

Justyna Dziadek
Institute of History
Faculty of Humanities
Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce

Summary

Subject: **Preaching in light of the <Sermones festuales cum nonnullis miraculis> from the So-called Manuscript Mikołaj Włoski (1st half XV c.)**

This dissertation is the analysis of postylla, a series of sermons attributed to Nicolaus de Wlosky, a Benedictine monk of the Benedictine Abbey of the Holy Cross. Sermones festualescum nonnullis miraculisare are dated to XVth century and are a part of the code nowadays kept in library collections in the National Library in Warsaw (BN 3020 II). It is the only copy of this author, because the second one attributed to him was destroyed during the Second World War.

This thesis provides the analysis of didactic content of sermons and it consists of three chapters. The first chapter is an introduction to the theme and it shows the outline of preaching on the Holy Cross in medieval times. It shows the condition of the study and the available sources in given issues. The second one presents a codicological synopsis of a manuscript BN 3020 II and its current search findings. What is more, the author outlined a biography of Nicolaus de Wlosky, his preaching technique (rhetorical and intellectual) and she tried to specify the audience to which these sermons could be addressed to. The last and the longest chapter shows the analysis of the selected problematic aspects of teaching sermons: the mystic of the Cross, angelology, attitude to women and children, the concept of Church, social context and penitentiary teaching preparing to confession. This thesis is accompanied by an annex containing the critical edition of all 38 sermons by Nicolaus de Wlosky.

The main aim of this thesis was to answer questions around morality and to what degree they were reflecting the evangelical values of true period. What is more, the author was searching for local references connected with spiritual and religious climate of the Benedictine Abbey of the Holy Cross. The analysis of the sermons sheds light on the model of piety connected with Benedictine spiritual elements and the cult of the relic of the Passion.