

English abstract

The present dissertation *Spirituality of Presence: the Significance of R. Voillaume's Work* focuses on the life and work of R. Voillaume (1905-2003). His work is understood as "*spirituality of presence*", or – to be more precise – of double presence: presence to God and presence to man. After the introductory part dealing with Voillaume's life, historical context and a survey of his work, the dissertation continues with an analysis of his literary work. The main theme is a *relecture* of Foucauld's "*spirituality of Nazareth*" in the light of the mentioned concept of *presence*: the hidden and silent "*presence in the midst of men*" refers not only to the significance of "*hidden life*" in Catholic spirituality, it also points out to the deep openness to the situation of modern man and to the search of an authentic Christian life as a life of "*presence*" trying to make the life of faith accessible to a contemporary man in a creative and nonconformist way. The conclusion puts Foucauldian spirituality (whose main interpreter is R. Voillaume) into the context of Catholic spirituality and confronts his spirituality of presence with the findings of biblical theology.

Theoretically, the dissertation combines personalistic and systematic approaches. Voillaume's work is understood as a major manifestation of Catholic spirituality in the modern times and as a challenge to the situation of Christians and the church today.