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GENEROSITY OF THE CLERGY AND CHURCH (PAROCHIAL) CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CARITAS ASSOCIATION OF THE TARNÓW DIOCESE OVER THE YEARS 1939–1945

Abstract

After the initial destabilization of the Church's charitable actions in the Tarnów diocese (subsidies from the curia, personal donations by priests and the faithful from the parish) to Caritas (mainly its headquarters), a marked increase in donations to Caritas in Tarnów were observed from 1942. The action of parochial donations (cash, in-kind contributions) for the Caritas headquarters was the largest one. During the years 1942–1944, cash and in-kind contributions were donated by approx. 30 parishes (approx. 30%), which were located in 15 deaneries (52%). In total, PLN 351,445 was donated, mainly from the parishes in the central and western zones of the Tarnów diocese. The generosity of the clergy from their personal income (*iura stolae*) culminated in 1944, when over 480 priests (compared to 88 in 1940) transferred over PLN 320,000 to Caritas. Financial and material support, as well as donations from the faithful to parochial Caritas branches, did not acquire a universal character, with just isolated cases being recorded in the Tarnów diocese. Locally, however, these funds were the basis of the Caritas' branches' budgets, sometimes even accounting for $\frac{3}{4}$ of their income. The subsidies from the Tarnów curia, thanks to the financial policy of Bishop Komar, constituted the most important item in the Caritas budget. By 1944, the curia had donated PLN 2,472,000. It was almost 60% of the total income of the Association, and more than 78% of all donations from the Church to the Association.

Keywords: World War II; Catholic church; Tarnów diocese; Caritas

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At the beginning of the 20th century, certain currents appeared which de-institutionalised and centralised the charity action of the Catholic Church.¹ In Poland these tendencies increased after 1918² and took on an institutional form in the 1930s.³ During that period, Diocesan Caritas associations were appointed in cooperation with the clergy in the majority of dioceses, some of them having a broadly developed parish structure. The most developed network of parish branches existed in Wielkopolska and Kujawy, as well as in Western Małopolska (mainly the Tarnów diocese).⁴

Just before the outbreak of World War II, the Association functioned in 12 (arch) dioceses.⁵ After the defeat in September 1939, following the disintegration of church structures it was liquidated by the occupants in the areas incorporated into the Reich and into the Soviet Union. Caritas survived (though not for long) only in the area of the General Governorate (further referred to as the GG).⁶ At the end of 1939, 11 central (arch)diocesan headquarters were functioning: Lviv, Przemyśl, Tarnów, Cracow, Kielce, Sandomierz, Lublin, Łódź, Częstochowa, Warsaw and Siedlce.⁷ Nearly 500 branches existed in those frameworks, most of

¹ E. Leś, *Od filantropii do pomocniczości. Studium porównawcze rozwoju i działalności organizacji społecznych*, Warszawa 2000, pp. 46–96; cf. Cz. Kępski, *Idea miłosierdzia a dobroczynność i opieka*, Lublin 2002, pp. 53–58.

² However, tendencies for specialization and at the same coordination of charity work were observed since the beginning of the 20th c.; cf. J. Majka, *Chrześcijańska myśl i ruch charytatywny*, in: *Historia katolicyzmu społecznego w Polsce 1832–1939*, eds. Cz. Strzeszewski, R. Bender, K. Turowski, Warszawa 1981, p. 513; S. Wilk, *Episkopat Kościoła katolickiego w Polsce w latach 1918–1939*, Warszawa 1992, pp. 312–320; cf. P. Kurlenda, *Działalność dobroczynna Kościoła katolickiego w Wielkopolsce i na Pomorzu w latach 1919–1939*, Toruń 2001, pp. 92–100.

³ 1st Plenary Council in Częstochowa (1936) had Caritas established in each parish, and the clergy were obliged to encourage the lay to get involved in the work of Christian charity; cf. W. Wójcik, *Ze studiów nad synodami polskimi*, Lublin 1982, pp. 194–220; E. Sugier, *Odpowiedzialność Kościoła za ubogich i chorych w świetle kościelnego prawodawstwa partykularnego w Polsce międzywojennej*, Koszalin 2001, pp. 38–42.

⁴ The majority of parish branches of Caritas functioned first of all in the city environment, with the country neglected in this respect, Archives of the Metropolitan Curia in Cracow (further referred to as AKMK), Teki Sapieżyńskie (further: TS), TS XXVII/26, Ogólnopolski Zjazd Dyrektorów Diecezjalnych Związków “Caritas” w Poznaniu 23 II 1937; *Caritas. Miłosierdzie Chrześcijańskie w parafii. Katolickie Towarzystwo Dobroczynności Diecezji Płockiej “Caritas”*, Płock 1935; A. Gretkowski, *Katolicyzm społeczny na przykładzie działalności charytatywno-społecznej w diecezji płockiej w I połowie XX wieku*, Płock 2001.

⁵ J. Majka, *Kościelna działalność dobroczynna w Polsce w XIX i pierwszej połowie XX wieku*, “Zeszyty Naukowe KUL”, 9 (1966) Nos. 1–2, p. 133; idem., *Chrześcijańska myśl i ruch charytatywny*, p. 520.

⁶ Cz. Madajczyk, *Generalna Gubernia w planach hitlerowskich. Studia*, Warszawa 1961, passim.

⁷ P. Aleksandrowicz, *Diecezja siedlecka czyli podlaska w 150 rocznicę erekcji (1818–1968). Przyczynki i materiały do dziejów Diecezji Siedleckiej czyli Podlaskiej*, Siedlce 1971, pp. 250–251; Diocesan Archives in Siedlce (further: ADSP), Caritas, vol. 3, 1931–1948.

which (280) were in the Tarnów diocese,⁸ which means practically all parishes.⁹ At the end of the war there were only five diocesan headquarters, with about 363 parish branches. They worked as sections of the Central Welfare Council (later referred to as the RGO).¹⁰ Caritas of Tarnów was the strongest section of the RGO in the area of the GG. It preserved its own structure as well as some of its forms and methods of activity.¹¹ The association in Tarnów had an extensive range of activities, for example, helping those deported from Wielkopolska and refugees from Warsaw after the Warsaw Uprising, running soup kitchens and orphanages, providing financial assistance to the needy, etc. In total, the Caritas Association of the Tarnów Diocese spent PLN 9,220,311 aiding those in need during World War II.¹² Where did the Association get the funds? The statute of Caritas provided for a variety of sources of funding, namely membership fees,¹³ social contributions, donations and occasional income (e.g. organising events).¹⁴ Being incorporated

⁸ Archives of New Files in Warsaw (further: AAN), Central Welfare Council 1939–1945 (further: RGO), file reference no. 731, card 78.

⁹ Archives of Tarnów Diocese (further: ADT), Caritas, file ref. no. Car O 1941, Opis majątku Związku “Caritas” Diecezji Tarnowskiej, z dn. 25 kwietnia 1941 r.

