

YOUTH FROM THE LIGHT-LIFE MOVEMENT
AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND EVANGELIZATION
ON THE EXAMPLE OF CONTEMPORARY SOURCE LITERATURE
(summary of Ph.D. dissertation)

The main problem in this dissertation is an attempt to answer the question: How do young Catholics gathered in the community of faith and evangelization proclaim Jesus Christ in their environment? The answer to this question requires a special elaboration in which the following hypothesis ought to be put forward: Young people carry out the evangelization of their environment in light of the Christian values arising from the Decalogue and Gospel. Furthermore, one ought to examine how different studies contained in the literature address the issue of the evangelization.

The contents of the dissertation is an attempt to show the mobile and permanent evangelization of the adolescents belonging to a peer group, during which the Christian values such as those in the Decalogue and Gospel are passed on. In order to carry out the mission of the evangelization, the young evangelizers from the Light-Life Movement use the technology of the 20th and 21st centuries as the Internet and its collaboration tools like a tablet and smartphone. In this way, the young people will be able to see the emotional reactions of their peers on the Christian values and Christian contents being passed on. Such emotional evangelization is the most effective form of spreading the faith among the peers through the Internet. In addition, the young evangelizers may carry out the evangelization in the field of the Internet culture, which has become an idol of the youth. It can be said that it ought to become a youth's pulpit of the Church in the new evangelization of the young people in the 21st century and be carried out on a mobile and permanent basis, regardless of the time and place. The evangelization of the peers is shown as a continuous process that develops in social environments, that is, in the family, church, parish, school but also in a peer group. The young evangelizers from the Light-Life Movement prove that they are responsible as well as understand the meaning and importance of the evangelization of their peers.

This subject was mainly referred to in the *Messages for the World Youth Day* of the Holy Father John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis. They are a pilgrimage of the youth together with the Pope in the evangelization of the peers on all the continents of the world. It has brought a lot of great values into the lives of the young people and the most precious value is the discovery of Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life as well as the Church as a great and sanctified family. Two Symbols accompany the *World Youth Day*: Cross of the

Holy Year of Redemption and the icon of the Mother of God, the Savior of the Roman People (Salus Populi Romani). The Cross was given to the young people by St. John Paul II as a sign of the love of Jesus Christ to people. This Cross is a part of the mobile and permanent pilgrimage throughout the world, proving that the Cross is with the young people and the young people are with the Cross because in it you can find love, faith and hope for salvation. The Cross of the *World Youth Day* having been carried throughout the continents and countries, dioceses and parishes, hearts and souls of the youth is now on pilgrimage to Panama where the 34th *World Youth Day* will take place in 2019.

This dissertation has been written in four chapters. In chapter no. 1, youth has been presented as a privileged time of growth and evangelization, which creates the best conditions for the religious development. The young people can understand themselves best and ought to evangelize their peers.

In chapter no.2, renewal movements have been shown, which have been created throughout the whole history of the Catholic Church, lasting already two thousand years, in order to renew the religious and spiritual life. All of them, despite their variety, have their origin in one source, which is the son of God – Jesus Christ.

In chapter no. 3, an attempt has been made to demonstrate *novum* in the thesis, which concerns the mobile and permanent evangelization of the adolescents belonging to a peer group, with the use of the Internet and its collaboration tools like a tablet and smartphone. The effects of smoking, drinking alcohol and taking drugs have been revealed. The Christian values arising from the Decalogue and Gospel as well as the protection and need to proclaim catechesis have been emphasized.

In chapter no. 4, ways leading the youth to the proper Christian life have been displayed. One of such ways is the principle of auto-education based upon self-cognition, self-evaluation and self-realization. The next one is the incentive to regular religious practices, i.e. praying. Another one is the faith in Jesus Christ as the Christian value that shapes the choices of the youth.

The conclusions of the dissertation show that the young people need to be helped while growing up as well as we ought to shape their moral and spiritual development. The second chapter highlights the need for active participation in the renewal movements that strengthen development in holiness. The third chapter proves that the young evangelizers can pass on the Christian values to their peers best and as presented in chapter no. 4 lead them along proper pathways to Jesus Christ.