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From the Editor

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Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

■ From the Editor

„The Church that I – through John Paul I – have had entrusted to me almost immediately after him is admittedly not free of internal difficulties and tensions. At the same time, however, she is (...) more intent on her own mystery, and because of all that more serviceable for her mission of salvation for all: God «desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth» (1 Tim 2,4)”. John Paul II with these words from his first programmatic Encyclical *Redemptor hominis* (no. 4), signed thirty years ago on 4th March 1979, pointed out the significant tasks of the Church.

The truth recalled by the Holy Father regarding the universal saving will of God, was the basic principle of Christ’s missionary precept. In order that all men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, the One, who is „the way, the truth and the life” (J 14,6) sent his disciples into the whole world with the message: „All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt 28,18-20). Obedient to these words and strengthened with the assurance, that the Risen Lord is with them „always, until the end of the age”, they proclaimed the truth about salvation accomplished in Jesus Christ. They did it with great courage, although risking their lives. Conscious of the great treasure entrusted to them, which they had to share with others, they proclaimed interchangeably, that „there is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved” (Acts 4,12).

This aspect of the mystery of Jesus Christ is very special to the Salvatorians and Salvatorian Sisters, whose religious institutes take names after *Salvator* – the Savior. Fr. Always timely words of Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan motivate his spiritual sons and daughters to involve in the work of salvation:

„As long as there is one person on earth who does not know and does not love Jesus Christ the Savior of the World you must not rest”.

The thirtieth anniversary of the Encyclical *Redemptor hominis* by John Paul II is always timely, perhaps today more than ever. The encouragement to be „more ready to serve the mission of salvation of all”, which is also in the heart of the Salvatorian spirituality of salvation, have inspired the Editor to dedicate this issue to this theme.

Fr. Mariusz Rosik reflected upon the biblical aspects of salvation, presenting Christ saving men from sin, suffering and death. Fr. Jan Krucina discussed the question of understanding the term of „salvation”. Focusing on salvation in terms of peace, and peace in terms of salvation, he pointed out, that the term „peace” and „salvation” having the same source, shed their light on each other and reciprocally condition themselves; only in the course of development of human thought they were separated. The unity of dimension of the christological and ecclesiological salvation presented the articles by Fr. Andrzej Nadbrzeźny and by Fr. Ireneusz Sławomir Ledwoń OFM. The first of them has analyzed the Church as the sacrament of salvation in history and the other showed how current is the ancient adagium „Outside the Church there is no salvation”. In context of this formula, so much discussed today, he emphasizes, that the saving intercession of the Church comes from her close relationship with Christ, the only Intercessor of all salvation. Not so much the formal membership in the Church, but the presence of the Church herself in the world is the condition of salvation.

Fr. Łukasz Kleczka SDS in his article analyzed the salvation in thought of Henri de Lubac and Fr. Paweł Fiącek SDS work concerned the proclamation of salvation in African context. Fr. Czesław Cekiera SDS presented the subject from socio-psychological point of view, while Fr. Jacek Wawrzyniak SDS and Fr. Andrzej Draguła discussed the question from homiletical and pastoral position. The theme closes with the reflection by Fr. Bogdan Ferdek. In the light of theological criticism he presents the pseudo-salvation aspects of New Age (autosoteriology) and ideology of laicism (anti-soteriology).

Another important subject of the new issue of the „Studia Salvatoriana Polonica” consists of topics concerning Lower Silesia, where for over fifty years already is situated the Salvatorian Major Seminary. In this part were presented two well-known people closely related to the region: Edith Stein – Sr. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Fr. Jerzy Machnacz, Fr. Józef Tarnówka SDS) and Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Fr. Kazimierz Wójtowicz CR).

The article of Kazimierz M. Pudło is dedicated to history and culture of Oborniki Śląskie region, Lower Silesia. The author, on the basis of reminiscences of the inhabitants, published in *My, oborniczanie* and *Głosy z przeszłości*, portrays the after war society of the region in the '60s. The chapter entitled *Silesia* closes with the article by Fr. Antoni Kielbasa, who presents the history and contemporary activity of the Salvatorians in the Archdiocese of Wrocław.

In the last part of the article section our readers will find, besides the articles of Fr. Waldemar Irek and Fr. Piotr Szyrszeń SDS, the ones concerning problems related to the Salvatorian heritage: attitude presented in *sentire cum Ecclesia et cum Societate* in the light of writings of Fr. Jordan (Fr. Roman Słupek SDS) and history of the miraculous icon of Our Lady the Queen of Lakes in Brańsk, Belarus, where the Salvatorians work since 1991 (Fr. Władysław Węglarz SDS). The Salvatorian heritage was furthermore discussed in its personal dimension, through the perspective of our dearly departed Salvatorian estimable academics: Fr. Waław Boguniowski SDS, meritorious historian of the liturgy (presentation by Fr. Andrzej Bruździński) and Fr. Jan Drozd SDS as esteemed expert in Bible Studies (article by Fr. Hubert Ordon SDS).

Traditionally the issue closes with the articles related to daily rhythm of life and academic activity of people from the Salvatorian Major Seminary in Bagno. Among them are reviews, reports (for example the report from academic and didactic activity of the Seminary in 2008/2009), presentations of chosen Master's Degree theses and selected Salvatorian bibliography for 2008.

The third issue of „Studia Salvatoriana Polonica” is much more extensive than the two previous ones, since the number of collaborators is raising as well as the quantity of subjects worthy of presentation. We receive many signals of appreciation of previous numbers and we would like to wish you interesting and fruitful reading.

Father Roman Słupek SDS