the Uniqueness of Their Cultures, and Interreligious Dialogue (St. Petersburg/Moscow, Russia) was devoted to this topic. On May 7, 2019, he gave a lecture on the topic: *Dialog międzykulturowy i międzyreligijny w strategii UNESCO* (“Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue in UNESCO’s Strategy”).

A series of lectures titled: *Narodziny postsekularyzmu z ducha “religijnej niemuzykalmności”* (“The Birth of Post-Secularism from the Spirit of ‘Religious Amusicality’”) by Mr. prof. Tomas Sodeika of Vilnius University (Lithuania) on May 27–28, 2019, dealt with topics related to contemporary culture. The lectures were organized by the Chair in the Philosophy of Religion and the Chair in Russian and Byzantine Philosophy at our Faculty of Philosophy. The lectures were open to the public.

From the perspective of a Catholic university, academic contacts with China seem unusual and exotic. In the previous academic year, one of our staff members had the opportunity to go on a study visit to the University of Saint Joseph in Macao (China). He was Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Nęcek, Director of the Chair in Media Education of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences. On June 5, 2019, he gave a lecture titled: “The Role of The Media in the Service of Mercy, Based on The Teachings of John Paul II.” His travel expenses were covered by the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland.

The Church’s Concern for Religious Unity

It is understandable that in the age of ecumenism our university also plays an active role in efforts intended to foster Christian unity. They are various initiatives that promote dialogue between the Christian denominations. 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 Church, on January 18–25, 2018. The theme of this edition was: “Justice alone shall you pursue” (Deuteronomy 16:20). As in previous years, the co-organizers of the event 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, as well as Taizé Krakow at the Jesuit Academic Community and the *namARKA* Community (a Catholic community that looks after people with disabilities). An ecumenical service of the Word of God took place in various churches and chapels belonging to the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession, the Evangelical-Methodist Church, the Polish Catholic Church, and the Roman Catholic Church.

Krakow’s Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began earlier, with an ecumenical service in St. Clement’s Church in Wieliczka (a Roman Catholic church) outside Krakow on the Sunday on January 13, 2019, before the beginning of the Week of Prayer. Participants of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession took part in the service. The ceremonies began in Krakow on Friday January 18, 2019, with an ecumenical service in the Polish Catholic church at Friedleina Street in Krakow and concluded with an ecumenical singing of Christmas carols (Lemko, Ukrainian, and Protestant carols) in the Club of Catholic Intelligentsia at 5 Sienna Street in Krakow, which was led by the *namARKA* Community. The central event of the Week of Prayer was an ecumenical service that was held in the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II in Krakow on Sunday January 20, 2019. The former Archbishop of Krakow, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, and the leaders of various churches and Christian communities in Krakow participated. The direct preparation for this meeting was the liturgical prayer “The Office for Unity,” which took place on Saturday January 19, in the Church of St. Barbara in Krakow. The prayer was led by the Chemin Neuf Community.

Meanwhile the Twenty-Second Day of Judaism in the Catholic Church in Poland was celebrated on January 17, 2019. The motto of this year’s edition came from the prophet Hosea’s words: “I will not come in wrath” (Hosea 11:9). In Krakow, the ceremony began on the evening of January 16 with a meeting promoting the book titled: *Wyrzut sumienia. Wokół relacji chrześcijańsko-żydowskich i polsko-żydowskich* (“A Pang of the Conscience: Concerning Christian-Jewish and Polish-Jewish Relations;” red. J. Poniewierski, Krakow: Wydawnictwo WAM 2019, pp. 244), which contains texts by Rev. Stanisław Musiał, SJ (1938–2004), a well-known Jesuit. This meeting took place

in the headquarters of the Jewish Community Center of Krakow at 24 Miodowa Street. The main event of the program of the Day of Judaism was a meeting of Christians and Jews “In Memory of Cardinal Franciszek Macharski,” which was attended by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz as well as the President of the Jewish Community of Krakow, Mr. Tadeusz Jakubowicz, and was held in the Tempel synagogue (Krakow, 24 Miodowa Street). The meeting included speeches by: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski (Director of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue) as well as actors from the Stary Teatr (Old Theater) in Krakow: Mr. Kuba Lewinger and Mr. Jerzy Trela. Meanwhile, the musical accompaniment was provided by Mr. Jenő Lisztes (cymbals) and Mr. Dawid Czernik “Jajeńnica” (violin). The meeting was led by Mr. Stanisław Kłys. The organizers of the Day of Judaism were: the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism Dialogue of the Pontifical University of John Paul II; the Ecumenical Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow; the “Covenant” Club of Christians and Jews; the Jewish Community Center of Krakow; and WAM Press.

Meanwhile, the Krakow celebrations of the Nineteenth Day of Islam in the Catholic Church were held on Saturday January 26, 2019. Their motto was: “Christians and Muslims: From Rivalry to Cooperation.” The main event of the Day of Islam was a service of the Word of God in the Franciscan Basilica (5 Wszystkich Świętych Square), which this year was once again led by the president of the Council on Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue of the Archdiocese of Krakow and the Director of the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Łukasz Kamykowski. Nedal Abu Tabaq, Mufti of the Muslim League in Poland, gave an address on behalf of the Muslim community. After the service, a workshop on the topic: “The Cooperation of Catholics and Muslims” was held in a building belonging to our university at 1 Franciszkańska Street. The following day, the “Kitchen of Encounter” was held at St. Nicholas’ Parish on 9 Kopernika Street. Its motto was: “Christians, Muslims, and Jews Cook Soup for Krakow’s Poor.” The celebrations were organized by our university’s Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue; the Council on Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue of the Archdiocese of Krakow; the Muslim Center in Krakow; Islamista Blog; the blog *Muzułmanka w świecie* (“A Muslim Woman in the World”); the Krakow Branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council; JCC Krakow; the Franciscan friars; and St. Nicholas’ Parish in Krakow.

The Popularization of the Results of Research

Naturally, the basic forms of popularizing the results of research are didactic activities and academic publications. However, conferences and academic symposiums, during which our academic staff can confront their research with that of other scholars, exchange their views and experiences, discuss, and enter into personal relationships

are an especially valuable form of making them known. In the past academic year, almost fifty such academic meetings, which were organized independently by various organizational units of our university or in collaboration with other universities or institutions of a different nature, took place at our university. Here are some of them presented in chronological order.

The beauty and harmony of the world in which we live informs us that we are an integral part of it. This was recalled by Pope Francis, who said that “if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously” (*Laudato si'*, n. 11). The relationship between the protection of the environment and human health have become the subject of reflection of the latest edition of the international academic conference devoted to the topic: *Sacrum i przyroda* (“*Sacrum* and Nature”). In cooperation with the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov (Slovakia), our university’s Chair in Pastoral Theology organized the Twenty-Sixth International Symposium *Sacrum i Przyroda* (“*Sacrum* and Nature”) titled: *Ochrana zdravia a života* (“The Protection of Health and Life”). It was held on September 28–29, 2018, in St. Luke’s Resort (Škola v prírode Sv. Lukáša), Viničky (Slovakia). The papers dealt with such topics as: the protection of the quality of life in the encyclical *Laudato si'*; the dangers of the culture of relativism in the context of human health and life; hippotherapy as a means of healing the body and the soul; the search for beauty: from nature to abstraction (the correlation between horticultural therapy and art therapy); and a reflection on the topic of the protection of health, life, and the family titled: *Kiedy mniej znaczy więcej* (“When Less Means More”). Papers were presented by academic staff from our university, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), and other institutions: Congregatio Sororum a Sancta Elisabeth (Rome, Italy), the Regional Museum in Prešov (Slovakia), and the J. Babiński Hospital in Krakow (Poland). Conference materials were published as: *Sacrum a příroda. Ochrana zdravia a života* (ed. P. Tirpák, J. Klimek, Prešov: Gréckokatolícka teologická fakulta PU 2018, pp. 113).¹⁶

It is understandable that the selection of the appropriate method of research determines its results, especially in the case of quantum physics. Thus, the academic milieu focused around the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Krakow deals with research on methods in applied in this discipline as well as its use in cosmology. The Twenty-Second Krakow Methodological Conference, whose topic was “The Emergence of the Classical,” dealt with the relationship between the perception of the world at the macroscopic and subatomic scale. This is a topic that encompasses not

¹⁶ For more details, see: [https://www.unipo.sk/greckokatolicka-teologicka-fakulta/pripravovane/SaP2018/\(30.12.2019\)](https://www.unipo.sk/greckokatolicka-teologicka-fakulta/pripravovane/SaP2018/(30.12.2019)).

only the concept of the particle, field, or energy, but also measurability, agency, and existence. Thus, it concerns not only physics and mathematics, but also philosophy (especially ontology). The conference took place on October 11–12, 2018 in the building of the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow at 26 Kopernika Street. It was organized by both above-mentioned institutions with the particular engagement of two members of our Faculty of Philosophy's academic staff: Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Michał Heller and Rev. Dr. Hab. Janusz Mączka, SDB. All the papers were presented in English. The program of the conference included such papers as: "Ehrenfest's Theorem Revisited," Henryk Arodz (Jagiellonian University, Poland); "Points, Lack Thereof" (Fedele Lizzi, University of Naples, Italy); "The Operator Product of Quantum Observables" (Klaus Fredenhagen, University of Hamburg, Germany); "Quantum Darwinism Versus Spectrum Broadcast Structure" (Ryszard Horodecki, University of Gdansk, Poland); "What Makes the Universal and Existential Quantifiers Classical?" (Stanisław Krajewski, University of Warsaw, Poland); "Himalayan Topology for Parameters of Physics" (Jerzy Król, University of Silesia, Poland); "Quantum Entanglement and Emergence of the Classical Leibniz's Principle of the Identity of Indiscernibles" (Marek Kuś, Center for Theoretical Physics PAS and International Center for Formal Ontology, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland); "Macroscopic Wave Function: Decoherence Versus Spontaneous Symmetry Breakdown" (Józef Spałek, Jagiellonian University, Poland); and "On the Classical Limit of Quantum Theory: Why Do We Not See Schrödinger Cats Every Day?" (Karol Życzkowski, Jagiellonian University, Poland).¹⁷ The texts of many papers were published in the journal: "Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce" ("Philosophical Problems in Science") 66 (2019), pp. 15–108.¹⁸

In Krakow, the anniversary of the election of the Archbishop of Krakow to the Chair of St. Peter is celebrated with great reverence. The fortieth anniversary of this great event was marked by an international conference titled: *Veritatis Splendor. Jan Paweł II, który zmienił oblicze świata. 40-lecie wyboru na Stolicę św. Piotra kard. Karola Wojtyły Metropolity krakowskiego* ("Veritatis Splendor: John Paul II, Who Changed the Face of the World – The Fortieth Anniversary of the Election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, Archbishop of Krakow, to the Chair of St. Peter"), which was held on October 17, 2018, in the auditorium of the Jagiellonian University's *Collegium Novum* in Krakow. It was organized by the Archbishop of Krakow Archbishop Prof. Marek Jędraszewski, our university, and the Intercultural Dialogue Institute of John Paul II in Krakow. During the first part, which inaugurated the conference, the following spoke: Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Krakow and our university's Great Chancellor; Mr. Jacek

¹⁷ For more on the conference, see: <http://22kmc.copernicuscenter.edu.pl/> (30.12.2019).

¹⁸ The digital version is available at: <https://zfn.edu.pl/index.php/zfn/issue/view/33> (30.12.2019).

Krupa, Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region; Mr. Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow; and Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, Apostolic Nuncio in Poland. An introductory lecture on the topic: "John Paul II, Who Changed the Face of the World" was given by the late pope's secretary, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz (Poland). During the second part of the conference, the following spoke: the Archbishop of Genoa and President of the Council of the Bishops' Conferences of Europe, Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco (Italy), who presented a paper on the topic: "Pastoral Love as the Core of the Identity of the Priest and a Response to Today's Challenges (*Pastores dabō vobis*, Nr. 19–33; 6–10): The Role of the Priest in Today's World;" Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Prof. Sir Carl Albert Anderson (USA), who gave a paper on the topic: "No One Is to Remain Inactive in This Great and Dramatic Moment in History (*Christifideles laici*, Nr. 3): The Current Role of Lay Catholics in the Church and World;" and Archpriest of the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore Cardinal Stanisław Ryłko (Poland), who gave a paper on the topic: "Be a Light Among the Darkness If Christ Illuminates You (Mass for youth at the „Nemesio Camacho” Stadium in Bogotá): World Youth Day as St. John Paul II's Contribution to the Christian Formation of the Young." In the third and final part of the conference, the following spoke: the Archbishop Emeritus of Milano, Cardinal Angelo Scola (Italy), who gave a paper on the topic: "If You Want Peace, Reach Out to the Poor (John Paul II's Message for Annual World Day of Prayer for Peace, 1993): The Continuity Between St. John Paul II's and Pope Francis' Teaching on the Church for the Poor;" the American Catholic writer, theologian, and social and political activist Prof. George Weigel (USA), who gave a paper on the topic: "May God Be the Strength and Support of All Catholics Involved in the World of Communications! (Message for Twenty-Sixth World Communications Day, 1992): The Conditions for the Presence of the Catholic in the World of the Media," which was viewed in video format; the Rector of the Jagiellonian University, Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Nowak (Poland), who gave a paper on the topic: "Any Scientific and Technological Development Which Was Bent on Dispensing with Ethical Values Would Gradually Turn Against the Destiny of Man Himself (Message for the UNESCO Conference on Cultural Policies, Mexico 1982, Nr. 5): The Relevance of the Papal Vision of Culture and Science in Light of the Dangers of Transhumanism;" the Administrator of the John Paul II Foundation in Rome, Rev. Dr. Krzysztof Wieliczko (Italy), who gave a paper on the topic: "One's Legacy Is Not the Past: The Foundation of John Paul II's Mission to Continue the Teaching of the Great Pope." At the end of the conference, the Director of the Intercultural Dialogue Institute of John Paul II in Krakow, Ms. Agata Szuta, and the Rector of our university, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak, gave their concluding remarks.

Concern for ecumenical and interreligious dialogue is very much present at our university and is expressed in the activity of the Institute of Fundamental Theology,

Ecumenism, and Dialogue. In the previous academic year, the institute marked the twenty-fifth jubilee of its activity. It was created after a decision of our university's Senate on October 18, 1993. According to its statute, the aim of the institute is the promotion of ecumenical and interreligious dialogue as well as dialogue with all people of good will at a level that is appropriate for a pontifical university. The central point of the jubilee celebrations was an academic symposium on the topic: *Bóg, który uczy rozmawiać* ("The God Who Teaches How to Talk"), which was organized by the institute. It was held at our university on October 18, 2018, and papers were presented by the institute's staff. The program was divided into two parts, one called *Bilans* ("Balance") and the other called *Perspektywy* ("Perspectives"). In the first part, the history of the institute and its accomplishments during the past quarter-century were presented. In the second, more extensive part, the following topics were presented: The Contemporary Credibility of Dialogue; Integral Ecclesiology; and The Perspectives of Dialogue with: Islam and the Muslim World, Science, and Art; and The Perspectives of Kerygmatic-Sapiential Apology.¹⁹

Growing numbers of people are aware of the need for concern for the natural environment as our common home (Greek: *oikos*). Increasing sensitivity to this problem is also a task of Catholic universities. The 2018 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice (COP24, December 2–16, 2018) was a unique opportunity to deal with this topic. Taking into consideration these circumstances, our university and the Global Catholic Climate Movement in Rome in collaboration with the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development organized an international conference titled: *Creatio continua. Ekologia – teologia, oikonomia i nauka o stworzeniu* ("Creatio continua: Ecology, Theology, Oikonomia, and Teaching on Creation"), which was held on October 19–20, 2018, in the building of our university's Main Library (10 Bobrzyńskiego Street). Its aim was to initiate the process of implementing the guidelines and activities recommended by Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato si'*, which refers to Popes John Paul II (n. 5: General Audience, January 17, 2001; n. 4: The "Ecological Conversion") and Benedict XVI (n. 6: *Caritas in veritate*, n. 51).

