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RELIGIOUS TOURISM IN AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE IN POLAND

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ABSTRACT: The study presents pilgrimage sites located in environmentally valuable areas – the areas subject to two forms of nature protection in Poland, i.e. national parks and natural landscape parks. The purpose of the paper is to present, in quantitative terms, shrines in the protected areas of Poland and to analyse the scale and forms of tourism relating to these sites. The subject of the research includes only shrines of the Roman Catholic Church. A descriptive-analytic method, a dynamic-comparative method, as well as statistical methods were used to present the study results.

Over 70 of more than 830 shrines that operate in Poland nowadays are located in areas of nature protected by legislation. At present, in the area of nine Polish national parks, there are twelve shrines and pilgrimage sites that are frequently visited by pilgrims and tourists traveling for religious or religious and cognitive reasons. Nowadays, in the area of Polish natural landscape parks (with buffer zones), there are more than 60 shrines.

KEY WORDS: national parks, natural landscape parks, pilgrimage, religious tourism, shrine

Introduction

In Poland, areas and objects of high environmental value, subject to the *Nature Conservation Act of 16 April 2004*, occupy 101,76 km² (32.5% of the territory of Poland) (Ochrona środowiska 2016, 2016). On those environmentally valuable areas, there are also objects of significant cultural value that attract visitors engaged in cultural tourism, eco-tourism and religious tourism. Over 70 of more than 830 shrines that operate in Poland nowadays are located in areas of nature protected by legislation (Mróz, 2016).

The study presents pilgrimage sites located in environmentally valuable areas – the areas subject to two forms of nature protection in Poland, i.e. national parks and natural landscape parks. The purpose of the paper is to present, in quantitative terms, shrines in the protected areas of Poland (national parks and natural landscape parks with their buffer zones) and to analyse the scale and forms of tourism relating to these sites. The subject of the research includes only shrines of the Roman Catholic Church (the Catholic Church of the Latin rite). The study has covered sacred objects with the official status of shrine as defined in the provisions of the Canon Law Code and thus having a relevant approval of a local bishop (Kodeks Prawa Kanonicznego, 1982). It includes shrines with a bishop's erecting decree as of 30 June 2016, as well as sites described as shrines in official lists of individual dioceses and documents of local ordinaries.

An overview of literature

Religious tourism in areas of environmental value in Poland has not been a subject of thorough synthetic research so far. The existing studies concern only selected pilgrimage centres located in the area of national parks in Poland (Mróz, 2003; Hodorowicz, Mróz, 2010). This gap in research has encouraged the author of the paper to undertake research related to pilgrimages and religious tourism to pilgrimage sites within areas under either of two forms of nature protection in Poland: national parks and landscape parks.

Research methods

The presented paper is a result of in-house and field studies conducted since 1995. A descriptive-analytic method, a dynamic-comparative method, as well as statistical methods were used to present the study results. In order to determine locations of pilgrimage sites in national parks and natural land-

scape parks, cartographic materials of individual protected areas were used, as well as data presented at www.geoserwis.gdos.gov.pl/mapy, derived from legal instruments concerning forms of nature protection and obtained on the basis of those instruments (www.geoserwis.gdos.gov.pl/mapy).

Results of the research

Religious tourism in national parks

At present, in the area of nine Polish national parks, there are twelve shrines and pilgrimage sites that are frequently visited by pilgrims and tourists traveling for religious or religious and cognitive reasons (table 1). Three objects of this group are located in the Tatra National Park, two shrines operate in the smallest of Polish national parks, and one is situated in each of the following: Bieszczady, Kampinos, Karkonosze, Pieniny, Świętokrzyski, Wielkopolski and Wigry National Parks. Considering the common in literature division of worship centres by type of worship, which distinguishes shrines of Our Lord, Our Lady and saints, it should be noted that currently, in the area of Polish national parks there are five pilgrimage centres associated with the cult of saints and blessed persons (St. Kinga, Blessed Salomea, St. Brother Albert, St. John Paul II and St. Lawrence), 4 Marian shrines and 3 worship centres of the Lord's Passion.

