## PAINFUL PARTING 608<sup>TH</sup> Academic Year at The Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow

Last year was the 23<sup>rd</sup> academic year of the Pontifical Academy of Theology and the 608<sup>th</sup> of its Faculty of Theology. This was also an exceptional year as on April 2, 2005 His Holiness John Paul II, the beloved Founder of the Academy, passed away. All employees and students deeply mourned this loss. Each and every person as best they could partook in organizing prayers, vigils and reflection upon his life and teachings. These were held in Cracow fom the day of his death to the funeral and then until the elections of the present pope Benedict XVI. Deep sorrow was interwoven with thankfulness to God for the exceptional gift which the Church and the world had received in the person of the late pope.

The following initiatives undertaken by the Academy in connection with the passing away of John Paul II deserve special mention. On April 4, 2005 in St. Mak the Evangelist's Church in Cracow, which is an academic church of the Pontifical Academy of Theology, a High Mass for the late pope was offered. The concelebrated Mass, whose participants were the Academy students and employees, was presided over by Rev. Prof. Jan M. Dyduch, Rector of the Academy. The homily was preached by Rev. Prof. Stefan Koperek CR, Dean of the Faculty of Theology. The Mass was said in spiritual unity with the students of the Catholic University of Lublin and Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, who gathered on prayer for John Paul II at the same time. On April 5 in the Dominican Friars' basilica in Cracow a similar Mass was celebrated, in which numerous Cracow academics and many other people participated. The Mass was presided over by Rev. Asst. Prof. Wojciech Życiński SDB, the Academy Vice-Rector. The homily was preached by Rev. Prof. Stefan Koperek CR.

Pope's funeral in Rome gathered a great number of the faithful. Many people from the Academy traveled to Rome by different modes of trans-

port. Among official delegations the Pontifical Academy of Theology was represented by its Rector, Rev. Prof. Jan Dyduch. The funeral and all events related to it have been engraved on the memory of us all and marked the beginning of a persistent prayer for beatification of the great Pole.

Christ, a Good Shepherd, does not leave his sheep without care. Soon after, on April 19, 2005, he gave the Church a new pope in the person of Benedict XVI. Joy from this fact was expressed by the Academy Rector Rev. Prof. Jan Dyduch in these words: "The whole community of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow, its academics and students express their great joy at the election of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who took the name of Benedict XVI, for the highest shepherd of the universal Church. We thank the Holy Spirit for the gift of a new deputy of Jesus Christ on earth and the successor of St. Peter. The Pontifical Academy of Theology proclaims its strong ties and unity with the new bishop of Rome. United in faith, hope and love we want to bestow our respect and prayer upon him".

According to a tradition established at the Pontifical Academy of Theology, the 2004/2005 academic year began with a pilgrimage to a Marian Sanctuary in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska on September 30, 2004. The program of the pilgrimage included a lecture "Jesus Christ – the source of hope for Europe in the teaching of John Paul II", which was delivered by Rev. Dr Hab. Stanisław Wypych CM. Rev. Prof. Jan M. Dyduch, Rector of the Academy, presided over a concelabrated High Mass, during which Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Borutka, director of the St. John Cantius Theological Institute in Bielsko-Biała delivered a homily. In the afternoon the Way of the Cross, which was prepared by theology students, was held on the Calvary Paths. The participants in the pilgrimage were professors, administrative employees, students, seminarians of diocesan and monastic seminaries, nuns and lay Catholics.

A solemn inauguration of the academic year was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2004. To celebrate the occasion Pope John Paul II sent a telegram to the Academy Grand Chancellor, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, in which he assured the academic community of his spiritual nearness and prayer for the Academy. The inaugural ceremony consisted of two parts: liturgical, held in St. Anne's Collegiate Church, and academic, in Cracow Philharmonic Hall. Archbishop Józef Michalik, Metropolitan of Przemyśl, officiated at a solemn inaugural Mass.

