

Abstract

The master thesis deals with the biography of Mons. ThDr. Antonin Liška CSsR (1924 – 2003), the 11th bishop of České Budějovice. It reflects different stages of his life seen on the background of the changing situation of the Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia in the second half of the 20th century. The thesis presents mainly bishop Liška's family background in the South Bohemian countryside, his religious formation in the Redemptorist order before and during the Second World War, his theology studies in the after-war years, his secret ordination during the time of the rising totalitarian communist regime, his public ministry during the so called "normalisation" period, his activities in the underground church, his involvement in the Czech ecumenical translation of the Bible, his appointment as the auxiliary bishop of Prague in 1988 and his ministry as the head of the Diocese of České Budějovice from 1991 to 2002. The thesis is primarily based on written archive sources and personal testimonies given by relatives and collaborators of bishop Liška.