The most famous pilgrimage centre in the area of national parks is the Shrine of the Holy Cross Wood Relics on the Mount of the Holy Cross in the Świętokrzyski National Park. For seven centuries, the shrine has been visited by thousands of pilgrims, and today also by thousands of tourists who want to see and celebrate the reliquary with five fragments of the Holy Cross Wood, which was donated to the Benedictines by Władysław the Short.

The shrine on the Mount of the Holy Cross is a pilgrimage centre of national importance. In recent years, the shrine has been visited by about 270,000 people a year, with the majority of tourist groups (about 70% of the total number) compared to pilgrim groups (Mróz, 2003; www.swietykrzyz.pl). During a year, on the Mount of the Holy Cross, there are registered tourist and pilgrim groups from all provinces and dioceses of the Catholic Church in Poland. Most groups come to the centre from the Mazowieckie Voivodeship (over 20 per cent of all registered groups), the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and the Lubelskie Voivodeship, as well as from the Dioceses of Kielce, Warsaw, Radom, Lublin and Sandomierz (Mróz, 2003; www.swietykrzyz.pl).

Table 1. Shrines and pilgrimage objects in the area of national parks in Poland

No.	Locality	Name of Shrine	National Park Name	Object of Worship	Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church
1.	Góra Zamkowa	Chapel of St. Kinga	Pieniny National Park	Chapel with a statue of St. Kinga	Diocese of Tarnów
2.	Grodzisko near Skala	Shrine of Blessed Salomea	Ojców National Park	Relics of Blessed Salomea	Diocese of Kielce
3.	Secymin-Nowiny on the Vistula River	Shrine of Our Lady of Joy – Lady of Nature	Kampinos National Park (buffer zone)	Picture of Our Lady of Joy – Lady of Nature	Diocese of Warsaw
4.	Smardzowice	Shrine of Our Lady of Smardzowice	Ojców National Park (buffer zone)	Picture of Our Lady of Smardzowice	Diocese of Kielce
5.	Stęszew	Shrine of Our Lady of Stęszew	Wielkopolski National Park (buffer zone)	Statue of Madonna and the Child	Diocese of Poznań
6.	Śnieżka	Chapel of St. Lawrence (Parish of the Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary in Karpacz)	Karkonosze National Park	Statue of St. Lawrence	Diocese of Legnica
7.	Mount of the Holy Cross	Shrine of the Holy Cross Wood Relics	Świętokrzyski National Park	Holy Cross Wood Relics	Diocese of Sandomierz
8.	Tarnica	Cross	Bieszczady National Park	Cross	Diocese of Przemyśl
9.	Wigry	Former Camaldolese Monastery Complex	Wigry National Park	Place of worship of St. John Paul II	Diocese of Elk
10.	Zakopane (Giewont)	Cross on Giewont	Tatra National Park	Cross	Diocese of Kraków
11.	Zakopane-Kalatówki	Shrine of St. Brother Albert	Tatra National Park	Relics of St. Brother Albert	Diocese of Kraków
12.	Zakopane-Wiktorówki	Shrine of Our Lady of Jaworzyna, Queen of the Tatras	Tatra National Park	Statue of Our Lady of Jaworzyna, Queen of the Tatras	Diocese of Kraków

Source: (Mróz, 2016).

More than half of the registered groups in the shrine are school groups, mainly of primary school students. About 20 per cent of visitors come to the shrine in groups organized by parishes and more than 10 per cent – by work establishments and unions of pensioners. The tourist season in the shrine

begins in May and lasts until the end of September. The majority of tourist groups come to the shrine in May and June – about 750 groups in a month; school trips are predominant among them (more than 70 per cent of the total number). During summer holidays, the organized tourist traffic decreases notably but, on the other hand, there is an increase in the number of individual tourists and pilgrims. An increase in the tourist traffic is recorded again in September and October – about 300 groups per month. The main pilgrimage celebrations in the shrine are held in mid-September and are associated with the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church on 14 September. During the week of the church fete, the shrine on the Mount of the Holy Cross is visited by numerous walking pilgrimages from neighbouring towns and dozens of pilgrimage groups (Mróz, 2003). Several thousand people also participate in the feast celebrating the Most Precious Blood of Christ, which is celebrated in the shrine on the first Sunday of July and is combined with the Diocesan Pilgrimage of Marriages and Families to the Mount of the Holy Cross.