Thus, the topic of this conference was inspired by the teaching of this encyclical. The papers dealt with four thematic areas to which the four subsequent sessions

¹⁹ For more details on the history of the institute and the symposium itself, see: M. Mastyło, P. Pielka, *25 lat Instytutu Teologii Fundamentalnej, Ekumenii i Dialogu UPJPII. Sympozjum naukowe – „Bóg, który uczy rozmawiać”*, "Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie" 2018 nr 3/96, pp. 36–38.

were devoted. The following topics were discussed during the first session, which was on the topic of “Ecology and Theology”: The Subjective Aspect of Creation; Ecological Personalism; The Ecological Dimension of the Church’s Activity in Upper Silesia; and Creation in the Liturgy of the Orthodox Church. Next, the second session, “Ecology and *Oikonomia* (*Oikos–Polis–Cosmopolis*),” dealt with such topics as: A Common Heritage; The Ecology of Information in the Age of Dataism; Money and the Anthropological Dimension of Integral Development; The Contribution of Our University to the Promotion of *Sacrum* and Nature; and The Significance of the Encyclical *Laudato si’* to Pro-Ecological Efforts. Meanwhile, the third session, which was titled: “Ecology and *Oikonomia* (Ecology and Solidarity),” dealt with The Search for an Ecological Economy; The Model of Social Inclusion Through Work; Concern for the Common Good; Respect for Life as the Aim of Ecological Conversion; and Religion as a Remedy for the Idolatry of Consumerism. Finally, during the fourth and final session on the topic “Ecology and Teaching About Creation,” the following topics were discussed: Creation-Faith in Dialogue with Science; Evolutionary Theology and Ecology; The Anthropocentric Dimension of Ecology; Eco-Ethics and Eco-Theology; Climate Catastrophe Policies; and Man as the Co-Creator of the Natural and Social Environment.

In total, nine plenary lectures as well as nine introductions to discussion panels were presented. Panel discussions followed each session. Apart from our university, the authors of the presented papers represented the following academic centers in Poland: the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University, the University of Warsaw, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Institute of Botany at the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Biocybernetics and Biomedical Engineering at the Polish Academy of Sciences. Additionally, a representative of the Order of Friars Minor took part in the conference. Meanwhile, the following international academic centers were represented: the University of Nottingham (UK; Mr. Prof. John Milbank), London Metropolitan University (UK; Maurice Baron Glasman), the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome and the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development (Italy; Rev. Dr. Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam), Lumsa University in Rome (Italy; Mr. Prof. Luigino Bruni), and the University of Roehampton in London (UK; Rev. Dr. Martin Poulosom, SDB).

The complexity of the subject matter presented during the conference, the gravity of the challenges that result from it, and human weakness mobilize us to pray with the poor following Pope Francis’ example: “The poor and the earth are crying out./ O Lord, seize us with your power and light,/help us to protect all life,/to prepare for a better future,/for the coming of your Kingdom/of

justice, peace, love and beauty” (in: “A Prayer for Our Earth;” in: Francis, *Laudato si'*, n. 246).²⁰

Pilgrimage is a unique form of contact with the beauty of reality; this includes pilgrimages to the Tomb of St. James in Santiago de Compostela (Spain). Last year's eleventh international conference on the topic of Camino de Santiago was included in the celebrations of the centenary jubilee of the Polish Geographical Society and the celebrations of the Year of Polish Geography 2018, which were held under the national patronage of Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, in the centenary of the restoration of Polish independence. The conference *Duchowość i przestrzeń w kontekście Camino de Santiago* (“Spirituality and Space in the Context of the Camino de Santiago”) took place on October 20, 2018, in our university's building on 3 Bernardyńska Street in Krakow. The following day, Sunday October 21, 2018, the International Meeting of Pilgrims on Lesser Poland's Way of St. James was held in the Diocesan Shrine of St. James in Więclawice Stare on the tenth anniversary of the opening of the way. The organizers of the conference were: our university, the Institute of Geography at the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the Faculty of Theology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, the Polish Geographical Society, the Municipal Government in Michałowice, and the Fraternity of St. James the Apostle in Więclawice Stare.

The subject of the conference was the functioning of the Way of St. James (especially its routes in Poland, whose total distance exceeds 7,000 kilometers), related spirituality, and devotion to St. James the Apostle in Poland and around the world. One of the aims of the conference was a bilateral exchange of information on the state of Polish academic research as well as the topic of the organizational initiatives that were implemented in relation to devotion to St. James. Papers were presented by academic staff from the following universities: our university, the University of Navarra (Spain), Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun (Poland), the Jagiellonian University (Poland), the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (Poland), the Pedagogical University of Krakow (Poland), and the following institutions: Curia de Santiago de Compostela (Spain), the Archaeological-Historical Museum in Glogow (Poland), the Fraternity of St. James the Apostle in Jakubów (Poland), Schola Cantorum Cracoviensis (Poland), the Municipal Cultural Center in Przeworsk (Poland), the Fraternity of St. James the Apostle in the Shrine of the Holy Sepulcher in Przeworsk (Poland), the Confraternity of St. James the Apostle in the Field Cathedral of the Polish Army in Warsaw (Poland), the Shrine of St. James in Brzesko (Poland), the Shrine of St. James in Więclawice Stare (Poland),

²⁰ For more details, see: <http://upjp2.edu.pl/konferencje-sesje/creatio-continua-ekologia-i-teologia-oikonomia-i-nauka-o-stworzeniu-%E2%80%93-30.12.2019>.

the Parish of St. James in Torun (Poland), the Parish of the Birth of the Virgin Mary in Lubań (Poland), and the Shrine of St. James in Łęborg (Poland).

The stability of the family is valuable not only to a given religious community, but also to the society of which it is a fundament. Thus, the initiative to organize a conference on the topic of the social aspect of the family deserves praise. *Mocna rodzina fundamentem zdrowego społeczeństwa* (“The Strong Family as the Fundament of a Healthy Society”) was the title of an international academic conference that was held on October 22–23, 2018, in the building of our university’s Main Library. It was organized by our university in collaboration with the Polish Familiology Association. On the first day of the conference, papers were presented by academic staff from international universities (with the exception of the first paper), while academic staff from the University of Opole and our university presented on the second day. Thus, on the first day of the conference the following papers were presented: “What Makes a Family Happy and Strong?” (Ms. Prof. Dr. Hab. Elżbieta Osewska, State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow, Poland), “Violence in the Marital Relationship” (Mr. Prof. Dr. Christian Gostečnik, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), “Emotional Dynamic in the Cycle of Domestic Violence” (Mrs. Prof. Dr. Barbara Simonič, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), “Why Do I Hit? The Dynamics of the Physical Punishment of Children in the Family” (Mrs. Dr. Saša Poljak Lukek, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), “The Effectiveness and Efficiency of Relational Family Therapy with Victims of Sexual Violence” (Mrs. Prof. Dr. Tanja Repič Slavič, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia), “The Family and Current Social and Legal Measures for Its Members in the Slovak Republic” (Mr. Prof. Dr. Pavol Tománek, St. Elisabeth University of Health and Social Work in Bratislava, Slovakia); “Building a Culture of Marriages: Anthropological and Social Arguments” (Dr. Richard Kucharčík, the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia); “The Relationship Between the Family and Society in the Czech Republic” (Rev. Dr. Mariusz Kuźniar, Czech Bishops’ Conference, the Czech Republic); “Home–School Cooperation” (Mr. Prof. Dr. Herman Lombaerts, the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium); and “The Contemporary Family in the Digital Age” (Mrs. Dr. Nadia Delicata, Malta University). On the second day of the conference, the following topics were discussed: “Work with Relational Trauma in Couples Therapy” (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Paweł Landwójtowicz, the University of Opole); “Underage Motherhood in the Context of Family Policy” (Mrs. Dr. Urszula Miernik, the University of Opole); “The Activity of the Rychwałd Foundation for the Family” (Ms. Anna Paneth, our university); “The Social-Vocational Functioning of Adults with Disabilities and Their Families in Poland” (Mrs. Dr. Katarzyna Kutek-Sładek, our university); “The Anti-Social Behaviors of Children and Youths from Families Experiencing Domestic Violence” (Mr. Szymon Peterman, the University of Opole); “The Family and the Funeral of a Child That Died

During a Clinical Miscarriage” (Mr. Piotr Guzdek, the University of Opole); “The Family as a Place of Bringing Up Children to Live According to Values” (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala, our university); and “Applying the Principles of Twofold Effect in Discerning the Decision to Get Divorced” (Ms. Marzena Zięba, our university).²¹ Conference materials have been published in the anthology: *Zdrowa i mocna rodzina fundamentem społeczeństwa* (“The Healthy and Strong Family as the Fundament of Society”), red. J. Stala, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II 2019, pp. 233 (*Family Studies / Nauki o Rodzinie* 8). The costs of the conference and publication of the presented papers were covered by funds from the Minister of Science and Higher Education intended for activities popularizing research.

The anniversary of the restoration of Polish independence (November 11, 2018) presented an opportunity to organize an academic conference devoted to the development of Polish science in the past century. One such conference was the national academic conference titled: *100-lecie niepodległości – wiek filozofii chrześcijańskiej w Polsce* (“The Centenary of Independence: One Century of Christian Philosophy in Poland”), which took place at our university on October 23–24, 2018. The conference was under the national patronage of Mr. Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, on the centenary of the restoration of national independence. It was organized by the Chair in Philosophy of Man, the Chair in the History and Philosophy of Science, and the Chair in the Modern and Contemporary Philosophy at our university’s Faculty of Philosophy, as well as the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland. Thirty-four papers were presented during the conference. They dealt with such themes as: Epistemology; Metaphysics; The Reception of Thomism in Poland; Philosophy of Nature; Philosophical Christian Anthropology; Christian Ethics; The Relationship Between Truth and Freedom; Philosophy of Culture; Sociopolitical Thought; The Criticism of Totalitarianisms; Religious Thought After Auschwitz; Philosophy of Religion; Natural Theology; Human Rights in the Context of Bioethics; The Evaluation of Marxism and Communism; and many other more detailed topics. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following universities: the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Rzeszow University, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, the Academy of Music in Krakow, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Business and Administration in Gdynia, the Theological Institute of St. Archbishop Joseph Bilczewski of Lviv (Ukraine), the University of Silesia, and the University of Szczecin.

²¹ See: E. Osewska, *Sprawozdanie z międzynarodowej konferencji “The Strong Family as the Foundation of a Healthy Society”*, “Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie” 2018 nr 4/97, pp. 34–35.

These papers lead to the conclusion that “three main centers played a dominant role in the field of Christian philosophy in Poland: Warsaw, Lublin, and Krakow. Despite the differences in their approach to philosophy, they shared the conviction that the Christian inspiration is an essential part of reflection on God, humanity, and the surrounding world.”²²

Liturgical renewal after the Second Vatican Council is that element of its legacy in which all the faithful in the Church participate. Cardinal Karol Wojtyła established the Liturgical Institute in Krakow in order to implement this renewal. September 23, 1968, when Cardinal Wojtyła wrote a letter to Rev. Dr. Waclaw Świerzawski (the future Bishop of Sandomierz; 1927–2017) in which he requested the organization of the Faculty Study and at the same time the Liturgical Center in Krakow, is considered to be the date of the establishment of this institution. Shortly afterwards, on October 8, 1968, the inauguration ceremony of the center was held; it quickly became an integral part of the Faculty of Theology in Krakow. Its program included a special Eucharist in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church, which was presided by Bishop Jan Pietraszko (1911–1988). The homily, meanwhile, was given by Rev. Franciszek Małaczyński, OSB (1920–2009). Afterwards, Bishop Julian Groblicki (1908–1995) spoke in the name of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła at Kordelanium (10 św. Marka Street), while Rev. Dr. Świerzawski gave the inaugural lecture. The ninth edition of the international academic symposium *Ad fontes liturgicos* titled: *W służbie tradycji i odnowy liturgicznej. 50 lat Instytutu Liturgicznego w Krakowie* (“In the Service of Tradition and Liturgical Renewal: Fifty Years of the Liturgical Institute in Krakow”) served to commemorate this fiftieth anniversary and was held on October 24–25, 2018, in the Theological Institute of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow (4 Stradomska Street). Apart from our university, the symposium was organized by the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv (Ukraine), the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov in Prešov (Slovakia), and the St. Athanasius Greek-Catholic Institute of Theology in Nyíregyháza (Hungary).

The program of the symposium consisted of six sessions, three each day. The Liturgical Institute in Krakow was the subject of the papers of the first session, while the second dealt with the Roman Athenaeums (the Liturgical Academy in Rome, the Pontifical Liturgical Institute, and the Vincentian Liturgical Center). After this session, a ceremony opening the exhibits in the Historical-Missionary Museum were inaugurated: *Mysterium liturgii* (“The Mystery of the Liturgy”) and *Mysterium codzienności* (“The Mystery of Everyday Life”). The third and fifth sessions dealt with research

²² K. Trombik, *Konferencja 100-lecie niepodległości – wiek filozofii chrześcijańskiej w Polsce*, “Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie” 2018 nr 4/97, pp. 28–30, 28.

centers in Central Europe (the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov, the Orthodox Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov, the St. Athanasius Greek-Catholic Institute of Theology in Nyíregyháza, the Faculty of Theology at the University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Institute of Liturgics and Homiletics at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (Poland), and the Institute of Liturgy, Music, and Sacred Art at the University of Opole (Poland). The fourth session dealt with research centers in Western and Southern Europe: the Higher Liturgical Institute in Paris (France), the Liturgical Institute in Trier (Germany), the Higher Liturgical Institute in Barcelona (Spain), the Institute of Liturgical Studies in Fribourg (Switzerland), and the St. Sergius Orthodox Theological Institute in Paris (France). Finally, the sixth session dealt with research centers in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe (the Faculty of Orthodox Theology at Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca (Romania), the Blessed Theodore Romzha Academy of Theology in Uzhhorod (Ukraine), and the Chair in Liturgical Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv (Ukraine). Each of these centers was represented by a speaker; there was a total of twenty-two persons from ten European countries. They presented the history of their centers, their academic achievements, the subject of their ongoing research, and planned academic and didactic initiatives related to the liturgy. At the conclusion of the symposium, there was a debate on the topic: *Instytuty Liturgiczne w Europie dzisiaj – perspektywy działalności i współpracy* (“Liturgical Institutes in Europe Today: Perspectives of Activity and Cooperation”). The celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of our Liturgical Institute culminated in a concert in the church of the Congregation of the Mission prepared by the Inter-University Institute of Church Music, which is affiliated with our university.