¹⁰ Some studies concerning the Church suggest that till the end of the war “Caritas” was an independent organization, which however is not true. B. Kumor, *Historia Kościoła*, part 8: *Czasy współczesne 1914–1992. Kościół katolicki w okresie systemów totalitarnych i odnowy soborowej, zniewolenie Kościołów wschodnich, sekularyzacja i rozdrobnienie Kościołów i wspólnot protestanckich*, Lublin 1995, p. 467; B. Kroll, *Rada Główna Opiekuńcza 1939–1945*, Warszawa 1985, 71; Z. Fijałkowski, *Kościół katolicki na ziemiach polskich w latach okupacji hitlerowskiej*, Warszawa 1983, pp. 180–181; The Caritas Association did work as an independent organization until 1941. However, since the spring of 1941 the diocesan headquarters lost their independence for the benefit of RGO and they functioned as Charity Sections of the Council, or in fact as welfare committees, sometimes even delegations. The Council also took over the whole property of the associations. J. Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna duchowieństwa diecezjalnego w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie 1939–1945*, Kielce 2012, p. 126; AKMK, TS XXVII/29, Sprawozdanie z akcji dobroczynnej Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za lata 1939–1944.

¹¹ After a short-lasting chaos caused by the warfare the network of the Tarnow Caritas was restored. 280 branches existed in the years 1941–1944, AAN, RGO, file ref. no. 731, card 78.

¹² M. Podgórski, *Powstanie i pierwsze lata działalności Caritas diecezji tarnowskiej*, in: *Misericors – 75 lat działalności Caritas diecezji tarnowskiej*, ed. P. Grzanka, Tarnów 2012, pp. 274–277; R. Podstołowicz, P. Grzanka, *Wczoraj i dziś Caritas diecezji tarnowskiej*, in: *Misericors – 75 lat działalności Caritas diecezji tarnowskiej*, ed. P. Grzanka, Tarnów 2012, pp. 325–326; S. Wójtowicz, *Związek “Caritas” Diecezji Tarnowskiej w służbie bliźnim w latach 1939–1950*, in: *Dzieje diecezji tarnowskiej Instytucje i wydarzenia*, vol. 2, eds. A. Gąsior, J. Królikowski, Tarnów 2012.

¹³ Members could include welfare institutions and establishments, foundations, social organizations, Roman Catholic parishes and private persons of the Roman Catholic religion. A few kinds of membership were possible, i.e. an ordinary member, an honorary member, a life member and a supporting member.

¹⁴ AKMK, TS XXVII/29, Statut “Caritas” Diecezji Tarnowskiej. Opis dzieł miłosierdzia w latach wojny 1939–1944; National Archives in Cracow (further referred to as ANK), Związek Stowarzyszeń i Zakładów Dobroczynnych, Wychowawczych i Opiekuńczych Archidiecezji Krakowskiej “Caritas” z lat 1934–1940 (further: ZSiZDWiOADK), Statut Związku “Caritas” Diecezji Tarnowskiej 1937 rok; file ref. No. ZC- 1, card 517–549.

into the structures of the RGO enabled the organisation to carry out charity activity¹⁵ and provided the basis to legally obtain the means for such activity. Apart from social contributions, Caritas could use subsidies from welfare committees, the RGO headquarters and the local administration.¹⁶ A considerable part of the funds in the Tarnów diocese were obtained by the Association from society's generosity. It can be noted that the contributions for Caritas came from a variety of social groups, for example peasants, land owners, the intelligentsia, entrepreneurs and the clergy.¹⁷ This happened in an organised manner, i.e. through permanent monthly membership fees, food collections and parish collections. The aim of this paper is to analyse the generosity of the Catholic clergy¹⁸ and parish communities towards Caritas in the Tarnów diocese between 1939 and 1945. Donations from parish communities were treated as *oblaciones fidelium*, which means offerings for God, as God's property which could be managed exclusively by the bishop, i.e. the Church, whose representative in the parish was the parish priest.¹⁹

The clergy of the Tarnów diocese hurried to give the association material aid in two ways: by handing over contributions from their personal income (*iura stolae*) and from parish funds. The latter consisted of donations coming from the income of the parish property (e.g. the land), collections (church contributions), collections from charity boxes and food collections. Priests were obliged to support the Diocesan Caritas Association of the Tarnów diocese (headquarters) and could also assign their own income and the parish income for the activity of its branches (legally, the branches were a part of the association).²⁰

¹⁵ In 1940 the German occupant dissolved and banned Polish political, social, military, academic and religious organizations, AKMK, TS XXVI/129, Rozporządzenie o stowarzyszeniach w GG z dn. 23 VII 1940; TS XXVI/132, Sprawa rozwiązania stowarzyszeń, w tym religijno-charytatywnych – analiza VIII 1940 r. It sometimes happened that by taking advantage of the ban on public gatherings the authorities did not allow parish branches of Caritas to be established; Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna duchowieństwa*, p. 102.

¹⁶ Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna duchowieństwa*, pp. 96–97, 104, 119–127; Kumor, *Historia Kościoła*, p. 467; Kroll, *Rada Główna Opiekuńcza*, p. 71; Z. Fijałkowski, *Kościół katolicki na ziemiach polskich w latach okupacji hitlerowskiej*, Warszawa 1983, pp. 180–181; J. Gapys, "Caritas" w diecezji kieleckiej w latach II wojny światowej, in: *Dobroczynność i pomoc społeczna na ziemiach polskich w XIX i XX i na początku XXI wieku*, vol. 2, eds. M. and M. Przeniosło, Kielce 2010, pp. 177–178.

¹⁷ Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna duchowieństwa*, pp. 139 ff.

¹⁸ Immediately before the war and the occupation, 622 diocesan priests (including 499 clergymen in the parish ministry) and 54 monastic priests worked in the Tarnów diocese. The latter was divided into 28 deaneries (29 since 1948) and 283 parishes. 44 cities and smaller towns (Tarnów and Nowy Sącz with a population of more than 25,000 inhabitants) and 1,309 villages were found in the diocese. The Catholic population (together with Greek Catholics) was about 1 million people. B. Kumor, *Diecezja Tarnowska i jej stan w 1939 r. Zarząd i organizacja diecezji. Duchowieństwo 1939–1945*, in: *Życie religijne w Polsce pod okupacją hitlerowską 1939–1945*, ed. Z. Zieliński, Warszawa 1982, pp. 254–258.

¹⁹ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarO 1944, Pismo kurii tarnowskiej w sprawie świadczeń parafii na rzecz Kościoła, 1944 r.; Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 11–12.

²⁰ AKMK, TS XXVII/29, Statut "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej 1939.

Personal contributions of the clergy for the Caritas Association of the Tarnów diocese

Before the outbreak of World War II, priests in the Tarnów diocese had the status of supporting members, meaning that they were obliged to pay an annual fee to the Tarnów Caritas headquarters.²¹ It was paid in the form of an annual lump sum in the amount of PLN 5 monthly. Those offerings were regulated from the clergy's personal income (*iura stolae*). In August 1939 the sum of PLN 2,380 was deposited into the account of the Tarnów headquarters from the priests, members of Caritas. It came from 476 clergymen (95.4% of the clergy in parishes), the fee for each priest being PLN 5. In addition, the fee was paid by a few priests who taught religion. The highest fee was provided by Fr. Walenty Chrobak (PLN 100), while PLN 5 each was paid by Fr. Andrzej Niwa, Fr. Jędrzej Cierniak, PhD, Fr. Stanisław Gazda, Fr. Piotr Warecki and Fr. Adam Stefański. Together, the contribution for Caritas from clergymen in the diocese was PLN 2,505.²² The outbreak of the war, the course of armed actions, the organisation of the occupation (e.g. the dissolution and prohibition of Polish organisations²³ in addition to the German economic and demographic policies) destabilised Caritas' activity. The progressing pauperisation of the faithful and the clergy²⁴ caused the number of priests paying the fee to dwindle dramatically, despite the fact that the amount was only slightly lower.²⁵ In the first six months of 1940, priests donated PLN 1,910 to Caritas. Although the amount was only one quarter lower, from the point of view of the Association the number of priests paying the fees was the disturbing problem: only 27 priests (5.4%) of the clergymen in the parishes were doing so (including eight priests whose names appear on both lists of donors).²⁶ Those amounts were a few times higher than in August 1939, but their real value was insufficient because of inflation²⁷ and the enormous welfare needs. Generally, each priest paid a fee

²¹ It deserves to be added that in the Kielce diocese, for example, its bishop imposed a 10% *iura stolae* tax on priests for caritas, Gapys, "*Caritas*" w diecezji kieleckiej, p. 188.

