

## Summary

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**Title:** A Christian's holiness in the teaching of Kazimierz Romaniuk, the Ordinary Bishop of the Diocese of Warsaw-Praga (1992-2004)

This dissertation is devoted to the topic of a Christian's holiness in the teaching of Kazimierz Romaniuk, the first Bishop of the Diocese of Warsaw-Praga from 1992 to 2004. It has three aims. Firstly, to retrace bishop Romaniuk's teaching on the current issue of a Christian's holiness. The second goal is to generate interest in both the scholarly and pastoral activity, as well as in the person of bishop Romaniuk so as to encourage others to take up further research in his legacy. Thirdly, to present the character of biblical spirituality propagated by bishop Romaniuk.

The work consists of four chapters. The first one shows the anthropological and theological basis for a Christian's holiness, the creation and salvation of man arising from God's love for man. The universal call to holiness has been discussed as based on the faith in God the Father, his Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, taking cognizance of faith in the Church in which holiness is achieved. Marian grounds of a Christian's holiness have been outlined, as well. Chapter Two has been dedicated to the subject of the essence of a Christian's holiness whose foundation is the Holy Scripture, taking particular biblical examples and ideals of holiness into account. The nature of holiness and the process of a man's conversion have been analysed as the foundation of a Christian's holiness, as well as the realisation of love towards God and another man. Merciful love, the sanctifying nature of man's work and rest as a gift of on the way to holiness have been considered. The eschatological dimension of holiness has also been addressed, taking into account consecrated life as aforeshadowing of a life entirely dedicated to God, with contemporary models of holiness with their patriotic touch. The third chapter concerns ecclesial formation of a Christian and his rootedness in the structure of the universal Church where holiness is achieved. Topics pertaining to the mystery of the Church, Church hierarchy and affiliation to the Church defined as God's People are discussed there. The theology of formative pastoral work has been

highlighted as closely linked to the ministry of the diocesan bishop together with the clergy. The need for a diocesan seminary to function as a centre promoting every priest's journey to holiness has been pointed out. A discussion has been included of the parish ministry in which movements, communities and parish groups of various kinds are present as places of encounter with God's word. An attempt has also been made to define biblical spirituality in the context of laity and their importance in the diocese. The fourth chapter of this work is dedicated to discussing the sources of spiritual formation of a Christian, with particular emphasis on the holy sacraments and other means necessary for the growth of holiness.

The source literature for the dissertation is the entire pastoral and scholarly teaching of the shepherd of the Warsaw-Praga diocese: pastoral letters, homilies, speeches, as well as books and articles, with particular reference to texts directly and indirectly related to holiness. Documents of the Teaching Office of the Church, the Popes' teachings, were also used, as well as contemporary theological literature. In this work, a method of analysis was applied, which led to a synthesis of concrete conclusions which show the experience of holiness and the path of sanctification of a Christian in earthly life and in view of the eschatological experience of the last things. Moreover, a method of historical analysis was also used and served to accomplish the intended objectives.

**Key words:** Jesus Christ, a Christian, biblical spirituality, love, holiness, theology of spirituality, model of holiness.