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Title: School retreats in Polish catechetical practice. (Rekolekcje szkolne w polskiej praktyce katechetycznej.)

Source: Biuletyn Edukacji Medialnej

Year: 2013, number: 1(2013), pages: 5-21

Keywords: categories and forms of retreats, school retreats, types and models of school retreats

Discipline: THEOLOGY

Language: POLISH

Document type: ARTICLE

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Abstract This article presents school retreats as a major element of evangelization conducted by the Church. The retreats addressed at children and teenagers at school must be seen in a wider perspective of the extraordinary pastoral activity of the Church, often realized in various forms of retreats. The authors of the article discuss the genesis and the growth of the tradition of school retreats in Polish catechetical teaching. These twenty years of tradition brought enormous experience in realizing the Lent retreats for children and teenagers. Analysing the literature of the field, the authors were able to distinguish between a number of types and models of retreats, which constantly evolve.