

Title

Analytical Survey of Czech Manuals for Penitents Issued after 1990

Abstract

The thesis is based on a description and analysis of the manuals for penitents that were issued in the Czech Republic after 1990.

These manuals (confessional mirrors) are designed as aids in the preparation for the Sacrament of Penance. Since 1990 the religious literature may be freely published in our country and the focus of the thesis is put on the manuals published since then. To assess the materials competently, the thesis at first deals with the theology of the Sacrament of Penance as such. The central part of the thesis presents different aids for penitents, comes with their basic description and with the evaluation of their handiness (for which group of penitents or for which occasion is the manual fit). This analysis will be followed by the description and evaluation of the manuals for confessors that provide a practical aid for the improvement of the priestly service. The different ways of practical fitness of these tools will be assessed.

The main aim of the thesis consists in providing an insight into different manuals for penitents and to facilitate the orientation among them to help with the choice of a fitting tool in concrete cases. Another goal of the thesis is to facilitate the orientation among the manuals for confessors.

Keywords

Examination of conscience, confessional mirror, confession, sacrament of reconciliation, forgiveness, reconciliation