After the Mass the participants of the ceremony proceeded to Cracow Philharmonic Hall, where – having sung Gaude Mater Polonia – they listened to rector's address. Rev. Prof. Jan M. Dyduch outlined the major

events of the previous academic year. He mentioned, among other things, the upgrading of the Theological Institute in Tarnów into the Faculty of Theology, Branch in Tarnów, which is the fourth faculty of the Academy (in addition to the Faculty of Theology, the Faculty of Philosophy and the Faculty of Church History). The upgrading was made by the Congregation for Catholic Education following a petition of Wiktor Skworc, Bishop of Tarnów. The Rector also mentioned the Academy development plans, which aim at upgraing it into a Pontifical University. Finishing his inaugural address he asked a rhetorical question: "Wouldn't a Pontifical University in Cracow, created from the Pontifical Academy of Theology, be a monument worthy of Cracow and Poland?" This was the first official mention of the existence of such plans. Then, the Academy Rector matriculated first-year students of all three faculties (theological, philosophical and Church history) to membership of the Academy and handed out rector's awards. The inaugural address What does it mean that faith is rational? was delivered by Rev. Dr Hab. Stanisław Wszołek, Professor of the Pontifical Academy of Theology. The Academy choir Psalmodia conducted by Włodzimierz Siedlik sang during the inaugaration. The Grand Chancellor of the Academy, Franciszek Cardinal Macharski, Metropolitan of Cracow, bishops from a few dioceses, rectors of Polish Catholic universities, deans of theology faculties, representatives of senates of higher educational institutions in Cracow as well as representatives of the town and voivodship lay authorities and diplomatic service in Cracow participated in the inaugural ceremony.

Each anniversary of the foundation of the Pontifical Academy of Theology by Pope John Paul II is an important event in the academic life. This year we very solemnly celebrated the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of this event (December 8, 2004). A High Mass in St. Mark the Evangelist's Church in Cracow, which was presided over by Rev. Prof. Jan M. Dyduch, was held to celebrate the occasion. Apart from reminiscing about the Pope's momentous decision of December 8, 1981 to found our Academy, scholarly achievements and merits of its academics were recalled. Medals "Meritorious for the Pontifical Academy of Theology" were bestowed upon Father Prof. Tadeusz D. Łukaszuk OSPPE, Rev. Prof. Łukasz Kamykowski, Hab. Dr Alicja Michalik and Rev. Dr Józef Morawa.

The conferment of an honorary title of doctor honoris causa has been a long established practice of various universities all over the world as a way of distinguishing persons whose contribution for the institution or the matters to which it is devoted has been outstanding. In the academic year 2004/2005 the Pontifical Academy of Theology conferred the title upon the following persons: Dr Hanna Suchocka, Ambassador of the Re-

public of Poland in the Holy See (January 28, 2005) and Prof. Franciszek Ziejka, Rector of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow (June 3, 2005). The solemn conferment ceremonies of the title were held in the Aula of Collegium Maius, the oldest part of the Jagiellonian University. The venue enhances the diginty of the distinguished persons and is an expression of close cooperation between the University and our Academy. Laudatory speech in honour of Dr Suchocka was delivered by Rev. Prof. Tadeusz Pieronek, the Academy Rector, who pointed out her contribuion to signing the Concordate with the Holy See (July 28, 1993), when she was the Prime Minister. He also delivered laudatory speech in honor of the Jagiellonian University Rector, in which he spoke about Prof. Ziejka's contribution to promoting Polish literature abroad and to developing cooperation between the University and the Academy; cooperation which manifests itself, among other things, in the building of the new headquarters of the Academy on the premises of the 3<sup>rd</sup> University Campus.

Each anniversary of the foundation of the Faculty of Theology in Cracow (January 11, 1397) is celebrated in an equally solemn way. Its central event has always been the conferment of academic degrees. Anniversary ceremonies took place on Tuesday, January 11, 2005. In a High Mass officiated in the Wawel Cathedral by the Grand Chancellor, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, the Academy expressed its gratitude to God for the 608 years of His care over the Faculty. The Mass was followed by academic promotions. Doctor diplomas were handed to 16 persons (12 from the Faculty of Theology, 2 from the Faculty of Philosophy and 2 from the Faculty of Church History), while a diploma of doktor habilitowany (assistant professor) – to one person, Rev. Dr Hab. Ireneusz Stolarczyk of the Faculty of Theology, Branch in Tarnów.