The largest group of shrine visitors is gathered by the Świętokrzyski Pilgrimage Rally organized since 2000 as one of the initiatives of the Jubilee Year. The 17th edition of this event (24 September 2016) was attended by 5,033 people from the Dioceses of Sandomierz, Kielce and Radom. Participants of the rally choose one of fifteen routes of varying difficulty, ending on the Mount of the Holy Cross. After coming to the shrine, they admire the relics of the Holy Cross Wood and then participate in a Mass. The Świętokrzyski Pilgrimage Rally is one of the largest tourist and pilgrimage events organized in Poland. The development of this event is best evidenced by a constantly increasing number of its participants, as well as an increasing spatial range of the impact of the rally – the first edition of the rally organized in 2000 was attended by over 1,000 people from the Diocese of Kielce, in 2001 – by more than 1,400 people, including pilgrims from the Diocese of Sandomierz, who joined the group of pilgrims from the Diocese of Kielce, and in 2002 – by more than 1,500 people from the Dioceses of Kielce, Sandomierz and Radom; the 15th anniversary rally was attended by 4,065 people, who wandered along 14 routes (www.rajd.pttkkielce.pl; www.swietykrzyz.pl).

The Tatra National Park is an area subject to the highest form of nature protection in Poland with the largest number of pilgrimage objects and shrines. In the area of the Tatras, there are three pilgrimage centres: the Shrine of Our Lady of Jaworzyna, Queen of the Tatras at Wiktorówki, the Shrine of St. Brother Albert Chmielowski and Blessed Bernardyna Maria Jabłońska at Kalatówki, as well as the Cross on Giewont. It should also be emphasized that a great many pilgrims and religious tourists wander on trails of the Tatra Papal Route and the Route of Tatra Chapels, as well as to the

Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ in Jaszczurówka, the Cross of Wincenty Pol in the Kościeliska Valley, the figure of St. Catherine at the Kraszewski Gate, the Hawiarska Chapel (Chapel of Highland Robbers) and the highest-located object of Marian cult in Poland – the sculpture of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception (Our Lady of Zawrat) located in the wall of Zawratowa Turnia.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Jaworzyna, Queen of the Tatras, is visited by about 250,000 people during a year. They are mainly tourists and pilgrims from the Małopolskie, Śląskie, Mazowieckie, Pomorskie and Wielkopolska Voivodeships (Hodorowicz, Mróz, 2010). The largest number of people come to the shrine between the first days of summer holidays and the end of September. It is worth emphasizing that on fine days of summer holidays, the shrine is visited by up to 8,000 people a day – pilgrims and tourists resting in the Tatras and the Podhale Region. About 5,000 pilgrims and tourists arrive at Wiktorówki for the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve and about 2,000 for the Midnight Mass on New Year's Eve. Each year, in the shrine, there are registered many groups of children who have received the First Communion, groups of scouts of the Liturgical Service of the Altar, rescuers of the Tatra Voluntary Mountain Rescue Service, as well as Tatra guides and highlanders from the region (Hodorowicz, Mróz, 2010).

The second most important pilgrimage centre in the Tatra National Park is the Hermitage and the Shrine of St. Brother Albert Chmielowski at Kalatówki. In 1901, next to the hermitage and chapel of the Holy Cross at Kalatówki, brother Albert Chmielowski built a small chaplain house, where he arranged a small cell for himself. He spent many hours praying and meditating in this hermitage. The hermitage at Kalatówki was also a place of living of Blessed Sister Bernardyna Maria Jabłońska, the Superior General of the Albertine Sisters. The Hermitage at Kalatówki was repeatedly visited by Rev. Karol Wojtyła during his hiking trips in the Tatras. He also went there on 6 June 1997 as Pope John Paul II. According to estimates of the Albertine Sisters caring for the shrine, each year the Hermitage of St. Brother Albert is visited by about 100,000 people. Most visitors are registered in the hermitage in summer months (Hodorowicz, Mróz, 2010).

