

*Parish schools teacher in 17th century Poland: The example of the Archdiocese of Gniezno:
intentions and reality*

Summary

In time of Church reform a special attention was paid on parish schools because of their influence on believers, not only pupils. A great importance of teacher was recognized. Church laws recommended creation of schools in all parishes and rules for teachers' employment. This analyses confrontation of this rules and expectations with reality of life in Gniezno archdeaconry in the 17th century (when Church tried to establish rules of the Council of Trent). Schools were integral parts of the parishes. They reflected not only situation in the parishes but also social, economic and cultural conditions of particular region in particular period. In Easter Greater Poland changes in situation of education in following decades could be observed: condition of schools on the beginning of the 17th century were good, but on the end of the century – situation got decidedly worse.

Keywords: teachers, XVIIth century, parish school, church laws.