The topic of social justice is an important element of contemporary Church teaching (especially during the pontificate of John Paul II) and at the same time is the subject of interest of numerous philosophers, cultural and media studies scholars, theologians, economists, pedagogues, psychologists, sociologists, and people engaged in public life at various levels. Conferences from the *Etyka i życie publiczne* (“Ethics and Public Life”) cycle respond to the needs of such people and provide them with knowledge, evaluations, and suggestions on this complicated topic. The eleventh edition of this national academic conference was devoted to the topic: *Sprawiedliwość w życiu publicznym* (“Justice in Public Life”). It took place on October 29–30, 2018, and was organized by the Chair in Ethics at our Faculty of Philosophy in relation to three jubilees that will take place in 2018: the one-hundredth anniversary of the restoration of Polish independence, the fortieth anniversary of the election of our university’s patron as pope, and the seven-hundredth anniversary of the consecration of the “Mother of Justice and Social Love” Shrine in Piekary Śląskie. The main aim of the conference was a philosophical analysis

of the concept of justice in the context of various areas of public life: the economy, the media, science, politics, and many others. This was a search for an answer to the question of what justice is and how it functions in social life; namely: how distributive and proportional justice are implemented in it. Participants pondered the concept of social justice in Catholic Social Teaching (based on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*). The papers dealt with such topics as: The Concept of a Just Price; Nepotism; The Relationship Between the Law and Justice (Negotiated Justice, Processes of Public Participation); The Theory of Attribution and the Catholic Understanding of Justice; Modern Liberalism in Confrontation with Classical Liberalism on Justice; Justice for Animals; The Influence of the Model of Human Dignity on the Conception of Justice; and Conceptions of Justice as Presented by John Rawls and Michael Sandel. Apart from seven persons from our university, presentations by representatives of the following universities were planned: the Medical University of Białystok, the University of Agriculture in Krakow, Rzeszow University, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, the University of Silesia, Odesa I. I. Mechnikov University (Ukraine), and the Rzeszow University of Technology.

Discussions and polemics related to marital ethics, especially the topic of the transmission of life, became evident during the fiftieth anniversary of Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae vitae*. Last year's International Congress for Marriage and the Family, titled: *Płodność listu, który dotarł z przyszłości: 50 lat "Humanae vitae"* ("The Fertility of a Letter That Came from the Future: Fifty Years of *Humanae vitae*") was held on November 16–18, 2018, in the auditorium of the Congregation of the Mission in Krakow (4 Stradomska Street). It was organized by the Archbishop of Krakow and our university's Great Chancellor Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski, the Department of Family Ministry of the Archdiocese of Krakow, and our university with the financial support of the Knights of Columbus. The aim of the congress was to read the encyclical, which was written in response to topics related to the life and happiness of people ("they concern matters intimately connected with the life and happiness of human beings," *Humanae vitae*, n. 1²³) anew. The aim was not so much a new interpretation as above all the emphasis of its timeless gravity. Pope Benedict XVI recalled its continuous relevance ten years earlier in his speech on May 10, 2018, to the participants of a congress organized by the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the encyclical: "The truth expressed in *Humanae vitae* does not change; on the contrary, precisely in the light of the new

²³ For the English text of *Humanae vitae*, see: http://www.vatican.va/content/paul-vi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-vi_enc_25071968_humanae-vitae.html (30.12.2019).

scientific discoveries, its teaching becomes more timely and elicits reflection on the intrinsic value it possesses.”²⁴

The conference program consisted of four sessions. The first, which was led by Mr. Prof. Stanisław Grygiel of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences in Rome, included the following papers: *Ludzka płciowość a prawo naturalne. Ograniczenie czy droga ku pełni?* (“Human Sexuality and the Natural Law: A Limitation or a Path Towards Fullness?”) by Rev. Prof. Livio Melina of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences, Rome; *Płeć i rewolucja: jakie wyzwolenie?* (“Sexuality and Revolution: What Liberation?”) by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Piotr Mazurkiewicz of the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University, Warsaw; *Płeć i wolność: jaka miłość realizuje życie?* (“Sex and Freedom: What Love Does Life Implement?”) by Mr. Prof. Stephan Kampowski of the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences, Rome; and *Między naturalizmem a personalizmem: wkład K. Wojtyły w “Humanae vitae”* (“Between Naturalism and Personalism: Karol Wojtyła’s Contribution to *Humanae vitae*”) by Rev. Dr. Paweł Gałuszka of the Department of Family Ministry, Krakow. The second session, which was led by Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Skrzypczak of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw, included the following topics: *Dlaczego całkowity? Radykalność daru seksualnego* (“Why Complete? The Radicality of the Sexual Gift”) by Mrs. Prof. Deborah Savage, the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota; *“Humanae vitae” a teologia ciała Jana Pawła II* (“*Humanae vitae* and John Paul II’s Theology of the Body”) by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jarosław Kupczak of our university; and *Akt seksualny jako język komunii małżeńskiej* (“The Sexual Act as a Language of Marital Communion”) by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Paweł Bortkiewicz of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. The third session, which was led by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak of our university, was devoted to the following topics: *Płeć i nauka: jakie przymierze?* (“Sex and Science: What Covenant?” Mrs. Dr. Anca-Maria Cernea, the Association of Catholic Physicians, Bucharest); *Medycyna a dar życia* (“Medicine and the Gift of Life;” Mr. Prof. Jean-Marie Meyer, Lycée Stanislas, Paris); *Jakie towarzyszenie? Etapy i wyzwania na drodze płodności małżonków* (“What Accompaniment? The Stages and Challenges on the Road of the Fertility of Spouses;” Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Andrzej Muszala of our university); and *Postęp naukowy i manipulacje ludzkim ciałem: prawda o człowieku a akt małżeński zamknięty na wymiar prokreacyjny* (“Scientific Progress and Manipulations of the Human Body: The Truth About the Person and the Marital Act Closed to the Procreative Dimension;” Rev. Dr. Hab. Tomasz Kraj, also of our

²⁴ For the full English text of the “Address,” see: http://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/speeches/2008/may/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20080510_humanae-vitae.html (30.12.2019).

university). Finally, during the fourth session, which was led by Rev. Dr. Przemysław Kwiatkowski of the Primate's Major Seminary in Gniezno, the following papers were presented: *Duchowość małżeńska i rodzinna: misja i posłanie* ("Marital Spirituality: Mission and Message;" Mons. Renzo Bonetti, Mistero Grande Foundation, Verona); *Macierzyństwo i ojcostwo widziane i odczytywane w perspektywie łaski* ("Maternity and Fatherhood Interpreted from the Perspective of Grace;" Mr. and Mrs. Jacek and Jadwiga Pulikowski, Family Ministry, Poznan); and *Odpowiedzialność za życie. Misja Kościoła czy państwa?* ("Responsibility for Life: The Mission of the Church or the State?" Mr. Prof. Dr. Hab. Ryszard Legutko, Jagiellonian University, Krakow).

The International Congress for Marriage and Family concluded with a special Mass on Sunday November 18, 2018, in the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II in Krakow, which was presided by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz.

In recent years, the problem of refugees and migrants has become the subject of great interest by some universities, ecclesiastical or otherwise. Our university expressed this by participating in the international Refugee & Migrant Education Network, which was founded in Rome in 2017 in relation to the conference that was devoted to this topic and was held at the Pontifical Gregorian University. The second such conference was held in New York (United States) on November 15–17, 2018, in Manhattan College. Its topic was: "Global Initiatives in Migrant and Refugee Education" and its organizers were: the Center for Interreligious Understanding, the Being the Blessing Foundation, Manhattan College, and our university. Its aim, meanwhile, was the presentation of the best practices applied in education for refugees, which includes assisting student-immigrants in their difficulties related to completing their education in their host countries or if they have limited access due to being in refugee camps. On behalf of our university, Mrs. Dr. Paulina Guzik, a Lecturer at the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication, cooperated in the organization of the conference. She was also the moderator of the first plenary session "Perspectives of the Global Refugee Realities" and "The Migration Crisis: A Different Approach – Dignity Through Identity." Mrs. Dr. Guzik also led the workshop "Communicating Refugee Issues: The Challenge of Xenophobia." During the conference, the following scholars from various universities around the world and members of humanitarian organizations presented: Dr. Stephen Rasche of the Catholic University of Erbil (Iraq), Mr. Ashish Gadnis (President and Founder of the company BanQu), and Ms. Joan Rosenhauer (President of Jesuit Refugee Service, USA). Representatives of the following institutions took part in roundtable discussions or presented papers: the University of Geneva (Switzerland), the Pontifical Gregorian University (Italy), Villanova University (Pennsylvania, United States), Jesuit Worldwide Learning (fourteen countries), Australian Catholic University, World Refugee School (San Jose, California, United States), Bard College Berlin

(Germany), the Center for Migration Studies of New York (USA), Fordham University (New York, United States), the Center for Human Rights and International Justice of Boston College (Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, United), the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (Lysaker, Norway), the Permanent Representative of the Holy See to United Nations (Archbishop Bernardito Auza, Vatican), Monmouth Reform Temple (Tinton Falls, New Jersey, USA), the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (New York, USA), St. John's University (New York, USA), Guilford College (Greensboro, North Carolina, USA), Universidad De La Salle Bajío (León, México), the Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees (New York, United States), the Scalabrini International Migration Institute (Rome, Italy), and the Intentional Endowment Network (Andover, Massachusetts, USA). The general conclusion from the presented papers can be expressed in the observation that in many cases universities do not aid actively aid refugees, noting that there are few refugees in their country. However, such opportunities to act are everywhere and it is possible, for example, to hold workshops for teachers from refugee camps or make lectures available online to those who are interested and are in camps or other places where refugees stay.

In everyday human life, clothing plays many functions, including symbolic ones. Thus, its forms are culturally diverse both with regards to chronology and geography. In this context, nudity can also take on symbolic meaning in many cultures. Learning about this part of our culture allows us to better understand both the past and the present. The tenth international conference titled: *Symbol – Znak – Rytuał. Nagość i odzienie* (“Symbol – Sign – Ritual: Nudity and Clothing”) was devoted to such matters. It was organized by our university (the Chair in Archival Studies and Auxiliary History Studies at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage) along with the Greek-Catholic Faculty of Theology at the University of Prešov (Slovakia) and the Historical Commission of the Katowice Branch of the Polish Academy of Sciences and took place on December 3–4, 2018, at our university. Twenty-three speakers from fourteen academic centers, five of which are outside Poland, participated in the conference. The papers dealt with such topics as: The Exposition of the World; The Hagiographic Symbolism of Clothing; Clothing and Nudity in Icons; Clothing in Hungarian Culture; The Symbolism of the Vestment in Ancient Egypt; The Meaning of Clothing in Ancient Semitic Culture; The Symbolism of the Cover (The Veil, Chador, Hijab, and Cloak); The Vestment as a Tool of the Communication of Power (China): Tattoos in the Coptic Cultural Sphere; Spiritual Clothing According to St. Paul; The Approach of Religious Orders to Undergarments; The Vestment of Greek-Catholic Priests in Hungary (Evolution); Nudity in Ancient Art; The Media Image of the Person in the Context of Media Nudity; The Dilemma of Nudity in Serving Tourists; Real Nudity as a Call to Moral Perfection; Dress Codes in the Uniforms of Hotel Staff; The Human Body in Folk

Beliefs; The Meanings, Motifs, and Symbolism of Jewelry; Undergarments as Exterior Dress; and Avant-Garde Youth Dress in the Propaganda of the People's Republic of Poland. The papers' topics were interdisciplinary in nature and especially focused on the semantic aspect. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university and the following academic institutions in Poland: the Institute of Botany of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the University School of Physical Education in Krakow, the Ethnographic Museum in Krakow, the Museum of Warsaw, and the Institute of National Remembrance (Krakow Branch). Furthermore, speakers also represented the tourism (Hotel Europejski in Krakow) and even entertainment industries (Alvernia Planet in Alvernia outside Krakow). Meanwhile, international speakers represented the following academic institutions: Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic), the Hungarian Writers' Union in Budapest (Hungary), the University of Nyíregyháza (Hungary), the University of Prešov (Slovakia), and St. Athanasius Greek Orthodox Theological College (Hungary). After the papers and the discussion, participants in the conference had the opportunity to see a historical fashion show titled: *Zawoalowane. Co zakrywano i odkrywano w modzie XIX i pocz. XX wieku* ("Veiled: What Was Covered and Exposed in the Fashion of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries"), which was prepared by the Kontredans Dance Troupe.²⁵

The enormity of information available in the internet can give rise to a feeling of being lost. At the same time, however, it can be an opportunity to find long-sought answers. The threats and resulting opportunities have become the subject of the second international academic conference titled: "Lost or Found in the Web?" It was held on December 5, 2018, in our university's building (3 Bernardyńska Street) and was organized by our Institute of Journalism and Social Communication. This was the second conference from the "Media for Man" cycle. Its program consisted of two sessions: one (in the morning) in English, during which scholars from the United States, several of whom work at European universities, presented. In the second, afternoon session, meanwhile, scholars from our university spoke. The following topics were the subject of the presented papers: "The Perils and Promise of Recommendation Algorithms" (Mr. Dr. Chris Ingraham, the University of Utah, United States, Fulbright Professor in Digital Culture at the University of Bergen, Norway); "Losing Innocence and Finding Justice in the Age of the Internet" (Mrs. Prof. Anne Driscoll, Brandeis University, United States, Fulbright Scholar Communications at the National University

²⁵ See: M. Ficoń, x *Międzynarodowa Konferencja Naukowa Symbol – Znak – Rytuał. Nagość i odzienie*, "Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie" 2018 nr 4/97, pp. 43–44.

of Ireland in Galway, Ireland); “Social Responsibility in Action on the World Wide Web” (Mrs. Dr. Janis Teruggi Page, The George Washington University, USA, Fulbright Scholar in Communications at Masaryk University, Czech Republic); and “Lose-Lose or Win-Win? Children and Young People Interacting on the Internet” (Mr. Dr. Pavel Izrael, Head of Department of Journalism at Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia). Meanwhile, the papers in the second session were such topics as: Digital Logical Plasticity; The Unilaterality of the Impact of Public Relations on the Media-sphere; Information Skills in the Digital World of Data; Models of Financing Online Journalism; Ways of Existing in the Net (The Paradoxes of Virtual Existence); and Smartphone “Journalistic Types.” The conference was an excellent opportunity for the exchange of views and the expansion of scholarly horizons in the field of media studies.

