

## **Abstract**

This dissertation titled “Special catechesis. Theory and Practice” explores the methods of teaching religion to mentally handicapped children. The research focuses on the presentation of theoretical and practical methods introduced by D. Jucha, J. Madeja, D. Doroszewka, B. Janosz and other significant Polish catechists. The theoretical part, besides a systematically processed terminology also deals with the actual content and the main aim of special-care catechesis. In addition, it provides an interpretation the dignity of man as it can be found in some church archives. Last, but not least, attention is drawn to the important role of families, parishes and catechists.

The second, practical, part is inspired by the methods of B. Janosz – whether it is put to creative use along with new teaching materials as well as new communication tools that motivate mentally handicapped children for active participation in special-care classes.

The author of this study concluded that even the weakest must be provided adequate catechesis as every human being, no matter how limited, is capable of growth to sanctity. These people feel the need and are entitled to life in faith. There is a need for *oligo-catechesis* and it is unquestionable.