²² ADT, Caritas, file ref. No. Car 0 1941, Do rachunku F.Z. J, sierpień 1939 r.

²³ AKMK, TS XXVI/129, Rozporządzenie o stowarzyszeniach w GG z dn. 23 VII 1940; TS XXVI/132, Sprawa rozwiązania stowarzyszeń, w tym religijno-charytatywnych – analiza VIII 1940 r.

²⁴ Hundreds of displaced priests found their way to the parishes in all GG. Some of them were maintained by the parish, while others were assigned to pastoral work in particular parishes. This resulted in lower incomes of the local clergy; cf. Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 71–76.

²⁵ It is not known whether that was only a short-lasting destabilization of the flat-rate collection of the contribution or the breakdown was longer. The statistics available for the successive years of the work of Caritas point to the presumption that it was a lasting phenomenon. The statistical data referring to the generous contribution of the clergy from their personal incomes do not appear until the financial report from 1944. That was again a well functioning system since the priests from the area of the diocese provided over PLN 300,000. It is difficult to explain why there were no contributions in the years 1941–1943. It is likely that generosity of the faithful was not something to focus on, which is discussed further in the present paper.

²⁶ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1940, Do rachunku F.Z. 91/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 92/40.

²⁷ A rise in the prices of food and agricultural products was especially painful. Compared to the pre-war period the following increase was noticed: 3-fold at the end of 1939, 50-fold in 1942, 70-fold

of PLN 60, although in three cases (Fr. Zygmunt Jakus, Fr. Stanisław Wójtowicz and Fr. Stanisław Kobos) PLN 75 was donated. Two priests paid only half the fee (Fr. Józef Kuczek and Fr. Jan Żurek), and one priest paid even less – PLN 25 from Fr. Stefan Dobrzański.²⁸ Eight priests who continued paying the fees are repeated on the next list. Most of them were higher clergy (parish priests, deans and canons). In the first months, the following priests paid the fee a second time: Dean Józef Słazyk, Canon Jan Wałęcki, Canon Mikołaj Pichura and Canon Józef Badowski.²⁹

Table 1. The number of priests/supporting members and the value of the contribution for Caritas of the Tarnów diocese in 1940

Year	Number of priests	Per cent of priests in parishes	Amount in PLN
1 st half of 1940	27	5.4	1910
2 nd half	61	12.2	3545.3
Total	88	17.6	455.30

Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1941, 'Do rachunku F.Z. J, sierpień 1939 r.'; file ref. no. Car0 1940, 'Do rachunku F.Z. 91/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 92/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 109/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 110/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 122/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 144/40'.

The following two quarters of 1940 showed a slightly increasing tendency, in terms of both the amount of money and the number of members paying the fees. Between September and December 1940, the fees were paid by a total of 61 priests and the contributions amounted to PLN 3545.30 (Table 1). Sums of about PLN 60 predominated, although much lower amounts were also recorded: PLN 10, 15, 30 or 40. At least a few priests paid PLN 70–75, and two contributed PLN 100 (Fr. Władysław Lassowski and Fr. Jan Koziół). Significantly, every month the money came from different priests, with the exception of Fr. Piotr Stary, who paid the fees for September and November 1940.³⁰ All this clearly indicates that there was no regular collection of contributions from priests to aid Caritas in the area of the diocese in 1940. In all of 1944, 88 clergymen regulated it (17.6%), while in August 1939 this number was 476 priests (95.4%), so the decrease was nearly sixfold. The available documentation does not point to any organised collections taking place until 1944. They included 29 priests in the deaneries of the Tarnów diocese. Significantly, the amount contributed by all clergymen (PLN 323,612) was an important item in the budget of the Association, comprising 11% of in-

in 1944, and 130-fold in 1944; S. Smoliński, *Rozwój detalicznych cen wolnorynkowych w Krakowie w latach w 1939–1946*, "Rocznik Akademii Handlu w Poznaniu", (1946/1947) pp. 184–209; S. Smoliński, *Przyczynki do zagadnienia wyżywienia miejskiej ludności polskiej w b. Generalnym Gubernatorstwie na tle ówczesnych warunków pracy i płacy*, "Rocznik Akademii Handlowej w Poznaniu", (1949/1950) pp. 33–106.

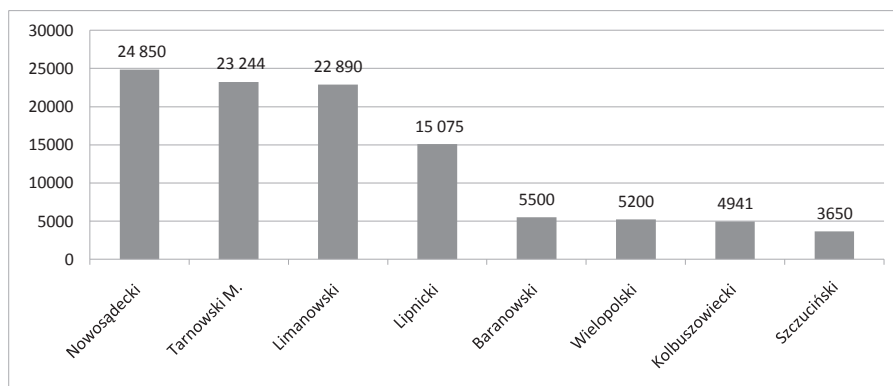
²⁸ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1940, Do rachunku F.Z. 91/40.

²⁹ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1940, Do rachunku F.Z. 92/40.

³⁰ DT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1940 Do rachunku F.Z. 109/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 110/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 122/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 144/40.

come in 1944.³¹ Assuming the number of priests in parishes to be approximately 500 means an average of PLN 650 a year from each clergymen. The height of the donations was not equal in all dioceses. There were some deaneries where the clergymen donated tens of thousands, while in others only a few thousand was collected (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Contributions from priests in selected deaneries to aid Caritas of the Tarnów diocese in 1944



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Zestawienie ofiar złożonych przez księży wg dekanatów'.

