



Legnica, 5th May 2011

**Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala**

The Chief Editor

**“The Person and the Challenges:**

**The journal of theology, education, canon law**

**and social studies inspired by Pope John Paul II”**

**Tarnów**

“A Catholic university, as any university, is immersed in human society; as an extension of its service to the Church, and always within its proper competence, it is called on to become an ever more effective instrument of cultural progress for individuals as well as for society. Indeed among its research activities, therefore, will be a study of *serious contemporary problems* in areas such as the dignity of human life, the promotion of justice for all, the quality of personal and family life, the protection of nature, the search for peace and political stability, a fairer and just division of the world’s resources and a new economic and political order that will better serve the human community at a national and international level. University research will seek to discover the roots and causes of the serious problems of our time, paying special attention to their ethical and religious dimensions”.

John Paul II, Apostolic Constitution on Catholic Universities 32

Every university needs to undertake the scientific research, yet especially the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow, which is rooted firmly in the teaching, reflections and life of Pope John Paul II, who has been just beatified

on 1st May 2011 in the Vatican by Pope Benedict XVI. The Pontifical University of John Paul II should assist in the protection and advancement of human dignity and of a cultural heritage through research, teaching and various services offered to local, national and international communities. This new, scientific and international journal, which is published by the Tarnów Section of the Theology Faculty of the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow, will be a fine addition to the university allowing the teaching of Pope John Paul II to be always present.

The basic mission of this Pontifical University is not only a continuous quest for truth through its research, but also a contribution to the development of a Christian anthropology, education, pedagogy, sociology, theology and canon law. Therefore, I am very grateful to Professor Józef Stala - the chief editor of the journal and all the members of the Scientific Board, authors and editors for their effort in undertaking the work of preparing this new journal. I do hope that "The Person and the Challenges: The journal of theology, education, canon law and social studies inspired by Pope John Paul II" will bring the encouragement, support and confidence to all who share the educational mission in the spirit of John Paul II.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Marek Mendyk".

Bishop Marek Mendyk  
Auxiliary Bishop of Legnica  
Chairman of the Commission of Catholic Education  
of the Bishops' Conference of Poland