

The Dying Church, Josef Prokeš

Abstract

The Dying Church

Searching for the interpretative key to the position of Christianity in postmodern Europe

The main subject of this thesis concerns the search for the way in which the Church in the Czech Republic should live in order to fulfil its mission, that is to bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Czech theologian and Franciscan Zdeněk Bonaventura Bouše was chosen as the starting point, especially his texts on the Church. His texts are read according to the interpretive key, which was chosen to be the verse in the Gospel of John where Jesus declares that he is the Way, the Truth and the Life. In the first chapter, this scripture (John 14:6) is discussed and applied to the Church. This leads to a characterization of the Church that is on the way, striving for truthfulness and is full of real life. It is according to this key that Bouché's texts are read and interpreted in the second chapter. The main part of the work is the chapter three. Here the three dimensions of the Church (on the way, striving for truthfulness and full of life) are discussed in specific terms in relation to the situation of the Church in the Czech Republic.

Keywords

The Church, searching for the way, truthfulness, life, form of living, form of the Church, Practical theology