For the second time this year the promotions were connected with the feast day of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, which is observed in Poland on May 8. As the feast day befell this year on a Sunday, the promotion ceremony was scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2005. It took place in St. Anna's Collegiate Church. The solemn promotions were presided over by the Grand Chancellor of the Academy, who expressed his joy at the promotions and wished the Academy further prosperous development. Doctor diplomas were conferred on 8 persons (i.e. 3 from the theological, 4 from the philosophical and 1 from the Church history faculties) while the diplomas of doktor habilitowany on three: Rev. Dr Hab. Przemysław Nowakowski CM, Rev. Dr Hab. Piotr Natanek and Rev. Dr Hab. Andrzej Baczyński (his postdoctoral degree studies were completed at the Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia). Father Prof. Jerzy Gogola OCD received a diploma of Nominal Professor while the position

of Full Professor was given to Rev. Prof. Stanisław Pamuła and Rev. Prof. Roman Rożdżeński, who delivered a speech on behalf of the promoted persons. Then Cardinal Franciszek Macharski addressed the participants of the ceremony and at its closing prayed to St. John Cantius, professors' patron saint.

Apart from professional development of academic staff the development of the structures of the Academy is of vital importance. A new course "Family Studies" was opened this year at the Faculty of Theology. Its graduates will be prepared to work in various welfare centers, social prevention institutions, and above all, to take professional care of the disabled, chronically and terminally ill patients in the context of family life and to conduct classes at the level of primary school and gymnasium preparing children and youth to married and family life as well as ethics (provided they complete a pedagogical course). A new course of studies "History of Art" opened at the Faculty of Church History with an aim to prepare graduates to work in museums and galleries, Church museums, cultural institutions and auction houses as well as at schools (if they also successfully complete a course in pedagogy). The Faculty opened also "Postgraduate Studies in History and Political Science", which will provide graduates with qualifications to teach history and political science at the level of primary school and gymnasium. Apart from that the Faculty of Church History in association with the Department of Architecture at the Cracow University of Technology have signed an agreement to conduct "Postgraduate Studies in Conservation, Developing Architecture and Interior Design of Religious Buildings", addressed to graduates of all departments of fine arts, architects, engineers and constructors as well as priests who work in churches of historic value and modern ones, diocesan and monastic conservationists, nuns, lay persons and clergy who work in museums and other institutions that deal with art, conservation and church and secular archives. At the Faculty of Philosophy "Postgraduate Studies in Philosophy, Ethics and Culture" were opened. They are meant to help teachers in competent teaching of such subjects as philosophy, ethics and culture, which are included in the curricula of post primary schools.

Systematic development of the Academy is a source of satisfaction for its authorities, employees and students. The Academy Authorities shared this joy with Archbishop Stanisław Dziwisz, who paid the Senate a courtesy visit on September 26, 2005 and who has been the Academy new Grand Chancellor since June 2, 2005. In his speech Archbishop Dziwisz said: "The Academy faces great tasks as the intellectual level of those who will take responsibility for the local Church and social life in

Poland depends to a great extent on the Academy". This was the first official meeting of the Academy with its new Grand Chancellor.

The Academy shows keen interest in cooperating with foreign scholarly institutions. It has maintained close academic contacts with centers in Bochum, Mogunce, Grenada, Graz, Budapest, Rome, Bratislava, Ružomberok, Kiev, Lviv and Odessa. Cooperation agreements have recently been signed with the Catholic University in Ružomberok (Slovakia) and with the Institute of Theology in Kiev (Ukraine). Two Faculties of Philosophy and of Church History have signed a contract with the Greek Catholic Faculty of Theology in Prešov (Slovakia).

