Abstract

This thesis focuses on the reflection of the year 1989 in the broadcasting of the Czech channel of Vatican Radio. After the rise of the totalitarian regime in Czechoslovakia, and despite disturbance, their programmes became a sought-after source of information on religious life in the rest of the world, especially for Catholic Christians. This year marks the 30th anniversary of this revolutionary year and in November we will celebrate two anniversaries which are interconnected through the background of this time. The canonization of Agnes connected the nation and the church and foreshadowed the second event – the Velvet Revolution itself. This thesis observes mainly those reports which reflect the key events of the year in this country. The first part is dedicated to the characteristics of the Vatican Radio broadcasting and describes its creation, introduces the first Czech editorial staff, but also the staff of the year 1989. The thesis is a reflection of the chosen broadcasts, and for that reason, a part of it is dedicated to the programming content. The second part outlines the historical context and the development of the Communist regime In the year 1989 on the background of the chosen broadcasts, for which the main source is the sound archive of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.

Keywords church, Czechoslovakia, radio Vaticana, The canonization of Agnes, totality, Vatican Radio, Velvet Revolution, year 1989