When presenting religious tourism in the Tatra National Park, it is necessary to draw attention to another object, which has been an important place of worship of the Lord's Passion and has attracted hundreds of thousands of pilgrims and tourists for over 100 years, even though it does not have the official status of shrine. It is a 17-meter-tall cross on the top of Giewont (1894 m above sea level), well-known throughout Poland. The cross was erected in 1901 by residents of Zakopane on the initiative of the then parish priest Kazimierz Kaszelewski. Since 1981, group pilgrimages have been organized

to the Cross on Giewont twice a year, currently participated by 300 to 500 pilgrims. The first pilgrimage organized on the anniversary of the erection of the Cross (August 19) departs from the Church of the Holy Cross in Zakopane. The second one is organized on 14 September on the occasion of the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

In the area of the Bieszczady National Park, in turn, thousands of pilgrims and tourists come to the cross on Tarnica (1346 m above sea level) – the highest peak of the Polish part of the Western Bieszczady. The cross was erected in 1987 by young people of the Centre for Youth Chaplaincy in Jarosław and members of the Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society in Rzeszów to commemorate the expedition of Rev. Karol Wojtyła to Tarnica on 5 August 1953 (www.ps.rzeszow.pttk.pl/old/wspomn/tarnica.htm). The pilgrimage organized every year on Good Friday is of particular significance. Participants of the pilgrimage go to the Cross taking several routes, praying at the subsequent Stations of the Cross on their way. Initially, the service was attended by several dozen people. In recent years, the pilgrimage to Tarnica on Good Friday is participated by over 3,000 people – in 2015, it was 3,440 people and in 2016 – 4,902 people (www.bdpn.pl). These are mainly groups of young people from Rzeszów, Łańcut, Jarosław, Krosno, Sanok, as well as individual pilgrims from other localities of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship, as well as from Lublin and Warsaw.

Since the beginning of its existence, the Chapel of St. Lawrence on Śnieżka (1603 m above sea level) has been an important pilgrimage site in Karkonosze, though it also does not have the official status of a shrine. The chapel was built thanks to the foundation of Count Krzysztof Schoffgotsch in the years 1655-1681, and it was consecrated on 10 August 1681 by Bernard Rosa, the Abbot of the Cistercian Abbey in Krzeszów. In the chapel, Cistercians of the monastery in Cieplice celebrated masses regularly until the dissolution of the Order in 1810. The construction of the chapel resulted in a rapid growth of tourism in Karkonosze. In 1810, the Chapel was converted into a shelter and because of this, it was not destroyed. Thanks to Friedrich Sommer, the last tenant of the shelter, the building was renovated and restored to its religious functions. The chapel was reconsecrated by Cardinal Henryk Forster in 1850. In 1981, on the initiative of Jerzy Pokój – then a member of the Management Board of the Circle of Sudeten Guides, the day of the feast of St. Lawrence, i.e. 10 August, was established (by a resolution of the Management Board of the Circle of Sudeten Guides) the Day of Sudeten Guides to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the consecration of the chapel. Since then, at noon on 10 August each year, a ceremonial Mass is celebrated in the Chapel of St. Lawrence on Śnieżka. It is attended by half thousand people, including Sudeten guides, employees of the Karkonosze National Park, rescuers of the Mountain

Voluntary Rescue Service, officers of the Border Guard and highlanders from Poland, Czech Republic and Germany (www.parafia.karpacz.pl).

On 18 November 2011, Bishop Kazimierz Ryczan, Ordinary of the Diocese of Kielce, announced a decree on the establishment of the Diocesan Shrine of Blessed Salomea in Grodzisko in the Ojców National Park. At present, tourists visit the shrine in Grodzisko, including the Baroque church of Blessed Salomea and the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary (1677-1691), a granite obelisk on the back of an elephant and the Hermitage of Blessed Salomea, with a preserved altar and a stone bed of Blessed Salomea. In recent years, the shrine has been experiencing a renaissance of pilgrimages, primarily as an ideal place to calm down and to contemplate (www.niedziela.pl/artukul/103343/nd/Sanktuarium-bl-Salomei-Piastowny). It should be mentioned that within the buffer zone of the Ojców National Park, there is a shrine in Smardzowice, where a miraculous image of Our Lady of Smardzowice has been venerated since the 17th century.