Our Academy has been maintaining regular academic cooperation with the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the University of Ruhr in Bochum (Germany). The cooperation consists in an exchange, which is organized in such a way that professors (usually two) and recently also students of the Pontifical Academy of Theology go to Bochum in the autumn, and in the spring professors and students from Bochum come to Cracow. Lectures, discussions and meetings with students are organized then. Within this exchange programme a group of students and two academics (Rev. Dr Hab. Roman Pindel and Rev. Dr Hab. Andrzej Witko) visited Bochum on November 17-20, 2004. On November 18, 2004 Rev. Witko delivered a lecture Die Kunst im Dienste der Theologie. Außergewänliche mystische Phänomene in der spanischen Malerei des «Goldenen Zeitalters». The students learnt about the University and about the culture of North Rhine-Westphalia, visited Cologne, Wuppertal and monasteries in Stiepel and Essen Werden. The spring meeting took place in May 2005 and its central point was a lecture delivered by Rev. Prof. Wendelin Knoch Hans Urs von Balthasar (1905-1988) and Karl Rahner SJ (190-1984). Comparative analysis of methods and subjects of the two outstanding theologians of the 20th century (Hans Urs von Balthasar (1905-1988) and Karl Rahner SJ (1904-1984). Ein vergleichender Blick auf Methode und Themen zweier herausragender Theologen des 20. Jahrhunderts).

Another event of great international importance was the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference in a series: "The Role of the Church in Uniting Europe", which was held in Cracow-Przegorzały on September 9-11, 2005 under the patronage of Cardinal Franciszek Macharski. The subject of the conference was: "Between Religion and Culture in Europe. Christianity-Islam-Laicism". The relations between religion and culture and the relation of Christianity and Islam to laicism and the phenomenon of laicization of culture were discussed. Another subject on the agenda was "European Constitution" and the lack of *invocatio Dei*. Many personages

from the public life in Poland and representatives of the European Union participated in the conference. Bishop Prof. Tadeusz Pieronek, Rev. Prof. Jan Dyduch, Rector of the Pontifical Academy in Cracow, Jacques Santer, Chairman of the Robert Schuman Foundation and Prof. Bernhard Vogel, Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation greeted the guests and gave introductory speeches. The Conference was opened by Archbishop Stanisław Dziwisz, Metropolitan of Cracow and the Academy Grand Chancellor, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, former Metropolitan of Cracow, Prof. Danuta Hübner, EU Commissioner and Dr Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament. The introductory lecture The Role of the Church and Christians in the Future of Europe was delivered by Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, Secretary of State of the Holy See. During the conference four panel discussions were devoted to the following subjects: Ukraine - new challenge for Europe, Turkey and Islam - will they find their place in Europe, Laicism and religion - which model for Europe, Christianity and pluralism. The debates were summarised by Archbishop Prof. Alfons Nossol, bishop of Opole diocese<sup>1</sup>.

The statutory aim of the Academy activity is included in its motto *Euntes docete*, which refers to Christ's order: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28,19). The Academy puts it into effect through conducting regular didactic classes (lectures, practical classes) for students of the three faculties (Theological, Philosophical and Church History), who learn to acquire the *magister* (Master of Arts) degree. The overall number of the Academy employees amounts to 258, of which 170 are academics involved in research and didactic work; in this number 70 persons have the title of *doktor habilitowany*.

The following statistical data shows the results of didactic activity. In 2004/2005 academic year the Faculty of Theology conferred 500 titles of magister of Theology. The number exceedes the number of last year students because the Faculty confers the title on students of the Higher Seminaries that signed a contract for academic and didactic cooperation with the Faculty. Alumni of these Seminares are not formally students, but the process of their education is supervised by the Faculty according to the above mentioned contract, their magister dissertations are assessed by the Faculty professors and the dissertation defence takes place before an Examination Board assigned by the Faculty. The same Faculty also conferred the degree of licentiate of theology on 37 persons. This is an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Materials from all conferences are available on the Internet (in the Polish version) at: <a href="http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl/">http://www.kosciol-europa.org.pl/</a>.

ecclesiastical degree, different from the lay one, conferred by ecclesiastical higher educational institutions on those who have already received the *magister* degree. This year the degree of doctor of theology was conferred on 14 persons.

