

## **Abstract**

The title of this bachelor thesis is „Understanding Work in the Social Teaching of the Church“. Individual topics related to the field of work and general human activity are presented here in accordance with social encyclicals written from 1891 to 1991. Each theme connected to work is presented gradually, so that its genesis, conception and development can be followed, depending on the changeable conditions of each time period. It becomes obvious that the basic postulates of encyclicals stay compact in their general frames, they are, however, modified by different popes. Moreover, each pope puts emphasis on specific aspects of the themes, according to current needs of social evolution. Consequently, social encyclicals show a number of phenomena changing within one hundred years. These are for example: right to work and strike, work of women and children, redistribution of estates, value of earnings or spirituality of work as human contribution to creation.