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**SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION OF REV. RAFAŁ KUBIAK
TITLED: „THE REALIZATION OF THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN THE LIFE
OF BLESSED MARIA EUTHYMIA ÜFFING (1914-1955)”**

This dissertation focuses on the figure of Sister Maria Euthymia Üffing, particularly on her exceptional virtues that made her an inspiration for many contemporary doctors and nurses. However, before delving into her life and work, it is worth examining the historical context in which the Catholic Church operated in Germany. Nowadays, the German Church is often judged negatively, but to understand its position, one must look at its difficult history. The monastic diocese in which Sister Maria Euthymia Üffing lived and worked provides significant historical context for our analysis. This diocese witnessed many challenges faced by the Catholic Church in Germany, starting from the influences of Martin Luther's Reformation, through the era of Chancellor Otto von Bismarck, conflicts related to the Kulturkampf, and up to the fascist ideology. The Catholic Church in Germany encountered many difficulties that had a significant impact on its history and character. One of the greatest challenges mentioned was the division caused by Martin Luther's Reformation, which led to a split in German society into followers of different denominations. Religious conflicts between Catholics and Protestants had profound effects on the country's social and political life, as well as on the position of the Catholic Church in society. Another blow to the Church of Christ was the introduction of the Kulturkampf policy by Otto von Bismarck, which meant the fight against the Catholic Church and its influences on social and political life in Germany. These conflicts led to repression against the clergy, the closure of seminaries, and the restriction of church activities.

After the period of secularization in the 19th century and the conflict associated with the Kulturkampf, most monasteries and religious orders were abolished, and their properties were seized by the Prussian authorities. It was only after the dialogue between the Apostolic See and the Prussian government that attempts were made to restore the activities of Catholic

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orders and congregations in the monastic diocese, contributing to the revival of religious life in the region. The period of National Socialism in Germany was a time of severe persecution of the Catholic Church by the Nazi regime. Despite attempts to approach the Church to gain its support, Nazi ideology contradicted the values and teachings of the Church. Negotiations regarding the concordat between the Church and the German Reich led to an agreement in 1933, but did not reduce the persecution of clergy or provide the Church with full autonomy in many areas of activity. Clemens August von Galen, the ordinary bishop of the monastic diocese, clearly opposed Nazism. In his public sermons, he openly condemned euthanasia, abortion, and other actions of Nazi ideology, risking his life in doing so. His determination in defending the Church and Christian values was recognized by Pope Pius XI. The history of the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Clemens in Münster dates back to 1808. It is from this community that the heroine of this dissertation, Sister Euthymia Üffing, originates. It should be noted that the Nazi regime favored the work of religious sisters in hospitals due to their lower maintenance costs compared to other services. Despite the unfavorable political conditions for their service, the Clementine Sisters remained dedicated to their ministry to the sick and needy, despite the difficulties and limitations imposed by the Nazi regime. Their commitment remained steadfast even in the face of political adversity.

The realization of the calling to sanctity in the life of Blessed Maria Euthymia Üffing is undoubtedly inspiring and full of dedication to others, especially the sick and needy. Her example of serving others, limitless love, and care, even in the most difficult conditions, is worthy of emulation. Her attitude towards the sick, prisoners of war, and forced laborers shows the powerful force that love and kindness can be in situations that require the greatest human empathy and compassion. It is also a story of reflection on ethics and morality in healthcare, as well as the role of religion in individual and societal life. Passing on such stories from generation to generation can help shape the ethical and moral sensitivity of future generations of doctors, nurses, and caregivers. It is worth appreciating and nurturing the memory of individuals like Blessed Maria Euthymia Üffing, who through their lives and actions testified to the power of love and goodness in a world full of suffering and injustice.

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