Accomplishments of the two remaining faculties: of philosophy and of Church history, which are considerably samaller than that of theology, are the following: the Faculty of Philosophy conferred 17 titles of magister of philosophy, 8 titles of licentiate and 7 doctor titles, the Faculty of Church History awarded 46 titles of magister of History, 7 licentiate and 3 doctor titles.

As far as staff promotion is concerned it is exceptionally important to promote auxiliary scholars to the degree of doktor habilitowany and doktor habilitowany to the professor title. This year 6 programs for the conferment of doktor habilitowany and 4 for the professor title were underway. To avoid any confusion, it is worth noting here that the numbers given in this place are not always the same as the number of promotional ceremonies. Sometimes there is a few months time lapse between the closing of a program and the promotion ceremony and it is often the case that the closing takes place in one academic year and the promotion in the following.

Apart from the basic *magister* studies a range of postgraduate studies are run for those students who want to prepare better for professional work in a chosen field. For those interested in journalism the Postgraduate Studies in Journalism, which teach promotion of Christian values in mass media, and consequently, in Polish culture, offer assistance. The course lasts 4 semesters, the classes are taught by professors of the Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical Academy of Theology and experienced journalists. This year 40 first- and second-year students participated in the course. Eleven persons completed the course. Rev. Prof. Jan Wal is head of the Postgraduate Studies in Journalism. The primary goal of the course is to professionally prepare students for honest journalistic work in today's world.

Symposia, conferences and guest lectures help deepen the knowledge acquired in regular classes. They are at the same time a way of popularizing the results of research conducted by individual researchers and teachers of the Academy. Some of them were organized with the help of some other institutions. Here are some examples.

To commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of the dogma on Immaculate Conception, the Mariology Department organized a symposium *St. Mary in faith and theology of the Church*, which was held on December 7, 2004 in Cracow.

In connection with the Year of the Eucharist announced by John Paul II the following sessions were organized: Television and the Eucharist, by the Academy Liturgical Institute, Postgraduate Studies in Journalism and the Institute of Audiovisual Arts at the Jagiellonian University (May 12, 2005) and Care of the ecclesiastical legislator to assure respect for the Eucharist, by the Institute of Canon Law (May 30, 2005). A few academic sessions were organized to solemnly end the Year of the Eucharist. Among them was a symposium prepared by all faculties of the Academy The Eucharist offered on the altar of the world. In search of contemporary comprehension, which took place on October 24–25, 2005 in the Aula of the Higher Seminary in Cracow. A concert of religious music entitled The Eucharist in music, which was given in St. Mark the Evangelist's Church in Cracow, was included in the program. At the closing of the symposium an exhibit was opened Art in service of the Eucharist in the Archdiocesan Museum in Cracow.

This year marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. To commemorate the occasion the Ecclesiological Department at the Faculty of Theology organized on November 18, 2004 a symposium devoted to a reflection on the dogmatic Constitution on the Church *Ecclesia*, quid dicis de te ipsa? The symposium, which was held in the Aula of the Higher Seminary in Cracow, commemorated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Constitution publication (November 21, 1964).

The Faculty of Philosophy organized the Fifth Tischner's Days devoted to the philosophical output of a well-known Polish philosopher Rev. Prof. Józef Tischner. They were held on May 4-7, 2005 and were organized by the Jagiellonian University, the Pontifical Academy of Theology, the National Higher School of Theatre and the Social Publishing Institute "Znak" The subject of this year's reflection of the Days was Józef Tischner's social thought, which was expressed in the title of an academic session Man and Values. The speakers dwelled on such issues as the attitude of man towards values and another human being, the goodness of life, the deconstruction of aesthetic values in H. G. Gadamer's hermeneutics ("beauty of appearances"), a question on how to speak about God: Sacrum or Goodness, thinking with the hope of salvation, perspectives of becoming and developing in man, the horizon of values as a space for the dialogue between the Church and modern culture, suffering and mercy in the thought of John Paul II and Józef Tischner. The program of the Tischner's Days included artistic events prepared by the National Higher School of Theater in Cracow and by the Social Publishing Institute "Znak"

Of the guest lectures, apart from the above mentioned academic exchange with the Faculty of Theology in Bochum, a lecture delivered by Prof. Rocco Buttiglione, Italy's Minister for European Affairs, «Plus ratio quam vis». Pondering over democracy at the threshold of 21st century deserves special mention. The lecture was delivered on January 14, 2005. Towards the end of his lecture Prof. Buttiglione said that: "the future of Europe depends on the result of a fight between two alternative forms of democracy: a democracy without values and a value oriented democracy. The outcome of this confrontation is by no means foregone. It depends on our decisions, our consciousness and our will".