These statistics show the predominance of the deaneries which included larger cities or, as territorially bigger, they included more medium-sized localities. And this fact affected a greater number of parishes and clergymen. This is perfectly visible in the example of the leading deaneries. The leader in terms of contributions was the Nowosądecki deanery (nearly PLN 25,000), just ahead of the Tarnów city deanery (over PLN 23,000) and the Limanowski deanery, with almost PLN 23,000. On the other hand, there were some circles of priests where the contributions barely reached PLN 5,000. In the Szczuciński and Kolbuszowiecki deaneries, the clergy's contributions were PLN 3650 and PLN 4941, respectively; in the Wielkopolski deanery the figure was PLN 5,200 and in the Baranowski deanery PLN 5,500. Priests from the next 12 deaneries transferred contributions ranging from PLN 10,000 to PLN 15,000.³²

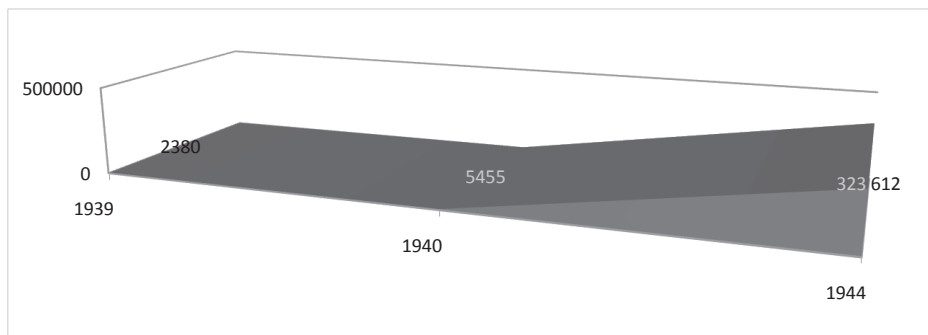
It can be assumed that priests donated the PLN 331,447 to Caritas in Tarnów from their personal income. A vast majority of the funds were offered in 1944 (Figure 2). It was an impressive sum, especially in comparison to other groups of priests in the GG. In fact, an organised collection took place only in the Sandomierz deanery. In autumn 1939, several priests contributed about PLN 45 for

³¹ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1944, Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Zestawienie ofiar złożonych przez księży wg dekanatów.

³² Ibid.

Caritas there, and early in the winter of 1944 three clergymen donated PLN 550 in aid of the Association.³³

Figure 2. Contributions of priests to Caritas of the Tarnów diocese, 1939–1944



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1941, ‘Do rachunku F.Z. J, sierpień 1939 r.’; file ref. no. Car0 1940, ‘Do rachunku F.Z. 91/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 92/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 109/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 110/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 122/40; Do rachunku F.Z. 144/40’; file ref. no. Car0 1944, ‘Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Zestawienie ofiar złożonych przez księży wg dekanatów’.

Priests’ contributions from their private income to parish branches

Parish branches, where the basic charity work of the association was carried out, obtained funding for their work from a variety of sources, as with the headquarters. Those sources included, for example, subsidies of the Episcopal curia, the local administration, district committees of the RGO and social contributions. Charitable contributions included donations from the clergymen’s personal income. On the scale of the Tarnów diocese, there was no organised action of clergymen’s generosity in aid of the branches.³⁴ Only individual cases of generosity can be referred to. Sources point to three parishes where more or less systematic financial support of the local branches of Caritas was noted. In the Szczepanowska parish, there were singular contributions, while in the Bocheńska (1944) and Chorzelowska (1939–1940) parishes, regular contributions from the local priests can be observed. Fr. Antoni Stańczyk contributed PLN 150 and bedding (worth PLN 50) to the account of the parish branch in Chorzelów. His attitude is commendable, as he was the only person to regularly support the parish branch of Caritas. During the same period, for example, the local landed gentry provided only singular donations: Countess Zofia Tarnowska from Chorzelów (PLN 12) and Count Szczepan Tarnowski from the manor in Malina (PLN 12).³⁵

³³ Archives of the Diocese in Sandomierz (further referred to as ADS), Caritas of the Sandomierz diocese 1934–1944 (further: Caritas Sandomierz), Caritas, Księga Kasowa 1934–1944; cf. Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, p. 141.

³⁴ This phenomenon was not observed, either, in other dioceses in the area of GG; Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 142–143.

³⁵ ADT, Caritas, CarLC, Wykaz ofiar “Caritas” parafii Chorzelów od 1 września 1939 do dnia 31 grudnia 1940 r.

In the Tarnów diocese the most systematic action of the clergy's generosity was observed in the Bocheńska parish. Between April and December 1944 the local priests contributed PLN 15,857, which constituted 6.5% of the total income.³⁶ Although the amount transferred by these priests was not the highest, it is easy to see that a considerable part of Caritas' income was obtained from the offerings coordinated by priests, i.e. donation boxes, collections and occasional donations. In total, more than PLN 120,000 was obtained from those sources, demonstrating that priests carried out campaigns of active Christian charity among the faithful, as reflected in the specific sums contributed by the parishioners.

In the parish of Szczepanów, on the other hand, support from priests was observed at the beginning of the occupation in 1939. The Caritas branch there obtained PLN 70 from the parish office, with its total income amounting to PLN 579. It deserves mention that most of the contributions were due to the parishioners' generosity: the St Anthony offering box yielded PLN 375, and the collections in front of the church brought in PLN 51. The headquarters of Caritas in Tarnów provided PLN 50 in the form of subsidies. Only PLN 3 was obtained from membership fees.³⁷

Parish contributions to the diocesan Caritas Association (headquarters)

As shown above, the priests' generosity towards Caritas in Tarnów became significant at the end of the war. Throughout the occupation period, it was supplemented with cash contributions from parish communities (mostly Sunday collections) and contributions in kind. The generosity developed remarkably starting in 1942, mainly due to the encouragement of the Tarnów bishop³⁸ and the efforts of the headquarters in Tarnów.³⁹ A significant role in this situation was played by the local priest, and the scale of the support usually depended on him. It was also the parish priest who would transfer the donations to Caritas in the name of the parish.

³⁶ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. LB, Zestawienie dochodów Oddziału Caritas w Bochni od 1 IV 1944 – 1 IV 1945; Caritas, Sprawozdanie z działalności Oddziału Caritas przy kościele parafialnym w Bochni za miesiąc listopada 1944. Sprawozdanie kasowe.

³⁷ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Szczepanowicach za okres 1 IX 1939 – 31 XII 1940 r.

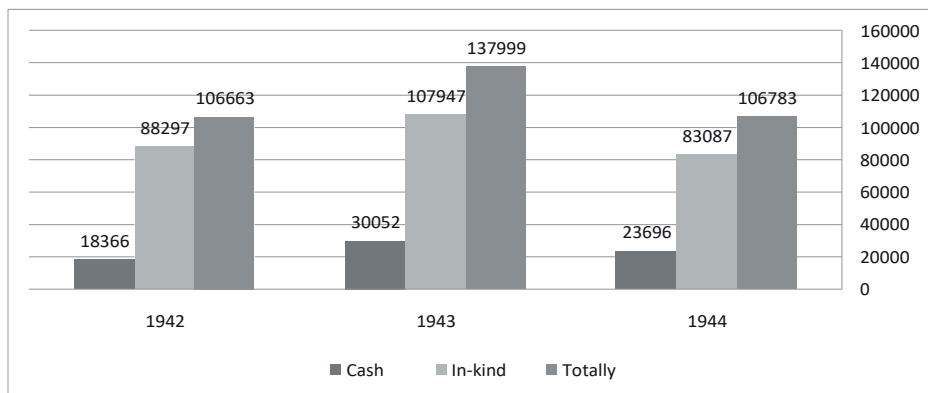
³⁸ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarO 1944, Pismo kurii tarnowskiej w sprawie świadczeń parafii na rzecz Kościoła, Tarnów 1944 r. Bishop Edward Komar developed the action of generosity by spreading the Appeal of Archbishop Sapieha throughout the diocese, cf. ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car O 1939, Do Wielebnego Duchowieństwa Archidiecezji Krakowskiej błogosławieństwo i pozdrowienie w Panu, Kraków, 7 X 1939 r.

