

Summary of the doctoral dissertation

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"Province of Poznan of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth
in the years 1945 - 2021"

The impulse to write this work, the subject of which is: The Poznan Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth in the years 1945-2021, the jubilee of the 150th anniversary of the stay of the Elizabethan sisters in Poznan, celebrated in 2021, has become.

After analyzing the previous publications concerning the Poznan Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth, it can be noticed that there are topics and issues that have not been fully researched. So far, no study has been created that would present the post-war fate and works of the Elizabethan Sisters of the Poznan Province in a comprehensive, cross-sectional and multifaceted way.

The presented work is an attempt at a cross-sectional presentation of the post-war history of the Elizabethan Sisters of the Province of Poznan, with particular emphasis on their material and spiritual activity both in the Province of Poznan and beyond, based on an analysis of the history of the congregation.

The basic research question concerns the Poznan Province of the Elizabethan Sisters in the years 1945-2021. As a consequence of the questions posed in this way, new, detailed questions arise, concerning the creation of the province, its internal system, personnel, religious houses and institutions, the religious and spiritual life of the sisters and their activities in the post-war reality of Poland. Before formulating the answer, it is necessary to refer to the foundation of the Congregation, i.e. the religious charism represented by the Mother Foundress.

The work is based on a chronological and problematic arrangement. The method of source and literature analysis as well as auxiliary methods: statistical, sociological, descriptive and geographical, were used.

The time frame of the work is set by two crucial dates: 1945 related to the end of World War II and the socio-political changes that took place in post-war Poland after the collapse of the Third Reich, and 2021, when the Province of Poznan celebrated the 150th anniversary of the stay of the Elizabethan nuns in Poznan.

The publication has been divided into four chapters. The first of them presents the organization, internal system, personal and territorial status of the Poznan province after the end of World War II. The second chapter presents the religious and spiritual life of the province. It discusses the various stages of inclusion in the congregation (postulate, novitiate, juniorate) and the formation of its members. This chapter ends with a description of Elizabethan spirituality and

religious practices. The next chapter describes the charitable and apostolic activities, expressed in outpatient and hospital care, care for children and youth, running institutions and centers for the elderly, disabled and handicapped, parish work and other types of service of the sisters, e.g. in curias or seminaries. The last chapter deals with the missionary and foreign activities of the Elizabethan nuns, especially in the Holy Land, Brazil and Hungary.

At the end of the thesis, a list of abbreviations and tables, as well as an annex with selected documents and photographs are provided.

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