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Basic formation in New Evangelization Schools in Poland as a synthesis of the Deuterocatechumenate of the Light-Life Movement and Foundations of Christian Life School of Evangelization of St. Andrew

Abstract

Dynamically developing since 1993. Polish Schools of the New Evangelization have worked out a rich formation offer for participants for each day of the year. The materials of the Galilee Community (Stryszawa), the Friends of the Bridegroom Community (Lublin) and the School of New Evangelization of Jesus Resurrected (Gliwice) took the most mature form. It was this Polish formation that became the basis of this scientific research. Examining the content of the deuterocatechumenal formation in the Light-Life Movement founded by Fr. Franciszek Blachnicki and the content of the Foundations of Christian Life at the School of Evangelization of St. Andrew, founded by José H. Prado Flores, and comparing them with the formation developed in the Polish Schools of New Evangelization, allowed to draw a conclusion about genetic and content affinity. The architects of the Polish SNE formation feel they are heirs to the spirituality of F. Blachnicki, and they fully use the ideas of J.H. Prado Flores. In this way, the dynamism and creativity of evangelization schools, expressing in short biblical courses lasting a few days, was combined with the stability and regularity of everyday, systematic work on forming Christian spirituality. Five of her main ideas for formation at the School can be identified: relying on the Holy Scriptures, the necessity of a small formation group, experiencing the Eucharist, personal choices, maintaining balance in the entire formation process. These assumptions are compatible with those that Fr. Francis pointed out in the catechumenate, which introduces people to live the Word of God, to pray, to receive the sacraments, to constantly convert, to give witness and to serve the community. The discovery of this convergence should be a sign for the contemporary Church to draw again from the grace that was given to it in the person and work of Fr. Franciszek Blachnicki, and the formation developed by the Polish SNE may be an attractive proposition for school catechesis and to make parish ministry more dynamic.