³⁹ Each time the headquarters extend thanks in a letter expressing gratitude to the donators, i.e. the parish priest and the faithful. Besides the necessary politeness (gratitude to parish priests), the spiritual effects of sharing with those in need were indicated. The priests were sent wishes of God's care and blessing and the donators were reminded that the alms meant for the poor implore many God's graces. The Christian "Caritas" was referred to as the source of solidarity with the needy, ADT, file ref. no. CarA-CarŻ; file ref. no. CarO 1942; file ref. no. CarO 1943; file ref. no. CarO 1944.

Thus, it should be indirectly treated as a common contribution of the faithful and the clergy, which church law called *oblaciones fidelium*, as mentioned above.⁴⁰

Regular and relatively detailed statistics for the years 1942–1944 are available.⁴¹ These are general specifications, generosity according to the deaneries, or even data for particular parishes. Because of the form of this paper, general deanery data are presented. The available statistics lead to the conclusion that a considerable percentage of parishes in the area of the Tarnów diocese transferred financial donations or in-kind contributions to the Caritas headquarters. From 1942 to 1944, i.e. in three successive fiscal years, a total of PLN 351,445 was transferred to the Diocesan Association of Caritas in Tarnów: PLN 72,114 in cash and PLN 279,331 worth of in-kind contributions (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Parish generosity to the Caritas Association of the Tarnów diocese, 1942–1944



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1942'; file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943'; file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Dochody'.

As shown in the graph in Figure 3, the amount of contributions varied considerably over the three years. The largest amount was transferred in 1943, when generosity was the greatest. The lower amount in 1942 was largely a result of the fact that the charity work was only starting to develop then, whereas the lower contributions in 1944 were an effect of the increasingly difficult economic situation

⁴⁰ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarO 1944, Pismo kurii tarnowskiej w sprawie świadczeń parafii na rzecz Kościoła, 1944 r.; Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 11–12.

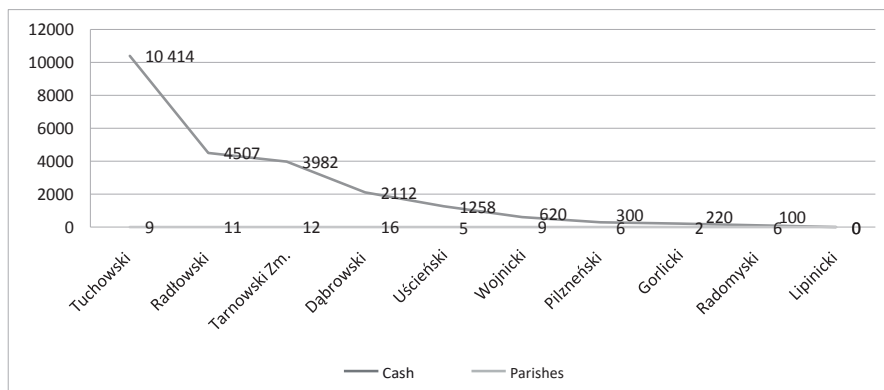
⁴¹ It is worth emphasising that apart from the Tarnów diocese an organised action in aid of the Caritas headquarters was carried out only in the area of the Cracow diocese. In the years 1942–1943, 16 parishes (mainly from Cracow or near Cracow) contributed the sum of 83,746 to the local headquarters; ANK, Polski Komitet Opiekuńczy w Kraków – miasto 1940–1944 (further: Pol.KO Kraków-miasto), file ref. no. 52, Składki kościelne Oddziałów "Caritas" 1942/1943 (XII 42; I, II, III 1943), k. 747.

of the population, which in turn was a consequence of the growing exploitation of the Polish rural areas.⁴² This is very emphatically testified to by the drastic decrease (by 77%) of in-kind contributions from the donations – from a value of nearly PLN 108,000 to slightly more than PLN 83,000 (Figure 3).

Data on the level of deaneries for two fiscal years (1943 and 1944) are also available. In 1943 funds and in-kind contributions⁴³ were supplied in the area of nine deaneries (31%) in 29 parishes (10.2%), while in 1944 15 deaneries (52%) but only 19 parishes (6.7%) took part, more than half of which (11) were situated in one deanery, the Tarnów non-urban deanery.⁴⁴

When analysing the 1943 statistics more thoroughly (Figure 4), one can observe more activity in the deaneries, namely the Dąbrowski, Radłowski and Tuchowski deaneries. One should consider both the amount of donations and the number of parishes. The Tuchowski deanery was a visible leader, where nearly PLN 10,500

Figure 4. Parishes' financial contributions to the Caritas association by deaneries of the Tarnów diocese in 1943



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943. Ofiary parafii wg dekanatów'.

⁴² Rural population predominated in the Tarnów diocese and so in-kind contributions prevailed. A radical decrease of contributions in kind was observed in 1944 and it was largely due to the quota burden since 1943. AAN, Delegatura Rządu na Kraj (the Government Delegation for the Country) 1940–1944 (further on referred to as: Delegation), file ref. no. 202/III.13, k. 12–13; AK, file ref. no. 203/X-67, k. 9, Central Military Archives Warszawa Rembertów (further: CAW), VI Oddział Sztabu, file ref. no. 1777/90/482, k. 32; file ref. no. 1777/90/478, k. 18; file ref. no. 1777/90/476, k. 43; *Okupacja i ruch oporu w Dzienniku Hansa Franka 1939–1945*, ed. Cz. Madajczyk, vol. 1: 1939–1945, Warszawa 1972, p. 540.

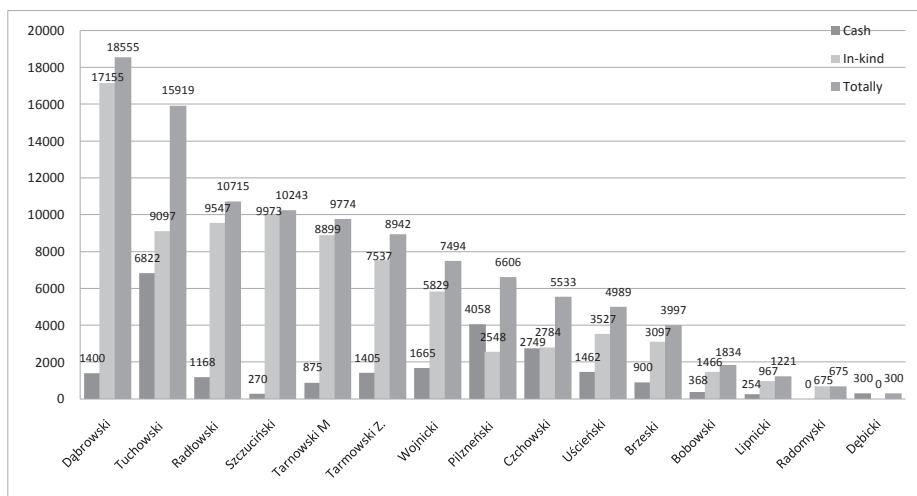
⁴³ The quantity of in-kind contributions in kilograms is given for 1943 and this is why these data are not found in the graph. For 1944, on the other hand, the PLN value of the donated food is included in the statistics.

⁴⁴ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, Rachunek działalności "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943; file ref. non. Car0 1944, Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944.

was offered (nine parishes) to Caritas. Less than a half of this sum – nearly PLN 4,500 – was transferred from the Radłowski deanery (11 parishes), while from the Tarnów non-urban deanery (12 parishes) approx. PLN 400 was donated and the contributions from the Dąbrowski deanery (16 parishes) were five times lower – slightly above PLN 2,000. The sums in the other five were lower, ranging from PLN 100 in the Radomyski deanery (six parishes) to PLN 620 in the Wojnicki deanery (nine parishes).

