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## SUMMARY

The dissertation addresses the issue of religious practices and pastoral activities during the COVID-19 pandemic, which were carried out in parishes in the city and municipality of Zator in 2019–2022.

The purpose of the dissertation was to learn about and describe the different types of religious activities that were undertaken during the crisis time of the pandemic in three parishes – St. Adalbert and St. George in Zator, St. James in Palczowice, and St. Andrew in Graboszyce.

Two methods were used in writing the paper: analytical-synthetic and survey method using a survey questionnaire.

It consists of five chapters. In the first of them – *Outline of the history of the problem of pestilence and epidemics* – the most important concepts related to the phenomenon of epidemics are explained. This was followed by a presentation of pestilence in Scripture and the writings of the Church Fathers. Reference was also made to history to present religious practices undertaken during ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary epidemics.

The second chapter, entitled *The Coronavirus Pandemic as a Challenge to Believers*, presents the disruption of religious life caused by the unexpected outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. It describes devotions and penitential practices, holy intercessors for the time of the pestilence (among them St. Roch - the patron saint of Zator), prayers and prayer books issued at the time, and religious dangers, such as false revelations and superstitions.

The third chapter, titled *Difficulties of the Pandemic*, presents the moral and religious effects of the pandemic, socio-economic problems, and the regulations of the Minister of Health and

the Council of Ministers published since March 2020, with particular reference to the points that concerned churches and religious associations. Charitable activities that were difficult to undertake during the pandemic were also described. Many organizations, including church organizations, became heavily involved despite the threat in providing assistance to those who were sick, alone, isolated or in quarantine.

The fourth chapter – *Methodology of own research* – is a presentation of the purpose and object of the study, as well as the hypotheses and research problem. It presents the area where the research was conducted and the method of selecting the research sample, as well as the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.

The last chapter entitled *Organization of religious life during the pandemic on the example of parishes in the city and municipality of Zator – analysis of own research* presents, on the basis of the author's sociological research, the way of organization of pastoral care and religious life during the coronavirus pandemic in parishes in the city and municipality of Zator. It was written on the basis of 721 survey questionnaires. It presents the implementation of sanitary-epidemiological restrictions, and next shows how participation in religious practices changed, comparing the years before the outbreak of the pandemic and during it. The next section presents pastoral initiatives related to the patronage of St. Roch, as well as parish online religious activity, particularly the broadcast rosary. The chapter ends the conclusions of the survey, supplemented by a detailed analysis of a closed-ended question with an open-ended option, which addressed the impact of the pandemic on respondents' religiosity.

The work is summarized with a conclusion, a list of bibliography, lists of tables and charts.

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