The Interdepartmental Institute for Dialogue and Ecumenism takes interest in developing ecumenical contacts and strengthening cooperation among various religious communities. The three biggest monoteistic religions are, as is well-known, the religions of the book, therefore the Institute together with the Cracow Branch of the Polish Ecumenical Council organized a session Sacred books and the word of God, which took place on November 24–25 in Cracow. The organizers' intention was to answer the question how the above mentioned religions understand relationships between the text of the sacred book and the word of God Himself. The sessions guests: American and Iranian religion researches presented the topic from the point of view of Judaism (Prof. Harold Kasimow) and Shiite Islam (Dr Mohamad Ali Shomali).

Similarly as in the previous years, the Institute co-organized the Eighth Day of Judaism, which was held on January 17, 2005 and the Week of Prayer for the Unity among Christians on January 16-23, 2005 in Cracow. The motto of the Day of Judaism were the words: "«Fathoming the mystery of the Church...»" - after forty years". This was an attempt at a reflection on the reception of a momentous document of the Second Vatican Council Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions «Nostra aetate». The motto of the Week of Prayer were St. Paul's words: "For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 3:11). Cracow's Metropolitan, Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, many priests and lay Catholics, representatives of the Jewish community and priests together with the faithful from non-Catholic communities participated in both events. The meeting on the Day of Judaism was first held in the Franciscan Friars' Basilica in Cracow and was continued in a nearby building of the Academy while the Week of Prayers took place in a few Roman Catholic parishes and the parishes of other religious communities. After the Week of Prayers for the Unity among Christians the 5th Day of Islam in the Catholic Church was held (January 24, 2005). On this occasion the

Interdepartmental Institute of Ecumenism and Dialogue organized a service of the word of God in the Franciscan Friars' Basilica and a lecture devoted to the Christian and Muslim acculturation in the first centuries of Islam, which was delivered by Rev. Dr Hab. Krzysztof Kościelniak.

The Inter-Congregational Higher Catechetical Institute run by the Ursuline Nuns of the Roman Curia in Cracow has been closely cooperating with the Academy. On March 12, 2005 the Institute organized the 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium entitled To discover the Eucharist – to live the Eucharist, which was held in the convent of the Ursuline Nuns in Cracow. The Academy Rector Rev. Prof. Jan Dyduch opened the Symposium. The topic of the Symposium was connected with the Year of the Eucharist celebrated in the universal Church in 2004. Papers dwelled on such issues as: historical and salvational vision of the Eucharist and its catechetic consequences, how the Eucharist builds the Church, Eucharistic dimension in Christian spirituality according to John Paul II, mystagogical catechesis as a way of Christian initiation. A panel discussion was devoted to shaping Eucharistic attitudes.

The Pontifical Academy of Theology carries out publishing activity, which is the responsibility of the Academic Press. It publishes dissertations and academic periodicals. Regular academic editions are in the first place "Analecta Cracoviensia". They include research in philosophy, theology, Church history and canon law. The 2004 volume was dedicated to St. Anne's Collegiate Church, wich is Cracow's university church. It is here that solemn ceremonies connected with various momentous academic events have been held. The editorial board have decided that the coming issues will not be dedicated to any person or institution to avoid an impression that the periodical is a series of books of rememberance. Additionally, each faculty publishes its own periodical: Polonia Sacra is the periodical of the Faculty of Theology, Logos i Ethos - of the Faculty of Philosophy, Folia Historica Cracoviensia - of The Faculty of Church History. Twice a year the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research at the Faculty of Philosophy publishes Zagadnienia Filozoficzne w Nauce (Philosophical Issues in Science), a publication which discovers and analyzes philosophical problems related to natural science. The publication has a "supplement" Semina Scientiarum. Supplement to Philosophical Issues in Science. It is edited by members of the Scientific Seminar on Natural Science and is devoted to the issues from the borderland of philosophy and natual science.

