

13 English annotation

Title:

RESTRUCTURING OF DIOCESES IN FRANCE: INSPIRATION FOR THE CZECH CHURCH?

Abstract:

A pastoral reform of catholic dioceses in France and in the Czech Republic is discussed in this paper. The reform consists in the effort to complete renewal of spiritual life of parishes, vicariates and dioceses. The main attention in the paper is paid to the significant part of the reform which is done by merging of parishes: the small parishes which are not able to perform all necessary functions are merged and one new parish is established. The situation of the Catholic Church in France and in the Czech Republic is similar to a large extent. And similar are also the reasons which in the two countries led to the pastoral reform. The similarities and differences of the process are shown on the case studies of the dioceses of Lyon, Saint-Étienne, Pilsen and Prague. A significant attention is paid to the results of the process in France, which are interpreted by the theological concepts of parish. Some of the inspirational elements of the French manners of reform are presented in the concluding chapter. They include namely: larger engagement of laics, large reflection about the communion ecclesiology and the services in Church which are the inherent part of the process, collaboration of old parishes before merging and manner of ceremonial inauguration of the new parish.

Key words:

Catholic Church – Reform

Catholic Church – France

Catholic Church – Czech Republic

Diocese

Parish