There is an urgent need for models of sanctity that the contemporary world is capable of understanding and expecting. St. Gianna Beretta Molla (1922–1962) is such a model. She was an educated, intelligent, delicate, and simultaneously firm woman who cared about her dignity, appearance, and beauty but was not in the least vain. She knew how to find time for God, her family, and her friends. She worked as a physician and simultaneously was actively involved in Catholic Action. She gave her own life to save that of her child. Thanks to this, she became a figure capable of having a great social impact. Wanting to bolster this impact, the Chair in Media Education at our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences organized a national academic conference from the *Edukacja Medialna* (“Media Education”) series titled: *Św. Joanna Beretta Molla. Komunikacja i oddziaływanie społeczne* (“St. Gianna Beretta Molla: Communication and Social Impact”), which was held on December 10, 2018, in the building of our university’s Main Library. The conference program consisted of two sessions. The first session dealt with such topics as: The Christian Conception of Marriage; Gianna B. Molla’s Road to Saint-hood; Gianna Beretta Molla’s Marital Love in a Psychological and Theological Aspect; Gianna Beretta Molla’s Life from the Perspective of Personalistic Pedagogy; The Witness of Gianna Beretta Molla’s Life on the Basis of Media Accounts; The Image of the Saint in Contemporary Painting; The Role of Empathy in Marital Communication; The Axiological Aspects of Media Communication; Marital Fidelity as a Value; The Role of the Medium in the Communication of the Mutual Relationship: The Example of Gianna Beretta Molla’s Correspondence with Her Husband; “Pro-Life” and “Pro-Choice” Media in Light of Gianna Beretta Molla’s Life’s Path and Her Choice; and Education and the Culture of Life in the Context of Contemporary Social Changes. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following universities in Poland: the University of Szczecin, the Jagiellonian University, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, as well as the University of Prešov (Slovakia). Furthermore, the Apostolic Nuncio to Poland (Archbishop Dr. Salvatore Penacchio), the Archbishop

of Krakow (Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski), a representative of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints (Rev. Dr. Krzysztof Białowąs), the owner of the Arsarti Workshop (Ms. Joanna Sobczyk-Pajak), the Press Secretary of the Slovak Episcopal Conference (Rev. Dr. Marian Gavenda), and a representative of the clergy (Rev. Dr. Piotr Gąsior of Zagórze) all spoke. Conference materials have been published in the anthology: *Św. Joanna Beretta Molla. Komunikacja i oddziaływanie społeczne* ("St. Gianna Beretta Molla: Communication and Social Impact"), red. R. Nęcek, J. Sobczyk-Pajak, Kraków: Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2019, pp. 255.²⁶

One of the characteristic activities of theologians at the turn of the millennium was an attempt at redefining theological concepts, which were not infrequently justified by the "spirit" of Vatican II. The concept of the Church's mission is one of them. Problems related to the contemporary understanding of the Church's mission and the implementation of its mission in the context of the conciliar decree *Ad gentes divinitus* became the subject of discussion during the international academic symposium on the topic: *Kościół i misja* ("The Church and Mission"), which was held on February 18–19, 2019, at the headquarters of the Academic Station of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Rome (Vicolo Doria 2). It 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 (which is headquartered in Warsaw). During the symposium, the following topics were discussed: The Attitude of the Synagogue to the Nascent Church; The Concept of Mission According to the Apostle to the Nations; Christological Psalters in the Thirteenth Century and the Evangelization of the Elites; The Educational-Pedagogical Activity of the Church in the Middle Ages; The Pastoral Mission of the Church According to S. Hozjusz and R. Sarah; Faith and Culture in Postmodern Europe; Globalization as a Challenge to the Mission of the Catholic Church; Reconciliation as the Church's Mission; The Church's Mission as Conceived by H. U. von Balthasar; Monastic Life in the Church According to St. Augustine; Mission-Mindedness in Some Writings by St. Thomas Aquinas; The Impact of the Concept of the Church on the Implementation of Its Missionary Mindset; Inculturation and the New Humanism; The Spirituality of Mission; *Ad Intra* and *Ad Extra* Missionary Mindsets in Chad and Northern Cameroon; Evangelization, Re-Evangelization, and Ecumenism; Mission in the Orthodox Church; and The Mission of the Church in Asia. Papers were presented in the Polish and Italian languages. Apart from our university, the authors of the papers represented the following institutions: the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław, the Pontifical Urban University in Rome (Italy), the John

²⁶ See: M. Fortuna-Sudor, *By zachwycić się Świętą*, "Vita Academica. Biuletyn informacyjny Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie" 2019 nr 1/98, pp. 40–41.

Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the University of Trnava (Slovakia), Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome (Italy), Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Opole, and the Jagiellonian University. Materials from the symposium, which was expanded to include other articles, were printed in the form of a publication: *Misja: istotą i chwałą Kościoła katolickiego* ("Mission: The Essence and Glory of the Catholic Church"), red. A. A. Napiórkowski, Kraków: Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II w Krakowie Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2019, pp. 353.²⁷

The restoration of Polish independence in 1918 meant not only political sovereignty, but also spiritual renewal and the strengthening of national consciousness. The Resurrectionist Congregation (the Congregation of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ) played a major role in the spiritual renewal of the Polish nation. This congregation was formed on February 17, 1836, in Paris upon the initiative of Poland's national poet Adam Mickiewicz and thanks to the efforts of the emigre activist Bogdan Jański. In connection with the centenary of the restoration of Polish independence, the seventeenth edition of the national academic conference from the *Duchowość klasztorów polskich: przekaz i komunikacja* ("The Spirituality of Polish Monasteries: Message and Communication") was devoted to this congregation and was titled: *Zmartwychwstańcy i odrodzenie Ojczyzny w 100. rocznicę odzyskania niepodległości przez Polskę* ("The Resurrectionist Congregation and the Rebirth of the Fatherland on the Centenary of the Restoration of Polish Independence"). The conference took place on March 13, 2019, in Krakow's *Centrum Resurrectionis* (1 Ks. Stefana Pawlickiego Street) and was organized by the Chair of the Spirituality of the Media and Social Relations at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences and the Polish Province of the Resurrectionist Congregation. During the conference, the following topics were discussed: The Concern of the Resurrectionist Congregation for the Nation and Polish Independence at a Time of Enslavement; The Spiritual Fundament of Independence; The Spiritual Bases for the Rebirth of the Country and the Role of Dialogue; The Activity of the Founders of the Resurrectionist Congregation; The Concept of the Nation and Its Axiology According to the First Resurrectionists; The Mission of the Polish Nation According to Rev. Piotr Semenenko; Bogdan Jański as the Creator of the Polish Spiritual School of the Rebirth of the Nation; Love of the Fatherland in the Writings of the Founders of the Resurrectionist Congregation; and The Communication of Spirituality in Their School. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well

²⁷ For more on the symposium, see: A. Napiórkowski, *Wprowadzenie* ("Introduction"), in: *Misja: istotą i chwałą Kościoła katolickiego* ("Mission: The Essence and Glory of the Catholic Church"), red. A. A. Napiórkowski, Kraków 2019, pp. 6–7.

as the Theological Institute of St. Archbishop Joseph Bilczewski of Lviv (Ukraine), the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and the following institutions affiliated with religious orders: the International Commission for Resurrectionist Studies in Rome (Italy), the Society of Friends of the Blessed Wincenty Kadłubek Diocesan Archive in Kielce, the General Archive of the Resurrectionist Fathers in Rome (Italy), and the Marian shrine in Mentorella (Italy). The conference concluded with a concert of the Galicja Folk Band.

Not only the Days of Judaism and Islam and Catholic Church as well as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, but also the organization of academic conferences serve the development of interreligious dialogue. The first such effort was the international academic conference titled: *Tradycje i obyczaje w kulturach i religiach* (“Traditions and Customs in Cultures and Religions”), which took place on April 11–12, 2019. It was organized by the Chair in Landscape and Cultural Heritage at our university’s Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage; the Jewish Community Center (JCC Krakow); the Institute of Fundamental Theology, Ecumenism, and Dialogue at our university’s Faculty of Theology; and the international and interdenominational initiative Toward Jerusalem Council II. The conference took place under the patronage of Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, former Archbishop of Krakow, and Mr. Ireneusz Raś, a Member of the Polish Parliament. With respect to subject matter, the conference was divided into two parts. The first (April 11, 2019) was held at the Jewish Community Center of Krakow (JCC, 24 Miodowa Street) and was devoted to celebration in Jewish culture, while the second (April 12, 2019) was held at our university (3 Bernardyńska Street) and dealt with celebration in the messianic movement. In the first part, the papers dealt with the following topics: The Material Dimensions of Sephardic Rituals; Jewish Holidays in the Bible and in Rabbinic Literature; The Explanation of Why Jews Do Not Change the World on Shabbos; Memory of the Deceased in the Jewish Tradition; Flags and Their Meaning in Traditional Celebrations of the Jewish Holiday Simchat Torah; The Symbolism of Light and the Candelabra in Judaism; The Holiday of Purim from the Biblical Perspective; Relations Between Greek-Catholics and Jews in Slovakia; and Celebrating in the Jewish Family. During the second part, meanwhile, the following topics were discussed: Practical Supersessionism – The Example of the Shtetl in Ożarów; The Impact of the Holidays on Christian-Jewish Relations; The Development of the Jewish Messianic Movement in the Context of Dialogue with Christianity; Celebrating in the Messianic Current; The Impact of the Messianic Movement on the Church’s Eschatology; Passover from the Perspective of History: The Evolution of the Concept from the Passover of the Israelites to the Passover of Messianic Jews; and Messianic Jews from the Perspective of the Pentecostal Church. Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as from the following academic centers:

the University of Navarra in Pamplona (Spain), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel), the Jagiellonian University in Krakow (the Institute of Jewish Studies), Yeshiva University in New York City (United States), Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Kosice (Slovakia), All Nations College (United Kingdom), and the Christian Theological Academy in Warsaw. During the conference, the representatives of such Krakow institutions as: the Mifgash Foundation, the Ethnographic Museum, the Jewish Community, the Major Seminary of the Franciscans, and the “Betlejem” Pentecostal Church spoke. The event accompanying the first part of the conference was a performance by the Jarmuła Band, while the second part was accompanied by a lecture by Dr. Richard Harvey of the “Voice in the Desert” Foundation titled: *Pascha* (“Passover”). After the conclusion of the conference, a Passover celebration was held.

On the occasion of the often-mentioned centenary of the restoration of Polish independence, another academic conference, titled: *Polonia Restituta. Dekalog dla Polski w 100-lecie odzyskania niepodległości* (“*Polonia Restituta: A Decalogue for Poland on the Centenary of the Restoration of Independence*”) was held on April 29, 2019, at Krakow’s Jesuit University Ignatianum (26 Kopernika Street). The conference was organized by the above-mentioned Jesuit University Ignatianum, our university, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. It was a conference that concluded the cycle of ten national academic conferences concerning the most important values and principles that are the basis of the statehood, identity, and culture of the resurrected Poland. It was an attempt at the broadest possible conceptualization of Polish and European reality and their further development taking into consideration Catholic social teaching. The conference was preceded by a Mass in the intention of the Church and the Fatherland that was celebrated by Archbishop Prof. Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Krakow, in St. Nicholas’ Church in Krakow (9 Kopernika Street) on Sunday April 28 at 7:00 PM. The program of the conference consisted of three papers and two panel discussions. The papers dealt with the following topics: “The Mission of the Church in Today’s Europe and Its Visions of Europe” (Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Vatican); “European Identity in Light of the Challenges of the Process of the Expansion and Integration of the European Union: An External View” (Mr. Prof. Nikita Harwich, Université Duke, Durham, USA / London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom / École Pratique des Haute Études, Paris, France); and “The Old and New Fundaments of Europe and What We Want in Them and What We Can Build” (Mr. Prof. Rocco D’Ambrosio, Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy). The first panel was devoted to the topic: “Poland and Europe in Poland as Seen by the Catholic Church.” Its participants were: Stanisław Dziwisz (Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Krakow), Archbishop Zbigniew

Stankiewicz (Archbishop of Riga, Latvia), Archbishop Stanisław Gądecki (Archbishop of Poznan, President of the Episcopal Conference of Poland), Archbishop Józef Kupny (Archbishop of Wrocław, Chairman of the Council on Social Affairs of the Episcopal Conference of Poland), and Archbishop Wiktor Skworc (Archbishop of Katowice, Chairman of the Pastoral Commission of the Episcopal Conference of Poland), while the discussion was led by Rev. Dr. Rafał Kowalski (Press Secretary of the Archdiocese of Wrocław and Director of Radio Rodzina). Meanwhile, the second panel was devoted to the topic: "The Place and Role of Catholic Social Teaching in the Public Life of Today's Polish Society." The discussion was held with the representatives of Polish universities: Mrs. Prof. Dr. Hab. Aniela Dylus (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw); Mrs. Dr. Hab. Iwona Niewiadomska, Professor at the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin; Ms. Dr. Hab. Elżbieta Osewska, Professor at the State Higher Vocational School in Tarnow; and Rev. Dr. Hab. Marek Żmudziński, Professor at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn. The discussion was led Rev. Dr. Hab. Arkadiusz Wuwer, Professor at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Silesia in Katowice. After the discussion, there was a "Presentation of the Results of Surveys Concerning Familiarity with Catholic Social Teaching in Poland," which was presented by Rev. Dr. Wit Pasierbek, SJ (Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow) and Mr. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Borkowski, a Professor at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow. Next, the "Summary of the Publication *Polonia Restituta. Dekalog dla Polski w 100-lecie odzyskania niepodległości* ("Polonia Restituta: A Decalogue for Poland on the Centenary of the Restoration of Independence;" Rev. Dr. Wit Pasierbek, SJ) and the "Summary of the Project *Polonia Restituta. Dekalog dla Polski w 100-lecie odzyskania niepodległości* ("Polonia Restituta: A Decalogue for Poland on the Centenary of the Restoration of Independence;" ed. Tomasz Homa, SJ, a Professor of the Jesuit University Ignatianum and Dean of its Faculty of Philosophy) were presented. Materials from the conference from the aforementioned *Polonia Restituta* cycle were published as: *Polonia Restituta. Dekalog dla Polski w 100-lecie odzyskania niepodległości* ("Polonia Restituta: A Decalogue for Poland on the Centenary of the Restoration of Independence"), red. W. Pasierbek, A. Budzanowska, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Akademii "Ignatianum" w Krakowie 2019, pp. 456.

The ever-growing impact of the media on the shape of social consciousness necessitates not only the proper education of the consumers of products that are offered by the media, but those who work in those media as well. The Church's teaching on the topic of fundamental values, especially John Paul II's teaching on this topic, is an important point of reference in all activities supporting broadly understood media education. The fourth edition of the academic conference from the *Edukacja Medialna* ("Media Education") series was titled: *Jan Paweł II. Komunikacja i przebaczenie* ("John Paul II:

Communication and Forgiveness”). It took place on May 20, 2019, in Wadowice (the conference hall in the basement of St. Peter the Apostle Church) and was an element of the centenary of the birth of John Paul II (May 18, 1920). It was organized by the Chair in Media Education at our university’s Faculty of Social Sciences and the St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Wadowice under the honorary patronage of Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio (the Apostolic Nuncio to Poland), Archbishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Marek Jędraszewski (Archbishop of Krakow), Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak (Rector of our university), Mr. Bartosz Kaliński (Mayor of Wadowice), and our university’s Institute of Journalism and Social Communication. The conference program consisted of two sessions. The first session dealt with such topics as: Opposition to the Breaking Up of Communities; Forgiveness and Solidarity as a Source of Hope for the Future; The Anthropological Dimension of John Paul II’s Communication; The Political Dimension of Communication in John Paul II; The Perspectives of Personalistic Anthropology and Pedagogy (Mercy, Forgiveness, Dialogue); and The Image as a Visual Medium of Mercy. Meanwhile, the second session dealt with the following topics: Memory of the Internet and Memory of the Media and Their Impact on Forgiveness; Forgiveness as a Dynamic of Communication; Communication and Forgiveness at the Time of the Pope’s Death; Questions on Dialogue, Agreement, and Forgiveness in the Context of Polish–German Affairs; and Forgiveness as a Condition of Reconciliation in the Communication of Love. Apart from our university, the authors of papers represented the following universities: the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wrocław, the University of Prešov (Slovakia), the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Silesia in Katowice, and the following institutions: the Arsart Workshop (Ms. Joanna Sobczyk-Pająk) and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (Mr. Dr. Gerhard Gnauck). Conference materials were published as: *Komunikacja, media, przebaczenie. Wzajemne uwarunkowania* (“Communication, the Media, Forgiveness: Mutual Conditions”), red. A. Frankowiak, R. Nęcek, A. Guzik, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Petrus 2019, pp. 156, the *Edukacja Medialna* (“Media Education”) series 4.

