

## **ZGAE 61 (2017)**

### **Article**

**Marek Jodkowski, The Diaspora of the Warmian Diocese in the Year 1941**

The so-called mission reports are the basic source for research in the field of the Warmian diaspora of 1941. These mission reports were kept by the administrators of the diaspora pastoral care stations for the Bonifatiuswerk in Paderborn, i.e. for an institution that supported Catholics in regions where Protestants held the majority.

The article in hand analyses the data of 73 parishes and curate churches. 40 pastoral care stations had the status of a parish, 33 were curate churches. In 75 percent of the administration units there was only 1 single priest working there. Most villages belonged to the parishes of Tilsit and Insterburg. The shortest distance from the centre of the parish to its border was 3 km in Lichtfelde, the furthest distance was 60 km in each Tilsit and Insterburg. The smallest number of Catholics was noted in the Parish of Lichtfelde (218), the largest number in the Parish St John the Baptist in Königsberg (25000). A car or motorcycle, if available at all, could only be used sporadically for want of fuel. Only 43 parishes and curate churches owned extra rooms for liturgical celebrations in addition to the church or chapel. In the pastoral care centres religious teachings could be organized more effectively than in the other stations. Church tax or the so-called church money was collected by the majority of the pastoral care stations. Nearly half of them were highly indebted.