

# Roman Słupek

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## From the Editor

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

## ■ From the Editor

„We want to celebrate this Year in a worthy and fruitful manner”. This wish of Benedict XVI expressed in the apostolic letter, *Porta fidei* (8) in which the pope proclaims this initiative, is an important challenge for the theological circles. In the further part of number 8 of this letter the pope says: „Reflection on the faith will have to be intensified, so as to help all believers in Christ to acquire a more conscious and vigorous adherence to the Gospel, especially at a time of profound change such as humanity is currently experiencing”.

It is the reflection on faith that has been a creative response to this papal invitation of those involved in the publication of the annual „Studia Salvatoriana Polonica”. From the very beginning of the existence of our paper, we have always officially presented it on the 11th of October, which is the day of inauguration of the academic year in the Higher Theological Salvatorian Seminary in Bagno. This year the day will not only be of local importance for our academic community, but it will also be, according to the pope’s intention, the first day of *the Year of Faith* in whole the Church. This day was quite purposely chosen by Benedict XVI, as it is at the same time the 50ieth anniversary of commencing the sessions of the Second Vatican Council and the 20ieth anniversary of proclamation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Submitting, on this special day, the latest issue of „Studia” to the hands of our readers, we hope it will be of assistance in the fresh discovery of the beauty of our faith – the faith professed, celebrated, experienced and seen through prayer (compare *Porta fidei*, 9).

The pastoral perspective of *the Year of Faith* – its aim and sense, the ecclesiastic and social-cultural context as well as guidelines for the ministry, are analysed in the first article, written by Fr. B. Giemza SDS. In the next two articles the authors refer to some important issues signalled in *Porta fidei*. Fr. R. Słupek SDS refers to the words of the pope in which he encourages us to make an effort of understanding the reasons for our believing. In the

present cultural context a lot of people sincerely search for the ultimate sense and the definite truth about their existence and about the world. This search is already an authentic „preamble” of the faith; it leads people to recognition of the mystery of God (compare *Porta fidei*, 10). Such a situation is an occasion for formulating the argumentation in favour of the Christian faith, at the basis of which lies a conviction that it is an effective antidote to the feeling of senselessness of life, affecting wide groups of people. The author presents this issue by describing Benedict XVI's sense-creating apology of faith. *The Year of Faith* should also be the time, when faith in liturgy is celebrated in a deeper and more conscious manner (compare *Porta fidei*, 9). This issue is analysed by Fr. B. Ferdek, who presents the mutual relations between *lex orandi – lex credendi*.

The question of faith is also referred to in the next articles. Fr. W. Wenz presents the christian faith as the fundamental basis of the norm of the canonical law. Fr J. Górski brings up a reflection in the context of the complex cultural situation of the world today, which has often and in many places been stressed by Benedict XVI (the increasingly common absence of God from the modern culture and, connected with it, a deep crisis of faith). Fr. J. Górski shows the current spiritual state of the christian world.

Bishops' Synod which is to be convened in October 2012 will be an important event in *the Year of Faith*. The Synod itself as well as the issue which will be considered there (*The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith*) are to be – as the pope wishes it – „a good opportunity to usher the whole Church into a time of particular reflection and rediscovery of the faith” (*Porta fidei*, 4). New evangelization, which is to lead to discovery of joy in the faith and to finding enthusiasm in sharing the faith (compare *Porta fidei*, 7), is the subject of reflection of G. Wita. He analyses, in the context of new cultural situations, the „aeropagi of new evangelization”.

The last text referring directly to the issue of faith is the article of Fr. R. Marszczyk SDS. He presents the approach to the problem of faith and religion from the point of view of atheism of neopositivist type, as represented by M. Ossowska.

As in the previous years the reader of the new issue will not miss an article with reference to the history and the present of Lower Silesia. The co-authors of the success of Oborniki Śląskie from the turn of the XIX century are presented by K. Pudło. The 150ieth anniversary, celebrated in 2011, of the Borromeo Sisters' presence in Trzebnica, has become an opportunity to present their service to God and people in this area (S. A. Nadolska SMCB). In the

last part the reader will find articles both on historical and theological themes, as well as relating more directly to the Salvatorian „yesterday and today”. We close the issue with reports and discussions about the scientific and didactic activities of the Higher Theological Salvatorian Seminary in Bagno.

Submitting to your hands, dear readers, the latest issue of „Studia Salvatoriana Polonica” I hope, that its content will become a real help in living *the Year of Faith* and an important source of deepening your faith, „the lifelong companion that makes it possible to perceive, ever anew, the marvels that God works for us” (*Porta fidei*, 15).

Fr. Roman Słupek SDS