The Academy official newsletter Vita Acedemica. Newsleter of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow is a bi-monthly and features the most important events that take place at the Academy. Students have

their publication, too. It is entitled *Patos. Czasopismo Społeczno-kulturalne młodych* (Patos. Students' Social and Cultural Magazine) and is edited and issued by the Student Council at the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow. This bi-monthly edition, which has been published for many years, was formerly a quarterly. While *Patos* is lay students' periodical, *Novum Tempus Liberum*, edited by clerics of the Archbishop Seminary in Cracow, is the magazine of students preparing for priesthood. It is now printed as a yearbook and includes information about the Seminary and student life of clerics.

The majority of the above mentioned editions are published by the Academic Press. There are also other series published by the Academic Press. Studia do dziejów Wydziału Teologicznego (Studies for the History of the Faculty of Theology) deserve special mention. The following are titles of other series: Rozprawy habilitacyjne (Postdoctoral Theses), Rozprawy doktorskie (Doctor Theses), Podręczniki Wydziału Teologicznego (Coursebooks of the Faculty of Theology), a series Mysterium Christi (coursebook in liturgics), Studia (Studies) (edited by theological faculty) and Textus et studia.

Alongside its academic and didactic activity the Academy tries to promote, among other things, sacred music, which is in fact an extension of research on Church liturgy. The Academy has its choir *Psalmodia* conduced by Włodzimierz Siedlik. *Psalmodia* is invited to sing during various academic ceremonies. The choir performed during a special concert in St. Mak the Evangelist's Church on December 7, 2004; the concert was organized to commemorate the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Academy. The participation of the choir in the all-Polish Congress of Liturgical Music *Musicam sacram promovere* is worth mentioning, too.

The Pontifical Academy of Theology does not forget about religious formation of its students and employees. Lay students of each year have their own priest, who officiates at a Mass, preaches homilies and has individual pastoral talks with them. A Mass is said at least once a month while formation meetings with homilies take place most often in Advent and in Lent. They constitute an integral part of retreat held in these liturgical periods. Students who prepare for priesthood receive spiritual and pastoral formation in their seminaries. Scholars, teachers and the administrative staff spend at least one day each year on retreat, which consists of a homily, Mass and common prayer (the Ways of the Cross, adoration of the Holy Sacrament). This is also an occasion to get together and deepen interpersonal ties.

The Library of the Pontifical Academy of Theology in Cracow is involved in creating a national system of information exchange. This system is developed within the Federation of Church Libraries Fides. The Library of the Academy continues to build up its catalogue on the basis of an integrated computer system VTLS. The catalogue in the form of a data base is available on the Internet. The Library has 4,431 regular readers. In the 2004/2005 academic year the collection of the Library was enriched by about 20,000 publications (12,500 books and 7,500 periodicals). In 2005 the library had about 400,000 books and periodicals in stock. The Library subscribes to 300 periodicals and has 4,400 Polish and foreign titles including about 140 foreign periodicals received in exchange for Analecta Cracoviensia. The Academy Library is a specialized one. The lack of appropriate space is a serious restriction on the Library activities. The construction of a new library building is approximating its final stage; the fact which fills the whole academic community with great hope.

Financial means for the activities of the Academy are provided by the St. Queen Hedwig Foundation for the Pontifical Academy of Theology. Although since January 1, 1998 the Academy has been receiving state subsidies, these do not cover all expenses mainly because they are intended as salaries for teachers and students' grants. All other expenses, including the building of the new library, need to be covered from other sources. Therefore, the Foundation popularizes the activities of the Academy through various means it has at its disposal.

Taking this opportunity, the Board of the Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to all benefactors for their support, kindness and readiness to help. Holy Mass is offered for all benefactors at St. Mark the Evangelist's Church in Cracow.

Rev. Jan D. Szczurek

Translated by: Bożena Grzebień