Referring to a detailed specification of donations for 1944 (cash and in-kind contributions), it can be noted that the same deaneries, namely the Dąbrowski, Tuchowski and Radłowski deaneries, were again at the top of the list of contributors (Figure 5). The Dąbrowski deanery contributed nearly PLN 15,000, while the Radłowski deanery transferred nearly PLN 10,000.

Figure 5. Parishes' financial contributions to the Caritas association by deaneries of the Tarnów diocese in 1944



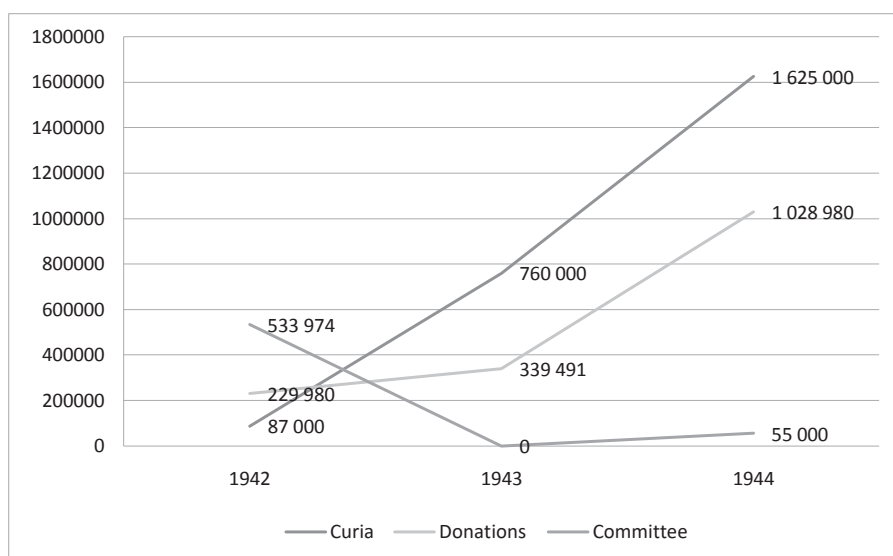
Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Zestawienie ofiar złożonych przez parafie – dekanatami'.

The Tuchowski deanery clearly was the leader as far as cash contributions were concerned, with PLN 6,822 (in-kind contributions: PLN 9,097), while the Dąbrowski deanery topped the list in terms of in-kind contributions (PLN 17,155; only PLN 1,409 in cash). With the exception of the Szczuciński and Tarnowski (both urban and non-urban) deaneries, the donations in the others did not reach half of the sums contributed by the top ones, and in six deaneries the amounts did not exceed PLN 5,000 (approx. 25% of the highest amount), while in two deaneries at the bottom of the list the contributions ranged from PLN 300 (Dębicki deanery) to PLN 675 (Radomyski deanery). When summarising the data from two years, greater generosity can be observed in the larger and more populated deaneries

situated in the central part of the diocese. The majority of the deaneries where the phenomenon of generosity was ever studied lay in the central and western belts.

A separate issue was the support given to the Diocesan Caritas Association in Tarnów by the Tarnów curia.⁴⁵ From 1942 to 1944 it transferred PLN 2,472,000. Comparing the contributions of the curia with those from the welfare committee in Tarnów and donations from the public, with the exception of 1942 the amount of the curial contributions was 40% to 60% higher than the latter and even 29 times higher than the former. The increase in the subsidies in 1943 was especially impressive as the amount grew almost ninefold, and in the following year more than doubled again (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Subsidies of the Tarnów curia given to Caritas of the Tarnów diocese, 1942–1944

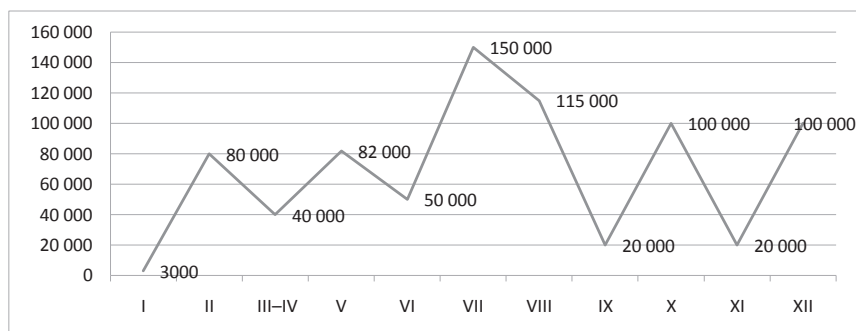


Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Zestawienie bilansowe działalności Caritas za dzień 31 grudnia 1942 r. dochody budżetowe', file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943 r.'; file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku Caritas' Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944'.

⁴⁵ Apart from the Tarnów diocese donations from the curia or the ordinary bishop on the scale of GG were observed only in the Kielce diocese. In 1942 bishop Czesław Kaczmarek supplied PLN 40,000 worth of in-kind contributions in curb market price (PLN 4,000 according to the official rate); AAN, RGO 1939–1945, file ref. no. 321, k. 14; file ref. no. 482, k. 2, 5, 46–50, 130–131, 157, 161, 196–198; file ref. no. 483, k. 16; file ref. no. 524, k. 99–100; file ref. no. 758, k. 1, 22; file ref. no. 1933, k. 56; Archiwum Diecezji Kieleckiej (further: ADK) Akta Kurialne Ogólne (dalej: AKO), file ref. no. OE-3/1, k. 83; *ibid.* file ref. no. OE-2/4, Notatnik charytatywny ks. Stanisława Borowieckiego, k. 1–40; file ref. no. OE-2/2, k. 90.

The amount of the subsidies within the calendar year is interestingly distributed. The year 1943 can serve as an example (Figure 7). The highest contributions were observed in the summer months, namely July and August (150,000 and 115,000); they were quite high in October and December (100,000 each), lower in September and November (20,000 each), with the absolute minimum in January (PLN 3,000).

Figure 7. Subsidies of the Tarnów curia given to Caritas of the Tarnów diocese in 1943



Source: ADT, Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za 1943 r.'

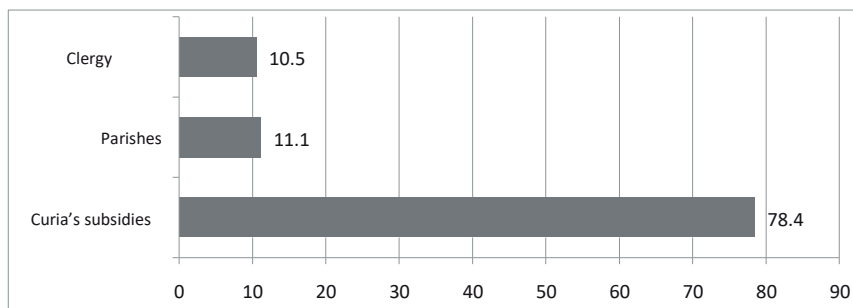
The total offerings, donations and subsidies transferred by priests, parish communities and the Tarnów curia was PLN 3,154,92, which comprised as much as 58.9% of the total income of Caritas between 1942 and 1944 (5,356,239). That was a very high amount,⁴⁶ for example, in comparison with the offerings of the local landed gentry, who contributed approx. PLN 16,500 at that time (0.3%). The breakdown of the clergy and parish communities' donations clearly indicates that more than three quarters of the means transferred to the association came from the curia (78.4%), parish donations (11.1%) and priests' personal contributions (10.5%) (Figure 8).