Media education needs unambiguously defined principles, including ethical principles. Ignoring them leads to a decline in trust in the media, which is usually rooted in lies, the manipulation of facts, bias, and slander with impunity. All this violates the dignity of the human person. Thus, the main topic of the thirteenth edition of the academic conference from the *Etyka Mediów* (“Media Ethics”) series, which was held last year, was: *Godność osoby w mediach – media godne osoby* (“The Dignity of the Person in the Media – Media Worthy of the Person”). The conference took place on May 22–23, 2019, in the Main Library of our University at 10 Bobrzyńskiego Street. It was organized by the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at our university’s

Faculty of Social Sciences. It was included in the tenth anniversary of the existence of that institute and the tenth anniversary of our university. The honorary patrons of the conference were: Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski (Archbishop of Krakow), Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Zyzak (Rector of our university), Mr. Piotr Ćwik (Voivode of Lesser Poland), and Mr. Witold Kozłowski (Marshal of the Lesser Poland Region). The program of the conference consisted of three plenary sessions, twelve thematic sessions (two each were simultaneously held), and, at the conclusion of the conference, a discussion panel. The first plenary session dealt with the topic: "Media Worthy of the Person;" the second focused on: "Legal-Institutional Protection of the Dignity of the Human Person;" finally, the third session, which concluded the entire conference, was titled: "The Dignity of the Person: An Indelible Fundament of the Media." The thematic sessions were devoted to the following topics: "The Legal-Institutional Protection of the Dignity of the Person;" "The Dignity of the Person in Social Media;" "The Dignity of the Person and Journalistic Practice;" "The Civic Contexts of the Subjectivity of the Person;" "Understanding Human Dignity in the Media;" "Journalistic Concern for the Dignity of the Person;" "The Dignity of the Person in Communication Through Images;" "The Media View of (Dis)Respect for the Dignity of the Person;" "In Defense of the Dignity of the Person in the Media;" "Media Promotion of the Dignity of the Person;" "Media Views of the Dignity of the Person in Crisis Situations;" and "The Dignity of the Person in the Media Discourse." The discussion panel that concluded the first day of the conference focused around the topic: "The Dignity of the Person in Journalistic Practice." The program of the conference consisted of a total of seventy-three presentations by academic staff from various Polish universities and one international university, as well as those employed in the media. The participants in the discussion represented the following universities: the University of Information Technology and Management in Rzeszow, the University of Applied Sciences Burgenland (Austria), Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, the University of Wrocław, the Social Sciences Academy in Krakow, the University of Gdansk, the University of Warsaw, the University of Economics in Katowice, Rzeszow University, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, the Jagiellonian University, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the Pedagogical University of Krakow, the Pułtusk Academy of Humanities, the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, the Higher School of Social and Media Culture in Torun, the University of Lower Silesia in Wrocław, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, and, of course, our university. Some universities were represented by several persons. Other institutions represented during the conference were: the National Broadcasting Council, the Polish Academy of Learning, TVP SA, TVN24, Telewizja TV Angel, the Bureau of the National Broadcasting Council, the

Institute of Discourse and Dialogue in Torun, Radio Krakow, the Onet.pl website, Synaj TV, and the monthly magazine *Znak*. After the conference, there was an organ mini concert by Rev. Marcin Ciechanowski, OSPPE (St. Mary's Basilica, Main Market Square in Krakow). There are plans for a publication of conference materials. Materials from this and previous conferences are published in the *Etyka Mediów* series. So far, sixteen volumes from this series have been published. You can find more information about these publications and this discussion on the *Etyka Mediów* website.²⁸

There is growing discussion of the threats that are a challenge to contemporary Europe: post-Enlightenment nihilism (and the related crisis of solidarity between persons) and the influx of populations from distinct civilizations and cultures. These two problems became the subject of discussion during the international academic conference titled: *Europa między nihilizmem post-oświeceniowym a kwestią islamską* ("Europe Between Post-Enlightenment Nihilism and the Islamic Question"). It was held on May 29, 2019, at our university. It was organized by the Archbishop of Krakow Marek Jędraszewski, our university, and the Centro Internazionale Giovanni Paolo II per il Magistero Sociale della Chiesa (Rimini, Italy) in collaboration with the Acton Institute in Rome (Istituto Acton per lo Studio della Religione e della Libertà). Meanwhile, the President of Poland Mr. Andrzej Duda was its honorary patron. The conference was a preparation for the celebrations of the centenary of John Paul II's birth. The sessions were introduced by speeches: Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, our university's Great Chancellor and the Archbishop of Krakow; Mr. Dr. Marco Ferrini; the President of the International John Paul II Center; and Mr. Dr. Kishore Jayabalan, Director of the Acton Institute in Rome. Next, a letter by the President of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Duda, addressed to the participants in the conference was read. The conference program consisted of two sessions: *Europa między nihilizmem post-oświeceniowym a kwestią islamską. Refleksja nad przemówieniem Josepha Ratzinger'a z Ratzbony* ("Europe Between Post-Enlightenment Nihilism and the Islamic Question: Reflection on Joseph Ratzinger's Regensburg Lecture") and *Wyjść z ucisku: jaką drogą? Elementy kulturowe i duszpasterskie dotyczące sekularyzmu: odpowiedź krytyczna na nowoczesność* ("How to Get Out of Oppression? Cultural and Pastoral Elements Concerning Secularism – A Critical Response to Modernity"). In the first session, the following topics were presented: "Post-Enlightenment Nihilism in Europe" (Mr. Prof. Francesco Botturi, the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy); "Dialogue: Witness to Truth" (Mr. Prof. Stanisław Grygiel, the John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences in Rome, Italy); and "Islam and Migration in Europe" (Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Piotr Mazurkiewicz, the Cardinal Stefan

²⁸ <http://www.etykamedioiw.pl/index.php> (30.12.2019).

Wyszyński University in Warsaw). Meanwhile, the following topics were discussed during the second session: “The Secularization of Our Times” (Cardinal Willem Eijk, Archbishop of Utrecht, Netherlands); “The *Dominus Jesus* Declaration as a Fundamental Point of John Paul II’s Teaching” (Archbishop Prof. Marek Jędraszewski, Archbishop of Krakow); and “Mission as a Response to Secularization” (Archbishop Luigi Negri, Archbishop-Emeritus of Ferrara-Comacchio, Italy).²⁹

Without a doubt, the crisis of fatherhood, whose existence has in recent years been noted by experts in the social sciences (psychologists, sociologists, pedagogues, and lawyers) is an element that worsens the crisis of the family. The national conference titled: *Ojcostwo i jego odslony* (“Fatherhood and Its Forms”) was an attempt at diagnosing the threats emerging from this crisis, recognizing the threats to the integral conception of fatherhood resulting from it, and an analysis of the models of its implementation. It was held at our university on May 29, 2019 (at the same time as the above-mentioned conference “Europe Between Post-Enlightenment Nihilism...”). The conference was organized by the Institute for Family Studies at the John Paul II Pontifical University (the Chair in General Pedagogy) at our Faculty of Social Sciences as well as the Polish Theological Society in Krakow. It was addressed above all to students in order to give them guidelines on how to properly prepare for family life and playing the role of the father in it. The conference’s program consisted of the following papers: *Aksjologiczne wymiary ojcostwa* (“The Axiological Dimensions of Fatherhood”); *Duchowość ojca* (“The Spirituality of the Father”); *Ojcostwo duchowe* (“Spiritual Fatherhood”); *Wychowawczy wymiar ojcostwa* (“The Educative Dimension of Fatherhood”); *Dzielny ojciec* (“The Courageous Father”); *Ojcostwo ponad granicami* (“Fatherhood Beyond Borders”); *Mój mąż w roli ojca* (“My Husband in the Role of a Father”); and *Nasz tata w roli ojca* (“Our Dad in the Role of a Father”). Papers were presented by academic staff from the following universities: the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University, the Jagiellonian University, the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, and the Pedagogical University of Krakow. The last paper was a testimony by students of our university about their fathers. The subject matter of the conference was dealt with in a previously published book under the same title as the conference.³⁰

The concept of love is prone to numerous manipulations. One of the aims of philosophy is the recall how it was conceptualized in the past by various thinkers, especially those who are less known for their reflections on this topic. They include Vladimir

²⁹ For a summary of the conference, see: <https://diecezja.pl/aktualnosci/miedzynarodowa-konferencja-europa-miedzy-nihilizmem-post-oswieceniowym-a-kwestia-islamska/> (30.12.2019).

³⁰ *Ojcostwo i jego odslony*, red. J. Mastalski, G. Godawa, K. Kutek-Sładek, Ł. Ryszka, Kraków 2018, pp. 230.

Soloviev (Владимир Сергеевич Соловьёв, 1853–1900), a Russian Orthodox thinker and the creator of the metaphysics of All-Unity. His life and work became the subject of the most recent international conference from the series: “Krakow Meetings: The Krakow Conferences on Russian Philosophy x” was titled: “Vladimir Soloviev: The Metaphysics of Love” and was held on June 2–5, 2019, in the Benedictine Abbey in Tynieć in Krakow and was organized by the Chair in the Philosophy of Religion at our university’s Faculty of Philosophy, the Instituto de Filosofía Edith Stein in Granada (Spain) and the Center for the Study of the Christian Orient in Granada (Centro Internacional para el Estudio del Oriente Cristiano, Spain), the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Copernicus Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Krakow. During the first section of the conference, three keynote lectures that lasted forty minutes each were presented. They were devoted to the following topics: “Ethos Transfigured Eros: Early and Late Soloviev” (Этос преображенного эроса: ранний и поздний Соловьёв – Mr. Alexey Kozyrev, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia); “Vladimir Soloviev and Maxim the Confessor: Metaphysics and Theology of Love” (Владимир Соловьёв и Максим Исповедник: Метафизика и богословие любви – Mr. Mikhail Maksimov, Ivanovo State Power Engineering University, Russia); and “Soloviev on the Evolution and Metaphysics of Love” (Rev. George Pattison, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom). After the main papers were presented, there was a discussion, and there were three more papers (each lasted fifteen minutes) that were devoted to the following topics: studies on Soloviev, his workshop, and literature and religious-philosophical thought from the late nineteenth century through the 1930s. 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. Three or four papers were presented in each section (30 min.). In total, nearly fifty papers were presented in Russian and English. The general topic of conference was: “From Godmanhood to Nuptial Mystery: Free Theosophy, Free Theocracy and Free Theurgy.” There were discussions on the different aspects of that general topic in Soloviev’s work: the concept of all-unity, the contemporary significance of the project of integral knowledge, free theocracy and democracy, love as man’s integrality, consecration of the flesh, and the religious meaning of creativity.

The papers dealt with the following topics: Soloviev’s Reception in Russia and Abroad; The Opinion of Georges Florovsky about Soloviev; The Relationship Between All-Unity and Uniqueness in Lev Shestov’s Criticism of Soloviev’s Philosophy; Soloviev’s Critique of Abstract Principles (Humanity, Divinity, and All-Unity); Soloviev’s “Free Theocracy” (Building a Christian Society); The Concept of Theocracy in the Post-Constantine Era According to Sergii Bulgakov; Vatican Archives Documents on Soloviev and the Holy See; Religious Views of Leo Tolstoy and Soloviev (Unity and Discrepancy); The Problem of Judeo-Christian Relations (Soloviev and Rabinovich); The Messianism of Soloviev

as a Religious Project of All-Unity; Soloviev in Relation to Fyodor Dostoevsky (The image of Jesus Christ – God-Manhood or God-Man?); Between Good and Freedom (The Antichrist Theme); Soloviev’s Eschatology (Christ vs. the Antichrist); Friendship Philosophy (Soloviev and the Trubetskoy Brothers); Soloviev in the Assessments and Judgments of Vasily Rozanov (The Experience of a Historical and Typological Portrait); “Soloviev Is Significant Enough to Withstand a Truthful and Critical Assessment” (S. Frank’s Report on Soloviev in 1925); The Idea of “Christian Politics” (A Project of Political Theology); The Problem of Relations Between the Church and the State According to Soloviev; The Philosophy of Law as the Peculiarity of Soloviev’s Theoretical Heritage; The Excess of the Theanthropic over the Theological in Soloviev’s Incarnational Anthropology (and Its Consequences for the Faith-Reason Dialogue); Neoplatonic Aspects of Human Perfection (According to Soloviev’s *The Meaning of Love*); Soloviev’s Idea of Unitotality and Vernadsky’s Noosphere (The Comparison); Another Concept of Love (Soloviev and Tyutchev); Eschatology and Utopia in Russian Philosophical Thought (Soloviev and N. Fyodorov); *The Meaning of Love* and the Dialogue with Fyodorov; The Ethics of Feelings in the context of Western European Philosophy; The Latest Research on the Ethics of Soloviev in Germany; The Integral Concept of Love (Sternberg, Soloviev, Wojtyła); The “Theoretical Philosophy” of Soloviev and Its Phenomenological Orientation; Soloviev’s Phenomenology of the Experience; The Meaning of Love and the Anthropological Dimension of Soloviev’s Philosophy of History; Soloviev’s Understanding of the Sofia Myth (Esoteric and Exoteric Versions, or Both); The Fateful Separation of Soul and Body (The Question of Sophianism and Russian Letters of the Early Twentieth Century); “In the Language of Sophiology” (from Soloviev’s Triadology to the Triadology of Bulgakov); The Path to the Invisible City (The Myths of Soloviev and Plato); The Idea of Complete Knowledge (Modern Epistemology of Virtue); Soloviev and Esotericism; Love and Marriage in Soloviev’s *Justification of the Good*; The Idea of Beauty in Soloviev’s Philosophy (*Beauty in Nature*, 1889) and in a Novel by Z. Smith (*On Beauty*, 2005): A Comparative Analysis; Soloviev’s Philosophy of Love (From Platonic Eros to the Universal Syzygy); Soloviev’s Archetypal Generic Consciousness; *Ordo amoris* Theocracy in the Context of Postmodern Ontology; The Ontologization of Consciousness in the Philosophy of Soloviev; The Dynamics of Love in Soloviev’s Philosophy; How to Make Our Love Real or Sexual (Love and the Problem of the Other in Soloviev’s Philosophy); Soloviev’s Ontologism; The Concept of Unity (From Plotinus to Soloviev); Soloviev’s Teaching About Man as Reflected by A. S. Glinka (Volzhsky); and Soloviev’s traditions in the “Philosophy of Love” (A. F. Losev).

The speakers represented the following academic institutions: our university, the University, the University of Zielona Gora, the University of Wrocław, the University

of Technology in Lublin, and the University of Warsaw (Polish universities). Meanwhile, represented international academic institutions were: College Benedict xvi (Heiligenkreuz, Austria); Belarusian State University (Minsk, Belarus); the University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” (Bulgaria); the University of Ostrava (Czech Republic); the University of Portsmouth (England), the Russian Christian Academy of Humanities (Russia); St. Mary’s University (Strawberry Hill, England); the Jean Moulin University Lyon 3 (France); ITC “C. BATTISTI” FANO (Italy); Waseda University (Japan); Mother of the Church Seminary in Karaganda (Kazakhstan); Vilnius University (Lithuania); the Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences – INION RAN (Russia – Israel); Saratov State University (Russia); St. Tikhon’s Orthodox University (Moscow, Russia); the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia); the National Research University Higher School of Economics (Moscow, Russia); Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia); National Research University (Russia); the Russian Christian Academy of the Humanities (St Petersburg, Russia); Ivanovo State Power Engineering University (Russia); the Russian State Institute of Performing Arts (Russia); the Moscow State University of Medicine and Dentistry (Russia); St. Andrews Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow, Russia); Pushkin Leningrad State University (St. Petersburg, Russia); St. Petersburg University (Russia); the University of Prešov (Slovakia); the Institute for Russian and Eurasian Studies (Uppsala, Sweden); the University of Fribourg (Switzerland); Radboud University (Nijmegen, Netherlands); the University of Glasgow (United Kingdom); Poltava Yuriy Kondratyuk National Technical University (Ukraine); Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University (Ukraine); Oles Honchar Dnipro National University (Ukraine); Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University (Ukraine); and the College of St. Scholastica (USA). Finally, the remaining represented institutions were: the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration (Germany), Gorky Literature Institute (Moscow), Troubetski’s Fund (Russia), REGNUM News Agency (Moscow, Russia), the Association “Russian Culture” (St. Petersburg, Russia), A. M. Gorky Institute of World Literature RAS (Russia), the Library of History of Russian Philosophy and Culture “A.F. Losev’s House” (Russia), as well as one Free Investigator (Germany) and one representative of United Nations (France).

