

## **ABSTRACT**

This work, entitled *'Service – the unifying element in the spirituality of Louise de Marillac and Vincent de Paul'*, deals with the interconnection of two spiritualities Louise de Marillac and Vincent de Paul. I tried to test the assumption that an important connecting element of both important figures in the history of Catholic spirituality is the spirituality of service. In a way, this diploma thesis is a continuation of the previous bachelor thesis entitled *'Selected themes of spirituality Louise de Marillac'*.

The text is divided into four parts. The first one deals with the contemporary context and spiritual influences in 17th century France. In this part, I also focus on important moments and originally different social and cultural conditions of life of Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac.

The core of the second and third chapters are Vincent de Paul's spirituality and Louise de Marillac's spirituality. Immediately follows the fourth part, which is the link between the two previous chapters. It contains the key statements of the two saints, based on which it is possible to form an idea of what it meant to Vincent and Louise to honour the Incarnate Word, as manifested in their service and concrete charitable works. Finally, these works are presented as evidence of the unified emphasis of Vincent and Louise on the spirituality of service.

### **Keywords:**

Louise de Marillac, Vincent de Paul, spirituality of service, Daughters of Charity