

## **Abstract**

Correlation between maturity of faith and maturity of personality on the example of Therese of Lisieux

The presented thesis seeks the answer to the question to what extent maturity of faith correlates with maturity of personality using the example of the Carmelite saint Therese of Lisieux. The general scheme of personality development in relation to maturity of faith is taken from James W. Fowler's classic study *Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development and the Quest for Meaning*. Of the theological and spiritual motifs that appear in the case of Therese of Lisieux, focuses on those elements that are intended to show maturity in the spiritual life of the saint under study. The thesis examines whether and how the elements that constitute a sign of religious maturity (e.g., awareness of human fragility) correlate with the healthy development of human personality (denial of one's ego or willingness to suffer can be seen as a potentially neurotic element just as much as a sign of realized humanity). The intention is also to demonstrate that some of the typical spiritual motifs that appear in the case of St. Therese of Lisieux are related to the development of personality towards the fulfilment of the integral human structure.