More than sixty persons (including the speakers) from twenty countries including Poland, participated; more than thirty participants were from Russia. Thus, the speakers represented the following countries (in alphabetical order): Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

At the end of the first day of the conference and after its conclusion, participants had the opportunity to listen to selected works by J. S. Bach during a piano concert

by Ms. Miglė Miliūnaitė from the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theater. On the second day, there was an optional excursion to the Abbey Museum after lunch. The conference concluded with a “Philosophical Walk,” which included the following places in Krakow: Bishop Mateusz’s Grave in Wawel Cathedral (Wawel 3), Bishop Karol Wojtyła’s house (21 Kanonicza Street), Prof. Michał Heller’s Copernicus Center and *De Revolutionibus* Books & Café (14 Bracka Street), Soloviev in Krakow (20 św. Jana Street) and Jerzy Nowosielski’s Icons in the Orthodox church on 20 Szpitalna Street. There are plans to publish materials from conference. Information about the published materials from the previous conference (as well as the conferences themselves) can be found on the website of the *Krakow Meetings*.³¹

Not only the centenary of John Paul II’s birth, but also the fortieth anniversary of his first pilgrimage to Poland was celebrated in the previous academic year. Along with the Family House of the Holy Father John Paul II Museum in Wadowice, our university organized an academic conference titled: *Wadowice 7 czerwca 1979 – 40 lat później* (“Wadowice, June 7, 1979: Forty Years Later”), which took place on June 17, 2019, in the Theater Hall in Wadowice (1 Plac Jana Pawła II). The conference program consisted of papers devoted to the following topics: the duties and obligations of our university as the University of John Paul II; the significance (for Poland and the world) of his first pilgrimage to Poland; the Biblical and cultural symbolism of the number forty; the relevance of the message of John Paul II from that pilgrimage; his personal recollections of it; and the recollections of his secretary Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz. The papers (a total of five presentations) were presented by academic staff from our university, while Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz personally shared his recollections.³²

The anniversary of this pilgrimage was celebrated by another conference, which was titled: *Biblia i społeczeństwo. Jan Paweł II – 40-lecie pierwszej pielgrzymki do Ojczyzny* (“The Bible and Society: The Fortieth Anniversary of John Paul II’s Pilgrimage to His Fatherland”), which took place on June 18, 2019. This was an international academic conference organized by our university’s Institute of Biblical Studies along with the Chair in the Cultural and Christian Fundamentals of Education at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Krakow, the Biblical Section of the Polish Theological Society in Krakow, and the John Paul II Biblical Work of the Archdiocese of Krakow. The topics of the conference focused on Biblical and pedagogical topics. The conference’s program consisted of twenty-one papers that each lasted fifteen minutes. They concerned such matters as: the pope’s Biblical ministry (in Krakow and at the Chair of St. Peter); the

³¹ Information in English is available at: <https://krakowmeetings.eu/2019> (30.12.2019).

³² For more on the conference, see: <https://upjp2.edu.pl/aktualnosci/wadowice-7-czerwca-1979-40-lat-pozniej-relacja-z-konferencji-1328.html> (30.12.2019).

most important Biblical texts in the teaching of St. John Paul II; his approach to university students on June 3, 1979, at St. Anne's Collegiate Church in Krakow (an analysis); Biblical "discourses" as a didactic means in education; the Books of Chronicles and the Jubilee Book as different example of the "Rewritten Bible" in the period of the Second Temple; Biblical references in the pope's teaching on the family (during the first pilgrimage); St. Paul the Apostle as the precursor to Christian pedagogy of work; the Biblical bases for communal spirituality according to John Paul II; the influence of the Bible on the education of today's youth (a preliminary analysis); the Biblical inspirations of pictures of John Paul II and their educational meaning; the sociological dimension of society in the tradition of ancient Israel and Judaism; the pope's pilgrimage to Jordan (March 20–26, 2000) and the discovery of beginnings; novelty according to St. Paul; Biblical parallels of the papal homily in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska (June 7, 1979); Christ as the key to understanding humanity; St. Paul in a world without borders; Rev. Prof. Aleksy Klawek and his contribution to the academic life of the Krakow milieu; "RODO" twenty-one centuries ago (the census in Luke 2:1–7 and its theological significance); social legislation in the Bible (the historical, theological, and cultural implications); and Biblical aspects in John Paul II's homily in Auschwitz-Birkenau (June 7, 1979). Papers were presented by academic staff from our university as well as the following international universities: the University of Trnava (Slovakia), Franko National University of Lviv (Ukraine), the Theological Institute of St. Archbishop Joseph Bilczewski of Lviv (Ukraine), Ternopil Volodymyr Hnatiuk National Pedagogical University (Ukraine), the University of Prešov (Slovakia), Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic), and such Polish universities as: the Jesuit University Ignatianum and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. A publication containing materials from this conference is expected.

At the end of this part of the *Chronicle*, it should be noted that because of the limited space regrettably not all important conferences could be mentioned here. This also concerns some cyclical conferences that were mentioned in the previous *Chronicles* (*Chronica*).

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 initiatives of undergraduate and graduate students.

Acquiring experience related to the organization of academic conferences is also an important element of preparing young scholars for their future work in academia, as is preparing and presenting papers. An example of this is the engagement

of undergraduate and graduate students at our university's Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage in the Study Circles *Phronesis* and the Study Circle on Eastern Europe, which organized an academic conference titled: *Co po Habsburgach? Ład polityczny i społeczny w Europie Środkowo-Wschodniej po rozpadzie monarchii austrowęgierskiej* ("What After the Habsburgs? The Political and Social Order in East-Central Europe After the Collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy"). It took place on May 20–21, 2019, at our university. The honorary patron was the Sejm of the Republic of Poland represented by its Deputy Marshal Mr. Ryszard Terlecki as well as the General Consulate of Austria in Krakow. The program of the first day of the conference consisted of fourteen papers that each lasted twenty minutes and were presented mostly by academic and didactic staff from various Polish and international universities (Ukraine, Germany), while during the second day nine papers (twenty minutes each) were presented by MA candidates and doctoral students from Polish universities and Germany (one paper).

An example of the engagement of doctoral students is the national academic conference from the "Doctoral Research Conference: Share & Inspire" series, which took place on May 16, 2019, and was devoted to the topic: "Confidence and Beauty in Communication." It was organized by the Doctoral Students' Union, the Department of Foreign Languages and the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow. This was an English-language academic conference for doctoral students; the first edition took place in 2017 as part of the Academic English class. The very positive experiences related to it encouraged our doctoral students to organize it as a national conference. Its main aim is the creation of a convenient space for the exchange of thoughts and academic experiences in English for doctoral candidates and young scholars from across Poland. The conference program consisted of nine paper sessions in blocks of three sessions that were held simultaneously. In the first block, there were three sessions, each consisting of six fifteen-minute papers. After each session, there was time planned for questions and discussions. After this block of sessions, there was a poster session during which there were fourteen presentations. Following the lunch break, there was a second session that also consisted of three simultaneous sessions, each of which consisted of six papers and concluded with questions and a discussion. After a short break, there were five papers in each session of the third block that also concluded with questions and a discussion. In total, fifty-one papers were presented during the conference. They dealt with topics in the following areas: media studies; ethics; philosophical anthropology; aesthetics; world history and Church history; pedagogy; Biblical studies; the philosophy of science; the relationship between science and theology; the economic aspect of work; the theology of marriage and the family; ecumenical matters; interreligious dialogue; the history of philosophy (ancient Egypt); interdisciplinary studies; methods in the

history of philosophy; non-Euclidean geometry in physics and painting; the painting of Salvador Dali; painting in the context of mentally ill persons; allegory in the liturgy; the image of the Victor in Revelation; and others. The doctoral students represented the following: our university (which was most represented), the Jagiellonian University, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the University of Vienna (Austria), Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Warsaw, Lund University (Sweden), and the Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski Krakow University.

University studies serve not only to gain knowledge, but also to integrate the academic milieu of young academics. This was the reason why young theologians from our university organized the Fifth National Student-Doctoral Academic Conference titled: *Newmanalia – odkrywając ortodoksję* (“Newmanalia: Discovering Orthodoxy”). This year’s motto was “All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be” (John 1:3). The conference was held on June 4, 2019, at our university’s building (3 Bernardyńska Street). It was organized by our university’s Theology Study Circle, the Doctoral Students’ Union, and the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland. The main idea of the conference was systematic, comparative, and practical theology. The conference was divided into two parts with the respective titles: *Teologia systematyczna i teologia porównawcza* (“Systematic Theology and Comparative Theology”) as well as *Teologia kultury i teologia praktyczna* (“The Theology of Culture and Practical Theology”). The program of the conference consisted of fifteen papers, eight in the first and seven in the second part. In the first part, the following topics were presented: Biblical Protology, Ancient and Contemporary; Creation in the Armenian Liturgy; The Protologies of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania; The Renewal of Theology According to Bernard Lonergan, SJ; The Crossroads of Christian Eco-Feminism; Political Theology in J. Milbank and W. Cavanaugh; The Mariological Dimension of Paul Claudel’s Work; God in the World of Tolkien’s Middle-Earth; Gods and Creators in the Marvel Film Universe; The Historiography of Y. Harari and Its Theological Aspects; Inculturation and Superstition; The Discovery of Similarities as a Tool in Inculturation in the Gospel; and The Abstinence and Celibacy of the Clergy in the Canonical-Legal Aspect. A discussion followed each part of the conference. Speakers represented the following: our university, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, the Jagiellonian University, the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Krakow, the Evangelical School of Theology and Education Center in Wrocław, and the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw.

Beginning in 2013, previous *Chronicles* (*Chronica*) mentioned meetings from the cycle “Their Areopagus of Faith.” They were organized by seminarians from the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Krakow and our university’s Institute of Journalism

and Social Communication with the support of the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland. These were public meetings with famous people (for example, journalists and singers) who had the courage to publicly speak about their faith and in this way present possible forms of the contemporary apostolate of laypeople. Unfortunately, these meetings were not organized in the previous academic year.

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). 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. Studies at the University of the Third Age conclude with the reception of a diploma. After receiving such a diploma, there is a possibility to continue one's studies in a selected field, although as full studies culminating in the reception of a Master of Arts degree.³³

In the previous academic year, 550 persons took part in courses at our University of the Third Age. An especially valuable initiative was the implementation of the *Aktywny senior z przyszłością* ("An Active Senior with a Future") project. The grant for the implementation of this project is worth one million zlotys and was given by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education from the funds of the European Union and that ministry. Its aim is the social activation of senior citizens, encouraging them to further their education and to prevent social exclusion. The time of the implementation of this period is from January 2, 2019, to December 31, 2021. Ultimately, it is intended to encompass 450 participants in the University of the Third Age at the Pontifical University of John Paul II. The funds from the grant will finance many offers in the educational program of the University of the Third Age and the introduction of new forms of activity for senior citizens. The project encompasses four blocks of tasks:

³³ <http://upjp2.edu.pl/node/739> (30.12.2019).

educational activities related to learning and hobbies; cultural meeting developing the passions and interests of the participants; and manual and athletic activities.³⁴

One of the forms of popularizing our university was the Pontifical University of Children and Parents, which was established in 2015 and is discussed in previous *Chronicles* (*Chronica*). Unfortunately, it ended its activity due to relatively small interest.

Distinctions

The above-mentioned activity of our university has met with acclaim in academia. In addition to the ordinary gratitude of people who make use of our university every day, a particular cause for joy and satisfaction is the distinctions given to both our entire university and its staff by various institutions.

An expression of recognition that is especially significant is the categorization of academic institutions in Poland by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. In the A-B-C scale, the highest “A” category was attained by the Faculty of Theology in Krakow and the Faculty of Theology. The remaining faculties received the “B” category. The attainment of a given category is related to academic privileges and financial resources.

Meanwhile, in the ranking in *Perspektywy* (a monthly magazine intended for youths) our Faculty of Theology was ranked second, while the Faculty of Philosophy was ranked fifth. It is worth noting that in twelve evaluated categories, the Faculty of Philosophy was considered to be the best-organized with the best results in Poland. The ranking also shows that of all the faculties of philosophy in Poland, graduates of our faculty are the most successful on the job market.

Our university’s Faculty of Theology can also feel distinguished by the fact that it has received a grant for the implementation of a research project as part of the *Dialog* (“Dialogue”) contest, which was announced by the Minister of Science and Higher Education and titled: *Wielokulturowe dziedzictwo Rzeczypospolitej w kształtowaniu europejskiej mentalności Słowian Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej. Interdyscyplinarne badanie wpływów łacińskich na kulturę bizantyjsko-słowiańską inspirowane 300. rocznicą Synodu Zamojskiego* (“The Multicultural Legacy of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in Shaping the European Mentality of the Slavs of East-Central Europe: An Interdisciplinary Study of the Latin Influences of Byzantine-Slavic Culture Inspired by the Three-Hundredth Anniversary of the Synod of Zamosc”). The cost of the project is more than 17,000 zlotys.

³⁴ For more on these activities, see: <http://upjp2.edu.pl/uniwersytet-trzeciego-wie-ku/projekt-%E2%80%99Eaktywny-senior-z-przysz%C5%82o%C5%9Bci%C4%85%E2%80%9D-dla-student%C3%B3w-utw-upjpii> (30.12.2019).

This time, our Faculty of Philosophy was distinguished at the international level: Sister Prof. Dr. Hab. Teresa Obolevich, Director of the Chair in Russian and Byzantine Philosophy, became an associate member of the Section of Russian Philosophy of the Institute of Philosophy at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow (Russia). Sister Prof. Obolevich is the main organizer of the “Krakow Meetings: Krakow Conferences on Russian Philosophy,” which were presented above. Another distinction of this faculty is the reception of funds from the European Union thanks to which it accepted fifty students from around the world for complementary Master of Arts studies in two specializations: “Philosophy and Christianity and the Contemporary World” and “Philosophy in English.” The latter specialization is the only program of study to take place solely in English at our university.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Marecki of the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage was nominated by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education to be a member of the National Council for the Development of the Humanities (second term), while Ms. Dr. Hab. Lucyna Rotter became a member of the Committee for Evaluation of Scientific Research Institutions and Mr. Dr. Paweł Krokosz became a member of the Commission on the History of Wars and Military Science at the Polish Academy of Learning.

Staff from the Faculty of Social Sciences have been nominated to the most important Polish Commissions and Councils. For example, Ms. Dr. Hab. Małgorzata Duda, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II, is a member of the Monitoring Group on Victims of Domestic Violence for the Minister of Family, Labor, and Social Policy (2017–2020 term), where she works for the amendment of the Domestic Violence Prevention Program. She is also a member of the Council on Policies on Senior Citizens to the Minister of Family, Labor, and Social Policy (2016–2020 term), where she participates in preparing programs for senior citizens in Poland. Meanwhile, Mrs. Dr. Katarzyna Wojtanowicz is a member of the Regional Examination Commission on degrees of professional specialization for social workers from the Lesser Poland region. Next, Rev. Dr. Hab. Michał Drożdż, a Professor of the Pontifical University of John Paul II, is a Consultor at the Council on the Media of Social Communication at the Commission of the Episcopal Conference of Poland, a member of the Executive Board, and the Treasurer of the Council on Academic Perfection. Finally, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Wojciech Misztal and Mrs. Dr. Katarzyna Dąg are members of the Commission of Media Studies of the Polish Academy of Learning.