The large proportion coming from the Tarnów curia was the result of the curia's activity (after the death of Bishop Edward Komar, the diocese was managed by the vicar capitular, Fr. Stanisław Bulanda, prelate), which ran an effective financial policy directed at social aid despite the occupation and lack of sovereignty. It was clearly discussed in an explanatory letter *directotium* from 1944:

Collections such as Peter's Pence and for the Catholic missions in the Holy Land must be continued for significant reasons, namely these are the requirements of the Apostolic See and the inner life of the Holy Church, as well as the religious and educational respects. The duty to send contributions for the filial churches, for the general diocesan needs and theological seminaries (the first Sunday of the month) is enforced by the very life of the diocese in

⁴⁶ On the scale of GG the Tarnów diocese was a decisive leader. Only the church environments in the Cracow archdiocese transferred to Caritas relatively high amounts in 16 parishes in and out of Cracow – PLN 83,746; Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, p. 144.

Figure 8. Donations from the clergy to the diocesan Caritas Association in Tarnów, 1942–1944



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943'; file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944. Dochody'; file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Zestawienie bilansowe działalności Caritas za dzień 31 grudnia 1942 r. dochody budżetowe'; file ref. no. Car0 1942, 'Rachunek działalności Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943 r.'; file ref. no. Car0 1944, 'Sprawozdanie finansowe Związku "Caritas" Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1944'.

the present conditions. If the state does not help with its subsidies for the seminary, the Chapter, the Professors of the Theological Seminary and the administration of the diocese, like it used to be in the times before the war, then the faithful had to contribute to satisfying those important needs of the diocese (...). The collection for Caritas (the third Sunday of the month) was caused and enforced by those extraordinary times and the needs brought about by the war events which we are looking at. Care of the poor, the abandoned and those who were affected by misery belongs to the essence of the life of the Church and the vocation of priests. The extraordinary times impose extraordinary duties which – however hard they might seem – must be done if we want to have untroubled conscience and the feeling that we have fulfilled the obligation that we accepted and Christ's calling.⁴⁷

Generosity of priests and church donations for the parish branches of Caritas

Referring to the large-scale generosity (however differentiated in time and territorially varied) of the clergy and parish circles in aid of the Caritas headquarters, support for the parish branches was not universal. We can instead speak of isolated parishes in the area of the Tarnów diocese.⁴⁸ Systematic and sometimes long-term support of the local parish branches can only be found for some of them, such as the parish in Piwniczna. Throughout the occupation the local parish priest organised church collections or placed money boxes (St Anthony offering

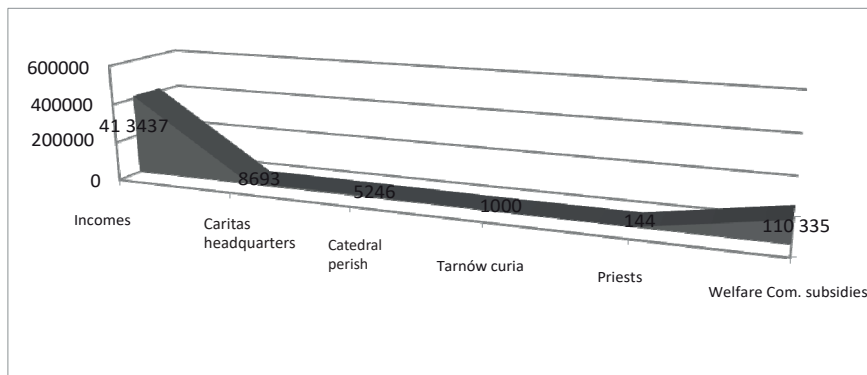
⁴⁷ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1944, Pismo wyjaśniające do Directorium z 1944 r. do księży diecezji tarnowskiej, Tarnów 1944.

⁴⁸ No organized action in this field or no action whatsoever can be observed in the examined diocese and in the area of GG; cf. Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 141–142.

box) in the aid of Caritas. The church collections from 1939 to 1944 amounted to PLN 13,951; with a total income of PLN 19,592, this comprised as much as 71% of the total. In 1943 the church contributions constituted even 74% of all incomes. The highest amount was transferred to the branch in 1944 (PLN 8,811), while the lowest came in 1939 (PLN 85). Apart from church offerings, Caritas obtained funding from membership fees, which were the second highest source of income (26–29 members). The branch occasionally also received subsidies from the curia or from the local RGO delegation; however, those amounts did not have any decisive influence on the budget. It should be noted that the charity activity of the Caritas branch was based on the generosity of the parish, which means on the financial independence of the welfare unit, which was the aim of each branch.⁴⁹

Regular and relatively high donations from the Church were also recorded in the cathedral parish in Tarnów. This is well exemplified by the income of the local Caritas branch between 1 September 1939 and 15 February 1943. In that period transfers for social purposes from the cathedral parish amounted to PLN 5,246, Caritas headquarters PLN 8,693, the curia PLN 1,000 and priests PLN 144, while the subsidy from the local welfare committee reached a sum of over PLN 110,000 (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Church offerings of the Tarnów curia, Caritas headquarters, the cathedral parish and priests to the parish branch in the cathedral church in Tarnów, 1939–1943



Source: ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car LT1, 'Sprawozdanie kasowe oddziału "Caritas" parafii katedralnej w Tarnowie za czas od I IX 1940 – 28 II 1941 r.; ADT', Caritas, file ref. no. CarLT1, 'Sprawozdanie w cyfrach z działalności Caritas przy Katedrze za czas 1 IX 1939 – 31 VIII 1940 r.'; file ref. no. LT3, 'Zestawienie wpływów i wydatków Oddziału Caritas Parafii Katedralnej – Skontrum, 15 II 1943 r.'

⁴⁹ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Piwnicznej za okres 1 IX 1939–31 XII 1940 r.; file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Piwnicznej za 1941 r.; file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Piwnicznej za 1942 r.; file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Piwnicznej za 1943 r.; file ref. no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Piwnicznej za 1944 r.

In total, PLN 15,083 was donated for charity by the cathedral branch of Caritas in Tarnów, which constituted 3.6% of all income in the period 1939–1943. This is a small percentage if only to compare it with the branch in Piwniczna described above (over 70%), or the church offerings submitted for the Caritas headquarters, which comprised more than 58% of all income of the Association. Organised charity drives were organised in a few parishes in the early years of the occupation. Generally, the church donations were the basic source of income for the Caritas branches. In the parish of Porąbka Uszewska, the faithful contributed PLN 801 to Caritas, which was 68.3% of all income.⁵⁰ In 1939 the priests in the parish of Szczepanów contributed PLN 70, collections in front of the church and the St Anthony offering box yielded PLN 426, while the Caritas headquarters transferred PLN 50. Therefore, the church offerings amounted to PLN 496, which constituted 85.6% of the income.⁵¹ The parish branch in Trzciana obtained only PLN 78 from church collections (St Anthony offering box) and the offerings of the First Holy Communion children. However, with the meagre income those contributions made up 44.8% of the budget.⁵² The parish of Gwoździce, on the other hand, continued the tradition of many years and organised the Fifth Charity Week in autumn 1940, which resulted in the following donations: the so-called altar gift (from the First Holy Communion children) of PLN 1,445 and the church collection of PLN 1,105. The source does not provide any information on other sources of financing for Caritas.⁵³

Information on the contributions by the Missionary Priests from the Holy Family parish in Tarnów is also available. In 1941 the missionaries transferred PLN 680 for the Caritas branch, which constituted 15% of the income of this charity. The basic funds for its activity came from the welfare committee: in 1941 the subsidy amounted to PLN 3,000 (67.2%).⁵⁴

One can read about an unusual form of support (though also practiced by other charity organisations during the war),⁵⁵ namely direct aid, in a charity report from the parish in Biegonice. The local priest wrote about his charitable activities in the following way:

As for the parish office, it tries not to stay far behind others in its pious work. The parish is in constant contact with the whole parish and it knows about

⁵⁰ ADT, Caritas, ref. file no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Porąbce Uszewskiej za okres 1 IX 1939 – 31 XII 1940 r.

