

## Summary

Proclaiming the Word of God is one of the most important tasks of the Church, which is carried out through the ministry of preaching and catechesis.

In the first centuries of Christianity, there were no divisions into forms of service of the Word of God, but the focus was on the transmission of the Good News itself in the way known and practiced in the ancient world of Mosaism. On the other hand, we can talk about preaching and catechesis from the perspective of maturely developed and systematized forms of service of the Word of God.

The subject of preaching was the subject of council work in various periods of the history of the Church. Particular Churches, through synodal institutions, also addressed issues related to the mission of preaching the Word of God and developed legal regulations aimed at its effective implementation in the local conditions of their era.

A similar situation occurred in the Diocese of Lublin, where two synods were held (and one ended in the draft phase due to the outbreak of World War II).

Both the first Synod of the Lublin Diocese in 1928 and the Second Synod from 1977-1985 referred to both of the aforementioned forms of proclaiming the Word of God.

In this dissertation, the issue of the ministry of the Word of God in the Lublin synodal perception has been placed in a broader context in order to show the perspective of the general church background. Hence, a look at the development of diocesan synods in the history of the universal Church, taking into account the contribution of the Church in Poland. Such a perspective allows for a contextual setting of the Lublin synods. The historical, legal and theological background provides the basis for taking up the main topic of the dissertation.

The substantive development of the dissertation is contained in four chapters initiated by short introductions and finalized with conclusions.

The first chapter covers the subject matter relating to the diocesan synod in the universal Church. It draws attention to the historical, theological and juridical conditions of the genesis of this institution, as well as the church codification regulating the scope of its powers. The issue of the currently applicable canonical concept of a diocesan synod was also raised. Reference was made to the regulations specifying the procedure and competences for convening a synod, its chairmanship, its composition, the method and scope of conducting discussions, the synodal legislator, post-synodal communication, and the suspension or dissolution of a diocesan synod.

The second chapter analyses issues related to the synodal legislation of the Lublin Diocese in the context of the nationwide synodal realities. The First Synod of the Lublin Diocese was examined in the context of the circumstances of its convocation, the course of the deliberations and the content of the synodal statutes indicating the pragmatism of the Synod Fathers. The next element of the chapter is a look at the 1939 synod, interrupted in the draft phase. Referring to the studies and pre-synodal material, the method of preparing the synod and its substantive assumptions were indicated. The third component of the chapter is the issue related to the Second Synod of the Lublin Diocese. By analysing the written materials, the circumstances of its convocation and course were determined, which were accompanied by the need to extend the deliberations due to the promulgation of the new Code of Canon Law in 1983. The thematic scope of the synodal resolutions, which was the fruit of the work of nine commissions, was indicated, synthetically describing the main pastoral directions and practical recommendations.

Chapter three opens the main subject matter of the dissertation. It covers issues of preaching the Word of God. First, the theological premises relating to church preaching are presented, including such issues as: the Christocentric nature of *revelatio Dei*, the sacramental structure of preaching, the Bible as the fundamental source of the proclamation of the Gospel, the subject of preaching, the infallibility of the transmission of the message of salvation, the duty of preaching, the conditions of the presence and effectiveness of the Word of God in human preaching, the essence, object and purpose of preaching. The rest of the chapter is devoted to the preacher and the recipient of church preaching. Attention is drawn to the preacher in the aspect of his broadly understood formation and attitude, while the listener is presented in the context of his preferences and expectations determined by participation in an increasingly globalized, and at the same time humanistically and personally oriented society. The next part of the chapter describes the forms of preaching. The unique position of homily preaching is indicated, understood as an integral part of the mass liturgy of the word. The specificity of mass, sacramental, ritual, biblical homilies, as well as those related to services, is described. The specificity of catechism preaching realized in various circumstances of preaching related to parish missions, retreats (open, closed, camp-itinerant) and conferences is analyzed. An attempt is made to examine the circumstances and characteristics of evangelization preaching. The chapter ends with an inference of the

indications of the Synod Fathers in relation to the circumstances of preaching related to place and time. This issue is presented in a narrow and broad perspective.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the issues of catechesis. Catechetical teaching is analyzed in terms of its conditions. Reference is made to the nature of catechesis, its function and specificity. Attention is drawn to its evangelization and Christocentric values. The value of its systematic nature and the importance of using textbooks, appropriate language, memorization elements and technical means are indicated. Issues related to the purpose of catechesis, the content transmitted, teaching methods and the organization of teaching (school, catechetical points) are discussed, as well as the varied scope of responsibility for catechesis in the structures of the Lublin Diocese. An analysis of the statutory provisions specifying the age of catechesis participants is made. The nature of family catechesis is described, and the specification of catechesis for preschool and school children, youth (secondary and vocational schools, students, working youth), young people with special educational needs and adults (evangelization, theological education, preparation for apostolate, accompanying children) is indicated. The subject of catechesis related to the sacraments of the Church was discussed. It was shown from the perspective of formation towards the sacraments and in the aspect of preparation for receiving individual sacraments. The characteristics of catechesis related to each sacrament were described.

The following methods were used in the development of the dissertation: historical-legal, dogmatic-legal and comparative.