

## **Abstract**

The diploma thesis „Comparison of the pastoral and charitable care for the elderly in the Archdiocese of Prague“ enquires into the relation between the pastoral and charitable care for the elderly in the Archdiocese of Prague and the quality of accessible local services. It seeks to define the meaning of being old in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, deals with the questions of ageing and old age and the perception of these phenomena in the broad social context. The thesis underlines the dignity of old men as well as their specific psychological and spiritual needs. The second part of the paper inquires into the principles of the charitable and pastoral care and it tries to sort out the accessible services. The last, empirical part contains the methodology and interpretation of the research among the charitable and pastoral institutions and parishes. The Conclusion summarizes informations from the previous chapters.

## **Keywords**

elderly, pastoral care, charity care, the Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Prague