⁵¹ ADT, Caritas, ref. file no. CarLP, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritasu w Szczepanowicach za okres 1 IX 1939 – 31 XII 1940

⁵² DT, Caritas, ref. file no. CarLT, Sprawozdanie z działalności Caritas za rok 1940 na terenie parafii Trzciana.

⁵³ ADT, Caritas, ref. file no. CarLG – CarI – CarLJ, Sprawozdanie z V Tygodnia Miłosierdzia z parafii Gwoździce 12.11.1940 r.

⁵⁴ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarLT, Sprawozdanie kasowe Caritas parafii Św. Rodziny w Tarnowie od 1.II-31.III.1941 r.

⁵⁵ The phenomenon of direct help functioned, for example in the activity of the Delegations of the Main Welfare Council, see on the forms of welfare in RGO; cf. Kroll, *Rada Główna Opiekuńcza*; pp. 163–179.

everything, which is after all possible considering its small size. Several families find permanent support in the vicarage, the latter willingly helps those in need with horses, fuel, medical help and so on. In the first year of the war the vicarage, having taken the leased land from the richer ones, assigned a piece of ploughland to several of the poorest parishioners, in the total quantity of 10 hectares, without considering any payment.⁵⁶

Finally, it is worth looking at solidarity within the diocesan structures of Caritas. The means obtained by the Association headquarters from priests, the faithful, social offerings, subsidies from the curia, local authorities and the RGO were re-distributed back to particular branches, mainly to those in greater need.⁵⁷ In 1942 the Association transferred subsidies to 51 branches in the amount of PLN 27,000 and in-kind contributions to three parishes worth PLN 1,069 (Czchów, Filipowice and Tarnów-Katedra) – totalling PLN 28,769. Usually, the amount was PLN 300–500 per parish, but some Caritas branches (Czchów, Janowice, Kolbuszowa, Krynica and the parish of Missionary Priests in Tarnów) received subsidies of PLN 1,000 each, while the cathedral parish was given PLN 7,000.⁵⁸ In 1943 the Association adopted another principle, assigning a higher total amount for subsidies to a smaller number of parishes. That year 23 parishes received financial support (in total, PLN 42,997) and six parishes received in-kind contributions (PLN 4,601). Cash subsidies usually amounted to PLN 1,000. Sums several times higher were sometimes received by parish branches which carried out a regular charity work or which needed support due to the local conditions (unemployment, high percentage of unemployed and smallholders, low generosity of the local community). The branch of the cathedral parish in Tarnów received PLN 11,801, Krynica PLN 4,000 and Nowy Sącz PLN 3,000 from the headquarters for their various activities.⁵⁹

The analysis of the generosity of the church groups (curia, priests and parishes/believers) indicates that the beginning of the occupation destabilised the generosity towards Caritas. This was visible in all circles of all benefactors. Among the clergymen, this was primarily reflected in fewer donors (dropping from nearly 500 priests to 88) and less regular contributions. Not until 1944 did the group of contributors again reach approx. 480 priests. Priests transferred a total of over PLN 330,000 between 1939 and 1944. The clergymen's support of the Caritas branches, on the other hand, acquired the character of isolated parishes. In some of them the priests' contributions combined with the offerings of the faithful constituted over two thirds, or even three quarters of the total income. Likewise, the peak of generosity in parishes was observed in the last years of the occupation, namely 1943 and 1944. In 1943 donations were transferred in 31% of deaneries,

⁵⁶ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. CarLN, Sprawozdanie z akcji charytatywnej w parafii Biegonice, Biegonice 31.05.1944 r. Substantial direct aid in parishes, even with no Caritas branch, functioned fairly well in the Kielce and Sandomierz dioceses; cf. Gapys, *Działalność charytatywna*, pp. 88–90.

⁵⁷ This phenomenon was not observed outside the Tarnów diocese.

⁵⁸ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, Sprawozdanie Związki Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1942. Wyszczególnienie oddziałów, które otrzymały subwencje z Centrali w Tarnowie.

⁵⁹ ADT, Caritas, file ref. no. Car0 1942, Rachunek działalności Związku Caritas Diecezji Tarnowskiej za rok 1943. Świadczenia bezpośrednie na akcję charytatywną w parafiach.

while in 1944 52% did so; likewise, donations were transferred in 29 (10.2%) and 19 parishes (6.7%), respectively. Through their priests, the faithful contributed PLN 351,445 to Caritas in Tarnów. The generosity of the faithful in the aid of the Caritas branches, inspired by priests, did not amount to a mass movement. It was widespread only in a few parishes, and sometimes those offerings formed the basis of the branch's budget. As a result of the financial policy run by Bishop Komar during the war and the occupation, the Tarnów curia was the largest contributor to the Association (PLN 2,472,000). This made up nearly 60% of all income of the Tarnów Caritas Association during the occupation, and over 78% of all offerings for the associations made by the Church.

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OFIARNOŚĆ DUCHOWIEŃSTWA I SKŁADKI KOŚCIELNE (PARAFIALNE) NA RZECZ ZWIĄZKU CARITAS DIECZJI TARNOWSKIEJ W LATACH 1939–1945

Streszczenie

Po początkowej destabilizacji akcji ofiarności Kościoła w diecezji tarnowskiej (subwencje kurii, osobiste datki księży i ofiary wiernych z parafii) na rzecz Caritas (głównie centrali) od 1942 r. obserwuje się wyraźny wzrost datków na tarnowską Caritas. Najszerze rozmiary przybrała akcja ofiar parafialnych (gotówka, naturalia) na centralę Caritas. W latach 1942–1944 na cele społeczne gotówkę i naturalia przekazywało ok. 30 parafii (ok. 30%), które znajdowały się na terenie 15 dekanatów (52%). Ogółem przekazano 351 445 zł, głównie z parafii w środkowym i zachodnim pasie diecezji tarnowskiej. Ofiarność duchownych z osobistych dochodów (iura stolae) kulminację osiągnęła w 1944 r., kiedy to ponad 480 księży (wobec 88 w 1940 r.) przekazało Caritasowi ponad 320 tys. zł. Wsparcie finansowe i rzeczowe, jak i datki wiernych na rzecz oddziałów parafialnych Caritas nie przybrały charakteru powszechnego, obserwowano raczej odosobnione przypadki na terenie diecezji tarnowskiej. Lokalnie jednak środki te były podstawą budżetu oddziałów, stanowiąc niekiedy nawet $\frac{3}{4}$ jego dochodów. Subwencje kurii tarnowskiej, dzięki polityce finansowej bp Komara, stanowiły najpoważniejszą pozycję w budżecie Caritas. Do 1944 r. kuria przekazała 2 472 000 zł. Było to prawie 60% ogółu przychodów Związku, ponad 78% zaś wszystkich ofiar ze strony Kościoła na stowarzyszenie.

Słowa kluczowe: II wojna światowa; Kościół katolicki; diecezja tarnowska; Caritas