Rev. Dr. Hab. Piotr Kroczek, a Professor of the Faculty of Canon Law at the Pontifical University of John Paul II, was elected to the Council of Scientific Excellence in the academic discipline of canon law, while Mrs. Dr. Aleksandra Brzemia-Bonarek and her husband were nominated by Pope Francis to be members of a new dicastery of the Roman Curia: the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. Another distinction from the Vatican was

awarded to Rev. Dr. Hab. Piotr Skonieczny, OP, a Professor at the Pontifical University of John Paul II who made a profession of faith and oath of fidelity to the Holy See (November 4, 2019), at the same time becoming a member of the legal department (*Ufficio Giuridico*) of Section I on General Affairs of the Secretariat of State. Additionally, Rev. Prof. Skonieczny, OP, became a Disciplinary Spokesman of the minister for 2019–2022. It is also worth noting the success of students of this faculty who came in first place, both individually and as a team, in the contest on canon law that was organized by the Faculty of Canon Law at the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw in March 2019.

Some Numbers

In order to get a fuller picture of our university, it is worth quoting several statistics. In the 2018–2017 academic year, 2,023 undergraduates, 469 doctoral students, and 251 participants in post-graduate diploma studies studied at our university. A total of 569 students were admitted to the first year of undergraduate and uniform M. A. studies. Meanwhile, 447 persons were employed by our university (as of October 31, 2019). They were 287 academic staff, including: forty-nine titular professors, eighty-nine habilitated doctors, 118 doctors, thirty-eight persons with Master of Arts degrees, and 160 remaining staff (111 employed in administration and twenty-six in the library). Furthermore, five persons who are considered academic staff work in our library (in total, thirty-one persons work in our library). Meanwhile, twenty-three persons were employed in academic and research projects.

In the past year, 137 bachelor of arts degrees were granted at our university (six at the Faculty of Theology, eight at the Faculty of Philosophy, thirty-one at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, and ninety-two at the Faculty of Social Sciences), as were 307 master of arts degrees (143 at the Faculty of Theology, three at the Faculty of Philosophy, sixteen at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, 109 at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and thirty-six at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow) and fifty licentiates in sacred theology (thirty at the Faculty of Theology, twelve at the Faculty of Canon Law, and eight at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow). Thirty-two persons received doctoral degrees (eighteen at the Faculty of Theology, five at the Faculty of Philosophy, six at the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage, three at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and zero at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow), while four persons received the title of professor (at the Faculty of Theology).

In order to avoid confusion, it should be noted that these statistics do not always correspond to those that are presented during promotion ceremonies. This is because usually several months pass between the conclusion of all proceedings (doctoral [the publication of the dissertation], habilitation, and professorial) and the promotions

themselves. Thus, it sometimes happens that a proceeding concludes during one academic year, while the promotion occurs in the next one. Furthermore, in a given academic year persons who received their degrees or academic titles at different institutions are hired.

The number of areas of study at our university, which is significant for an ecclesiastical university, can be a supplement to the above-cited numbers. Six faculties (two theological ones) offer a total of twelve areas of study.

Thus, the Faculty of Theology (in Krakow) offers areas of study called “theology” in three specializations: Priestly Theology (for candidates for the priesthood), Theology for laypeople (Catechetical-Pastoral Theology), and Religious Tourism (Pastoral Theology of Tourism). Likewise, the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow offers studies in theology, but only in two specializations: Priestly Theology and Theology for laypeople (Catechetical-Pastoral Theology). Studies in theology are long cycle studies (meaning that they encompass the first and second cycles of study) and last six years for students preparing for the priesthood and five years for lay students.

The Faculty of Philosophy offers one area of study in “philosophy” in four specializations: Systematic Philosophy, Philosophy in Science (both in Polish), Philosophy in English, and Philosophy and Christianity and the Contemporary World. Studies in philosophy are two cycle studies: first cycle studies preparing for a Bachelor of Arts degree (which last for three years) and second cycle studies, also known as supplementary Master of Arts studies (which last for two years).

The Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage (previously, the Faculty of Church History) independently offers five areas of study: History in three specializations of first and second cycle studies, or for Bachelor of Arts and Master’s Degree (Church History, Eastern Europe, and Political and Legal Doctrines) and in one specialization of the second cycle, or for a Master of Arts degree (Genealogy); Art History without distinct specializations (first and second cycle studies); Protection of Cultural Goods without distinct specializations (only first cycle studies); Archival Studies, Documentation Management, and Information Brokering in one first cycle specialization (Archival Studies, Documentation Management, and Information Brokering) and two second cycle specializations (Archival Studies, Documentation Management, and Information Brokering); and Tourism and Heritage Management in two first and second cycle specializations (Historical Tourism and Management of Material and Non-Material Legacy) as well as one second cycle specialization (The Culture of Asia). Meanwhile, the major “Church music” is organized in conjunction with the Academy of Music in Krakow as part of the Inter-University Institute of Church Music. These are first and second-cycle studies without distinct specializations whose aim is the education of organ players, among others.

The Faculty of Canon Law offers studies in the field of canon law without distinct specializations. These are long cycle studies (that last five years) and culminate in an M. A. diploma that is equivalent to a licentiate of Sacred Theology (thus, graduates receive two diplomas: a state diploma – a Master’s degree in canon law – and a Church diploma – a Licentiate of Sacred Theology).

The Faculty of Social Sciences offers for areas of study: first and second cycle studies Family Studies in two specializations (Counseling and Mediation and Occupational Therapy); second cycle studies in Pedagogy without distinct specializations; three specializations of first cycle studies in Social Work (Social Work with the Unemployed and Homeless, Social Work with People with Psychiatric Illnesses, and Social Work with Elderly Persons) and one second cycle specialization (Social Work in Crisis Situations in Society); Journalism and Social Communications in four first cycle specializations (Logistics of the Media, Public Relations, Radio and Television Recording, and The Technology of Communication and Media Graphic Design), two first and second cycle specializations (Journalism 2.0 and Media Education/Media Relations), and three second cycle specializations (Radio-Television Production; Promotion, Advertising, Branding, and Public Relations; and Management in the Media and in Culture).

Promotion of Our University

Aware of the gravity of the values we transmit and the quality of education as well as research, our university makes efforts to promote itself. For this reason, the appropriate institutions (organizational units) have been established. 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 16–18, 2019 (nineteenth edition) and had the motto: *Przyszłość w nauce. Nauka w przyszłości* (“The Future in Science: Science in the Future”) and was devoted to commemoration of the renowned Polish chemist, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Industry and Trade, and Minister of the Treasury in the Second Polish Republic, Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski (1888–1974). The Krakow University of Economics was the main organizer of the festival. As in previous years, our university organized academic panels, workshops, and quizzes, and it informed of its tenth anniversary. For example, students from the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication prepared tongue-twisters and the “Five Seconds” game, while students of historical tourism from the Faculty of History and Cultural Heritage prepared an outdoor game in Krakow’s Main Market Square. Meanwhile, students from the Faculty of Philosophy prepared “extraordinary

attractions” for those who for a moment wanted to escape from their “ordinary reality.” Finally, the *Ogród Maryi* (“Garden of Mary”) community, whose members are from various faculties at our university, presented a dance performance titled *Lilia* (“Lily”), which was devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the conclusion of the festival. Several dozen volunteers from our university were engaged in our participation in the festival.

The dance performance *Lilia* by students from the *Ogród Maryi* community at our university’s Patmos Student Ministry is a unique form of promoting our institution. This is a performance that through various modern dance techniques expresses praise of Mary and is a meditation on her life. The performance has been widely praised and has been presented on numerous occasions; for example, in Lourdes (France) and during World Youth Day in Panama (January 25, 2019).

Radio Bonus, which since 2010 has been broadcasting twenty-four hours a day, works with Vatican Radio, the audio service of the Catholic Information Agency (Katolicka Agencja Informacyjna, KAI), and with national radios. Radio Bonus is the media patron of many conferences and academic symposiums. This radio station is created by students of journalism and social communications, who have at their disposal a professionally Academic Media Center (ACM).³⁵ 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: *Wiadomości Sportowe* (“Sports News”), *Poranek w Radiu Bonus* (“The Morning in Radio Bonus”), *BoNews* (news), *ZaGrywka* (“Service”), *Usłyszeć historię* (“Listen to History”), *Rozmowy damsko-męskie* (“Male-Female Conversations”), *Rock for Christ*, *Złote lata* (“Golden Years”), *Filmowa audycja radiowa* (“Film Radio Broadcast”), and *Bonus Tygodnia* (“Weekly Bonus”). 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.³⁶

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. Here, it is worth noting that “*Telewizja JP2TV* is the only university online television station in Poland that produces programs for national television stations, primarily TVP1 and TVP3 Krakow. It is created by students and lecturers from the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow within the structures of the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at the Faculty of Social Sciences. *Telewizja JP2TV* functions primarily thanks to the voluntary work of students, who independently create materials and are

³⁵ You can listen to Radio Bonus at: <http://radiobonus.pl/wp-content/themes/radiobonus/assets/html/player.html> (30.12.2019).

³⁶ For more details, see: <http://radiobonus.pl/wiadomosci/> (30.12.2019).

reporters, film editors, production directors, and the directors of JP2TV.³⁷ The diligent work of journalism students has led to numerous broadcasts that are available on the television station's website. They are: News (for example, "The Inauguration of the 2019–2020 Academic Year at the Pontifical University of John Paul II"), Reports (for example, "A Fundament of Polish Ski Jumping – Stanisław Marusarz"), Interviews (for example, *Łowcy historii – opowieść Nadziei* ["History Hunters: Stories of Hope"]), and Programs (*Archidiecezja Krakowska* ["The Archdiocese of Krakow"], *Kawiarenka Nowych Mediów* ["New Media Cafe"], *Młodzi Zdolni* ["Young and Talented"], *Panama* ["Panama"], *Twarze Uczelni* ["The Faces of the University"], *Dzienniczek 2016* ["St. Faustina's *Diary* 2016"], *Konferencje* ["Conferences"], *Nasza uczelnia* ["Our University"], *śDM 2016* ["WYD 2016"], *UPJP2, JP2TV, NieZły HIP-HOP* ["NotBad HIP-HOP"], *Kraków* ["Krakow"], *śDM 2019* ["WYD 2019"], *Wielkie Nieba* ["Great Heavens"]). Of the "Programs," *Dzienniczek 2016* ("St. Faustina's *Diary* 2016") is known across Poland.³⁸

It is understandable that every academic institution's published research results are the most effective form of promotion. It is in the hands of the Academic Press, which publishes journals and the dissertations of primarily our academic staff. 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-seven volumes (fifty annual editions, 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-three volumes have been published), which since 2013 also publishes the English-language journal "Theological Research: A Journal of Systematic Theology" (five volumes have been published so far). "Logos i Ethos" ("Logos and Ethos") is a journal published by the Faculty of Philosophy (fifty volumes over twenty-eight years have been published since 1991), while the Faculty of Church History publishes "Folia Historica Cracoviensia" (twenty-four volumes), "Pro Musica Sacra" (since 2004, seventeen volumes have been published), and "Orientalia Christiana Cracoviensia" (since 2009, ten volumes have been published). The Faculty of Social Sciences publishes "Studia Socialia Cracoviensia" (since 2009, ten volumes have been published). The Institute of Canon Law publishes "Annales Canonici". It is an annual journal directed at academic milieu, practicing lawyers, and all who are interested in canon law (so far, fifteen volumes have been published). The Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow publishes two journals: "Tarnowskie Studia Teologiczne" (since 1938, thirty-seven volumes

³⁷ <http://nowetv.upjp2.edu.pl/o-nas/> (30.12.2019).

³⁸ For more information on JP2TV, see: <http://nowetv.upjp2.edu.pl/> (30.12.2019).

have been published) as well as “The Person and the Challenges” (since 2011, nine 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-seven volumes have been published). “Semina Scientiarum”, initially published as a supplement to the aforementioned “Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce”, is 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.³⁹

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.

The journal “Traditio. Przestrzeń Cywilizacji Łacińskiej” (“*Traditio*: The Sphere of Latin Civilization”), which is devoted to the cultivation of the most noble aspects of our tradition, has been published since 2015. “Traditio” is a popular-academic journal that is produced in our university’s milieu by its graduates and the graduates of other universities, as well as our lecturers, doctoral students, and undergraduate students whose lives are shaped by such values as patriotism, Christianity, the family, science, culture, and language. The most recent issue of “Traditio” (11/2019) is devoted to the topic of progress (*Progressus*) and how it is understood in the context of religious, family, and social life.⁴⁰

³⁹ <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/> (30.12.2019). *Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce* – <https://zfn.edu.pl/index.php/zfn> (30.12.2019).

⁴⁰ For more details, see: <https://traditio.pl/> (30.12.2019).

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 nineteen volumes in this series. Throughout the 2018–2019 academic year, our Academic Press published fifty-one publications, including twenty-four issues of journals as well as the *Biuletyn Informacyjny "Vita Academica"*. A major achievement was the awarding of the Feniks 2019 in the category "editorial series/collected works" by the Association of Catholic Publishers for the *Ministerium Expositionis* series of publications authored by Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Janusz Królikowski. So far, five volumes have been published in this series (vol. 1: *Syn Boży i nasz Zbawiciel. Studia chrystologiczne* ("The Son of God and Our Savior: Studies in Christology"), Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2014, pp. 233; vol. 2: *Tajemnica Trójjedynego. Studia z teologii trynitarniej* ("The Mystery of the Triune: Studies in Trinitarian Theology"), Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2015, pp. 292, vol. 3: *Nauka, mądrość i powołanie. O naturze i misji teologii* ("Science, Wisdom, and Vocation: On the Nature and Mission of Theology"), Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2016, pp. 307; vol. 4: *Powołanie, konsekracja i posłanie. Z teologii świętego kapłaństwa* ("Vocation, Consecration, and Sending Forth: From the Theology of the Holy Priesthood"), Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2019, Second Edition pp. 341; vol. 5: *Światło Chrystusa i sakrament zbawienia. Studia eklezjologiczne* ("The Light of Christ and the Sacrament of Redemption: Studies in Ecclesiology"), Kraków: Wydawnictwo Naukowe 2018, pp. 558).

Furthermore, our press has systematically increased the number of publications available online in the "dLibra" Digital Library (which contains our university's repository).⁴¹ There is also a digital Platform of Journals,⁴² where journals published by our university (fourteen at the time of writing) are made available.

Our university lives out its mission not only through didactic and research activity, but also through the promotion of sacred music, which is related to studies on the liturgy of the Church and its musical tradition. Since 1988, the *Psalmodia* Choir, directed by Mr. 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, and other university meetings, such as the Christmas wafer meeting. The choir also promotes Polish culture abroad. Thanks

⁴¹ <http://bc.upjp2.edu.pl/dlibra> (30.12.2019).

⁴² <http://czasopisma.upjp2.edu.pl/index/index> (30.12.2019).

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 perform works written for universal choirs but also perform their own concerts and receive recognition. Singers from both choirs are members of the *Psalmodia* Choir. In the previous academic year, these choirs gave two Lenten concerts titled: *O Crux, Ave*, which took place in the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Jesuits) in Krakow, while the other was held in the St. John Paul II Sanctuary in Krakow-Łagiewniki. The programs of these concerts included works by such composers as: G. Deakbardos, R. Dubra, K. Grzeszczak, H. M. Górecki, P. Jańczak, S. Moniuszko, C. Saint-Saëns, and J. Schnittke. Both concerts met with great acclaim.

