

Abstract

The master thesis is focused on the interpretation of the attitude of Francis of Assisi towards the poverty of the first Franciscan religious buildings. Religious buildings of the English Franciscans from the selected sites from the years 1224–1258/1259 will comprise the case studies. The goal of their study is to show the extent to which they reflected Francis's approach towards poverty of buildings. The study of Francis's understanding of poverty of buildings will be based on the analysis of the chosen written sources of the order's provenance. Besides Thomas of Eccleston, whose work known as *Tractatus de adventu fratrum Minorum in Angliam* belongs to the most important narrative sources within the examined period, the royal grants for construction and the reports from the sites which were archaeologically excavated will be used for the reconstruction of the character and liturgical function of the first religious buildings of the English Franciscans. A summary of the degree of expression of poverty on the examples of the analyzed religious buildings of the English Franciscans will be the subject of the conclusion of the master thesis.