

## ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on the life of the secretly consecrated Roman Catholic bishop Kajetán Matoušek. The author will try to compare Matoušek's life and career to the fate and work of other secretly consecrated Roman Catholic bishops who were ordained in the same historical period and served in the Prague archdiocese. The bishops are Ladislav Hlad, ThLic. Karel Otčenášek, PaedDr. and František Cardinal Tomášek. The comparison of K. Matoušek's life to the life of others is based on their individual life stages and milestones, such as childhood, studies, or motivation to become a priest, as well as the circumstances of the secret ordination.

Preserved materials about the above-mentioned bishops stored in Archiv bezpečnostních složek (Security Services Archive) were used for this thesis as well as the materials found in the Archives of the Prague Archbishopric, where are stored mainly official materials. An equally important source of information is a family archive of the Novotný family, which was related to Bishop Matoušek (the Matoušek family's male line died out with Bishop Matoušek himself), from which many photographs, but also other materials analyzed in this thesis were obtained. Finally, the so-called second parish records of the St. Adalbert parish in the New Town of Prague are considered. The author uses them mainly for information about the period of Bishop Matoušek's work there.

The life of Bishop Tomášek is described through extensive secondary literature used in this thesis. The life of Bishop Hlad was described by Miloslava Kahounová in her master's thesis defended in 2001 at the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University. Kahounová used personal testimonies from people who knew Bishop Hlad's work and personality and listed them in the appendix of her thesis. As for Bishop Otčenášek, this thesis uses sources found in archives (i.e., the aforementioned Security Services Archive) as well as secondary literature which, however, is not as extensive as secondary literature about Bishop Tomášek.

In addition to written sources, the author worked with sources of oral nature, such as personal testimonies of contemporaries concerning the abovementioned bishops. The author was able to attain testimonies mainly concerning Kajetán Matoušek, as he lived 20 years longer than Bishop Hlad. Even in bishop Matoušek's case, however, was the number of testimonies limited, due to the elapsed time since his death.