It is especially worth emphasizing the thirtieth anniversary jubilee of the *Psalmodia* Choir and the tenth anniversary of the Krakow Women's Choir and the Krakow Men's Choir. The jubilee celebrations began with the release of the album *Do kraju tego* ("To This Country") in November 2018 (in relation to the centenary of the restoration of Poland's independence). On May 25, in the Church of St. Martin in Krakow (at 56 Grodzka Street), there was a jubilee concert to celebrate the tenth anniversary of both choirs as well as the tenth anniversary of the university. During the concert, Byzantine and contemporary songs were performed, as were modern arrangements of the most important prayers, such as the hymn *Te Deum laudamus*, the Psalm *Laudate Dominum*, and the Lord's Prayer. The women's choir was directed by Ms. Łucja Nowak, while the men's choir was directed by Mr. Ivan Vrublevskiy. Conducted by Mr. Prof. Włodzimierz Siedlik, the *Psalmodia* Choir performed F. Nowowiejski's monumental work *Ojczyzna* ("Fatherland") with the accompaniment of the organs played by Mr. Marek Pawełek at the end of the concert.⁴³

On the occasion of the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Stanisław Moniuszko and the ninetieth birthday of Romuald Twardowski, a native of Vilnius (Lithuania), the choir performed three concerts on August 15–16, 2019, in Vilnius. On the first day, Henryk Jan Bator's *Missa Joannis Pauli II* was performed in the Church of the Holy Spirit. Meanwhile, in the Church of Saints Peter and Paul Henryk Mikołaj Górecki's *Pieśni maryjne* ("Marian Songs") and Feliks Nowowiejski's *Ojczyzna* ("Fatherland") were performed. Meanwhile, during the second day a Moniuszko concert titled: *Powrócisz na Ojczyzny łono* ("You Will Return to the Bosom of the Fatherland") took place in the

⁴³ For more on the jubilee of the *Psalmodia* Choir, see: M. Mastyló, *Potrójny jubileusz chóru „Psalmodia” Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie*, <http://upjpz.edu.pl/konferencje-sesje/ch%C3%B3r-psalmodia-%C5%9Bwi%C4%99tuje-sw%C3%B3j-jubileusz-relacja-z-koncertu-25-v-2019> (30.12.2019).

Church of the Holy Spirit. During it, Stanisław Moniuszko's *Ecce lignum crucis* was performed. All these concerts were conducted by Prof. Włodzimierz Siedlik accompanied by Mr. Marek Pawełek on the organ. The jubilee tour was financed by the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow with the support of the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland, while the Polish Institute in Vilnius was the patron of these concerts.⁴⁴

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 the pastoral activities of Rev. Dr. Paweł Pielka in cooperation with Sister Tereza Huspeková, CHR.

The student community *Ogród Maryi* ("Garden of Mary"), which is active at the Patmos Student Ministry, prepared a dance performance titled: *Lilia* ("Lily"), which met with acclaim both in Poland and abroad. Their performance during World Youth Day in Panama, which took place on January 22–27, 2019, was a unique experience for its members.

Last year's Advent Academic Retreat for students took place on December 9–11, 2018, in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow. Its topic was the promise: "I Will Build a Road for the Lord: Blueprint – Construction – Renovation Works." Specifically, these were Advent reflection on faith, the Church, and the sacrament of penance. It was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Damian Wąsek, a didactic and academic staff member of our university.

Meanwhile, the Lenten Academic Retreat for students was titled: *Wiara i ciąg dalszy* ("Faith and What Follows"). It was held on March 31– April 2, 2019, also in the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist. It was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Stanisław Witkowski, MS, a Biblical studies scholar who lectures at our university. Furthermore, Academic Stations of the Cross were organized every Friday by Sister Tereza Huspeková, who collaborates with the ministry.

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's chapel.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ On the basis of: <https://www.polskieradio.pl/399/7979/Artykul/2351784,Koncerty-krakowskiego-choru-Psalmodia-w-Wilnie> (30.12.2019), and: <https://zw.lt/kultura-historia/psalmodia-wystapila-w-wilnie/> (30.12.2019).

⁴⁵ You can find more information on the website: <http://www.upjp2.edu.pl/duszpasterstwo/duszpasterstwo-akademickie-patmos> (30.12.2019).

The student ministry organizes an “Academic Rosary,” which is a “virtual” group that is open to all. It is “virtual” in that the exchange of information in the community (for example, the monthly change of the Mysteries of the Rosary) takes place electronically. Each member of this community is obliged to pray one decade of the rosary each day in the intention of our university, all its students and lecturers, and the entire academic community.

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 mentor of this community is Rev. Dr. Hab. Szymon Drzyżdżyk.⁴⁶

Our university ensures that its students receive not only necessary knowledge, but useful skills as well. 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 third edition of the Career Days of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow (April 8–12, 2019), which were organized by our Career Office along with the Academic Business Incubator. The program of this event included workshops devoted to such topics as: “Speak to Succeed – Public Speaking and Building Professional Relationships” (April 9, 2019); “Your Professional Online Presence” (April 10, 2019); “A Media Workshop Not Only for Journalists” (April 11, 2019); “How to Overcome Stress” (April 12, 2019); “The Art of Writing a CV” (April 12, 2019); and the “Career Fair” (April 10, 2019), during which various companies presented employment opportunities, while institutions dealing with the job market presented the scope of their activity. The Career Fair was held with the participation of such institutions as: the Lesser Poland Regional Office; the Sustinæ Foundation; WilsonHCG; StudentCoach; CVpoint; Professional Consultancy; the Regional Labor Office; the Grodzki Labor Office in Krakow; institutions offering jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities; Erasmus; and the Social Insurance Institution.

⁴⁶ For more on the UCO, see: <https://patmos.upjp2.edu.pl/grupy/uco> (30.12.2019).

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 Krakow universities, each year our office organizes cyclical integration events. They include the inter-university Christmas Eve celebration and the "Integration Days." The twelfth "Krakow Integration Days" were organized on April 9–12, 2019, just as in previous years. During it, our university's Office for Persons with Disabilities organized two workshops. One was on the topic: "Accessible Media" (April 11, 2019), and the second was on: "How to Overcome Stress" (April 12, 2019).

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 19, 2019, in the "Kordelianum" at the Church of St. Mark the Evangelist in Krakow. After Mass, a meeting and a reflection on recent events in the life of the Church were held. 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." Its aim is to support the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow through promoting knowledge about it and the programs of study that are currently offered there. The association also supports the organization of various readings, conferences, seminars, academic camps, days of reflection, and pilgrimages, and it is even involved in publishing. Another statutory aim of the association is to gain financial resources for the university.⁴⁷

Supporting Academic Activity

Our university's library is a specialistic 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. Numerical data for the previous academic year (as of October 1, 2019) is as follows. The number of volumes was 259,069, while the number of records of continuously published publications was 13,036. This catalog is available online as a database. The number of regular readers was 11,280. In the 2018–2019 academic year, the Main Library of the Pontifical University of John Paul II amassed 9,456 volumes of books, seventy-one inventory multimedia items, and 7,298 inventoried journals. At the end of the 2018/ 2019 academic year, our main library's book resources consisted of 174,671 inventoried items.

⁴⁷ The association has its own website: <http://saip.upjp2.edu.pl/> (30.12.2019).

In the previous academic year, the library acquired 801 journals and subscribed to 304 publications, 133 of which were international. Furthermore, as part of inter-library loan our library acquired 127 domestic and international journals. It receives most international publications in exchange for “*Analecta Cracoviensia*.”

Our university’s Main Library systematically collects digital information resources and makes them available. 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 – the Arts & Sciences III, Arts & Sciences XIII, and Religion & Theology collections. 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. 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). Furthermore, the Main Library makes it possible to use the ACADEMICA Digital Library of Scientific Publications, which offers access to full texts from the collections of the National Library.

Understandably, the development of academic activity depends on financial resources that the university can have at its disposal. The Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow is responsible for increasing 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. Its main statutory aim is to support it “in its academic and creative activity.”⁴⁸

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

⁴⁸ *Statut Fundacji im. Świętej Królowej Jadwigi dla Uniwersytetu Papieskiego Jana Pawła II w Krakowie*, § 6 (30.12.2019).

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.

Thus, in the previous academic year the foundation financed, for example, the above-mentioned national academic conference titled: *100-lecie niepodległości – wiek filozofii chrześcijańskiej w Polsce* (“The Centenary of Independence: One Century of Christian Philosophy in Poland”), which took place on October 23–24, 2018. It also financed the international research project titled: “The Erasmus Week for Students at University of Debrecen,” which was finalized at the University of Debrecen (Hungary) on May 5–10, 2019. There, the lecture “Faces of Polish Modern Family” was given and there was a presentation of our university. In the previous academic year, the foundation helped to support the Fifth National Conference of Undergraduate and Doctoral Students *Newmanalia – odkrywając ortodoksję 2019* (“Newmanalia: Discovering Orthodoxy 2019”), which took place on June 4, 2019, and has been discussed above. In total, during the previous academic year twenty-seven such projects have received financial support.⁴⁹

On this occasion, the board of the foundation expresses its gratitude to all its benefactors for the support, kindness, and readiness to assist it. Mass in St. Mark the Evangelist’s Church in Krakow is celebrated for all the benefactors.⁵⁰

In Loving Memory

A recurring event in our university’s life is prayer for its deceased staff and all the deceased staff of the universities and post-secondary schools in Krakow and Lesser Poland. For many years, a special Mass has been held in St. Anne’s Collegiate Church in Krakow in November, during which we pray for those who left this world in the preceding academic year. Since 2015, 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 camps, where more than a dozen were killed. In the previous academic year, the seventy-ninth anniversary of *Sonderaktion Krakau* was celebrated during the Academic Day of Memory on Tuesday November 6, 2018. One part of it was a special Mass for the deceased academic staff and students

⁴⁹ For more, see: <http://upjp2.edu.pl/fundacja/dofinansowane-projekty> (30.12.2019).

⁵⁰ You can find more details about the foundation on the website (in Polish): <https://fundacja.upjp2.edu.pl/> (30.12.2019).

of Krakow universities; it was celebrated in the late afternoon in St. Anne's Collegiate Church in Krakow. Our university was represented by our rector, Rev. W. Zuzak, as well as many staff and students.

In the previous academic year (2018–2019), we said farewell to five of our staff and two students. On November 17, 2018, Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Jan Dyduch (1940–2018), former rector of our *Almae Matris* in 2004–2010 and its professor of many years, crossed over to eternity. He was a lecturer in canon law, and the Institute of Canon Law of the Pontifical Academy of Theology, which was later transformed into the Faculty of Canon Law when the academy became a university, was founded upon his initiative. He was the first director of that institute. For many terms, he was also the Chairman of the Council of the Foundation of St. Jadwiga, Queen of Poland for the Pontifical University of John Paul II. Previously, before becoming rector, or in 1981–2004, he was the Chancellor of the Metropolitan Curia in Krakow. He was a canon of the Cathedral Chapter in Wawel and was a protonotary apostolic. Thus, the funeral ceremony was held at Wawel Cathedral on November 22–23, 2018. On the first day of the funeral, the concelebrated Mass was presided by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, while the homily was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Robert Tyrała. Meanwhile, on the second day the concelebration was presided by Archbishop Marek Jędraszewski, the current Archbishop of Krakow, and the homily was given by Rev. Jakub Gil, PA. After Mass, the remains of the late Rev. Dyduch were transferred to the tomb of the Cathedral Chapter at the Rakowice Cemetery in Krakow.

Bishop Prof. Dr. Hab. Tadeusz Pieronek (1934–2018), a former rector of our university in 1998–2004 (then the Pontifical Academy of Theology), died on December 27, 2018. As a professor, he lectured in canon law. He performed such functions as: Secretary of the Pastoral Synod of the Archdiocese of Krakow (1972–1979), Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Sosnowiec in 1992–1998, Secretary General of the Episcopal Conference of Poland in 1993–1998, Consultor of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, Canon of the Cathedral Chapter in Wawel, Member of the Academic Council of the Episcopal Conference of Poland, Member of the Section of Theological Studies at the Commission on the Study of the Faith, and Delegate of the Archbishop of Krakow on Science and Culture. The funeral ceremony took place on January 2–3, 2019. On the first day of the funeral, the concelebrated Mass was presided by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, while the homily was given by Rev. Prof. Jacek Urban. On the second day of the funeral, the concelebration in the Church of Saints Peter and Paul in Krakow was presided by the Archbishop of Krakow Marek Jędraszewski, while the homily was given by Archbishop Grzegorz Ryś of Lodz. After the Mass, the remains of the deceased were laid in the crypt of the bishops in the Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel, which is an integral part of the parish church of Saints Peter and Paul.

Ms. Marta Dąbkowska (1983–2019) studied Family Studies at our university's Faculty of Social Sciences. She was a person with disabilities and wrote poems; she was dubbed the "Poet of Hope." Writers, actors, and musicians all greatly praised her poetry. She died on February 21, 2019. The funeral Mass took place on February 23, 23, in the Church of St. Martin in Krzeszowice outside Krakow. Afterwards, the body of the deceased was transferred to the parish cemetery.

Mr. Tadeusz Szyma (1942–2019), a lecturer in Media Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences, crossed over into eternity on May 4, 2019. At our university, he mainly lectured on topics related to manipulation in the media and in social communications. He was a well-known director, film critic, and poet. For many years, he was affiliated with the weekly "Niedziela", which is published in Czestochowa. Furthermore, for many years he was a member of the editorial staff at "Tygodnik Powszechny" and the monthly magazine "Kino". The Mass was concelebrated in the chapel of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Rakowice Cemetery and presided by Archbishop Wacław Depo, the Archbishop of Czestochowa, who also gave the homily. After Mass, the remains of the deceased were laid in a tomb at the Rakowice Cemetery in Krakow.

For many years, Rev. Stanisław Bzowski (1936–2019) was a lecturer at our university's Faculty of Theology. He passed away on August 25, 2019. The concelebrated funeral Mass at the parish Church of St. Nicholas in Pcim was presided by Bishop Kazimierz Górny, while the sermon was given by Rev. Zbigniew Oczkowski, a friend of the deceased. After Mass, the remains of the deceased were laid in a tomb at the cemetery in Pcim.

Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Alojzy Drożdż (1950–2019) was a lecturer at the Faculty of Theology – Theological Section in Tarnow (which is part of our university) until 2009. He passed away on September 27, 2019. He was the Rector of the Major Seminary in Tarnow (1991–1998), a lecturer at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Silesia in Katowice (beginning in 2004), a member of the Association of Moral Theologians, a member of the Priestly Council of the Diocese of Tarnow, a member of the College of Consultors of the Diocese of Tarnow, a member of the Diocesan Commission of Preachers, a member of the Fifth Synod of the Diocese of Tarnow, and General Canon of the Cathedral Chapter in Tarnow (beginning in 1995). The funeral ceremony began with a Mass of farewell in the archcathedral in Katowice on September 30, 2019, while it concluded on the same day with a Mass in Żeleźnikowa, his family parish. The concelebrated Mass in the Katowice Archcathedral was presided by the Archbishop of Katowice, Wiktor Skworc, while the homily was given by Rev. Dr. Hab. Antoni Bartoszek, Professor at the University of Silesia and Dean of the Faculty of Theology in Katowice. Meanwhile, the Mass celebrated in Żeleźnikowa was presided by the Bishop of Tarnow Andrzej Jeż, who also gave the homily. The late Rev. Alojzy Drożdż was buried at the parish cemetery in Żeleźnikowa.

Ms. Malwina Pawlaszczyk (1995–2019), a student at the Institute of Journalism and Social Communication at the Faculty of Social Sciences, died on August 15, 2019. Her passing surprised everyone. She was preparing to defend her M. A. thesis and specialized in sports journalism. The funeral ceremony took place on August 17, 2019, in the parish Church of St. Hyacinth in Radoszowy (Rydułtowy) outside Rybnik, while the remains of the deceased were buried at the local cemetery.

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

* * *

The facts described in this “Chronicle” (*Chronica*) as well as many others that are not mentioned here attest to the constant development of our university; its sensitivity to current academic, social, and religious problems; and the needs of both the universal and local Church. Every form of supporting the university's activities simultaneously bolsters the promotion of Christian values and the teaching of St. John Paul II. It is also service of the Truth, and ultimately participation in the implementation of Christ's missionary imperative: “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19).

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