In the area of the Pieniny National Park, there is a grotto of St. Kinga – the Patroness Saint of Pieniny and the Lady of the Sącz Land. According to tradition, Duchess Kinga with her sister Jolenta and the Poor Clares hid in the grotto in 1287, as they fled from the monastery in Stary Sącz before an invasion of the Tatars. The chapel was carved in rock in 1904. Inside the grotto, there is a statue of St. Kinga made of Pińczów stone by Władysław Druciak from Krościenko. Since 1921, on the initiative of Jan Bączyński (1882-1947), the then parish priest of Krościenko, on the anniversary of the death of St. Kinga (Sunday closest to July 24), the grotto has been visited by a pilgrimage procession from Krościenko, and then a ceremonial Mass has been celebrated in honour of the Patroness of Pieniny. Depending on weather conditions, the ceremony is attended by several dozen to several hundred people. Since 1990, the Chapel of St. Kinga on Góra Zamkowa has been visited by Mountain Pilgrimage from Stary Sącz, following the Trail of St. Kinga on the last weekend of September. The pilgrimage is attended by around 300 people from different parts of Poland. For three days, pilgrims wander on trails of Beskid Sądecki and Pieniny, taking the 80-kilometer route described by Jan Długosz, which was covered by Duchess Kinga along with the Poor Clares fleeing from the convent in Stary Sącz before a Tatar invasion.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Joy – Lady of Nature in Secymin-Nowiny is the only shrine in Poland whose name refers to nature. It is located on the edge of the Kampinos Forest, in the buffer zone of the Kampinos National Park. The main object of cult in the shrine is a miraculous image of Our Lady, which when being crowned by Primate Cardinal Józef Glemp (21 May 2000), received the title of Our Lady of Joy – Lady of Nature. During a year, especially during the summer time, the shrine is visited by many individual pilgrims

vacationing in the Kampinos Forest, as well as pilgrim groups from distant parts of Poland.

Many tourists coming to the Wigry National Park visit the Baroque monastery complex of the Camaldolese in Wigry. Although it does not have the status of shrine, because of its connections to St. John Paul II, it is one of the most important centres of religious tourism in north-eastern Poland. On 8-10 June 1999, Pope John Paul II rested in the former Camaldolese complex during his 7th apostolic journey to Poland. The Pope stayed in two simply-furnished rooms overlooking the Wigry Lake, in the former Chancellor House. In the chapel adjacent to his apartment, the Pope celebrated a Mass in the morning on June 9, and then a June Prayer Meeting in the church in Wigry. The stay of St. John Paul II in the former Camaldolese complex in Wigry resulted in great interest in this centre among tourists from Poland and abroad. Pilgrims and tourists visiting the centre mainly come to the Museum of St. John Paul II made in the papal apartments, the Church of Immaculate Conception, Camaldolese catacombs in the basement of the temple and an exhibition entitled "Karol Wojtyła on a Tourist Route", as well as a viewing tower. Most pilgrims register in the centre during the feast of the Assumption (Mróz, 2003).

Another facility worth mentioning is the Church of St. John of Nepomuk on "the island" in Zwierzyniec – most visited object of culture in the Roztocze National Park and most frequently photographed religious building of the Central Roztocze.

In the buffer zone of the Wielkopolski National Park, there is the Shrine of Our Lady of Stęszew in Stęszew. In this centre, the cult of the Gothic statue of Mother of God with Baby Jesus has been developing since the 17th century. In the second half of the 17th century, more than 200 votive offerings were recorded in the shrine, including one from King Jan Kazimierz. This cult has survived until today, and during church fetes connected with Marian feasts (including the Assumption and Immaculate Conception), the faithful come to the shrine in great numbers (Zaleski, 1988).

The provided presentation of pilgrimage centres in areas of national parks would be incomplete without mentioning a former pilgrimage site, i.e. the Rowokół Holy Mountain near Smołdzino at Gardno Lake in the Słowiński National Park. The Rowokół Mountain used to be one of three sacred hills of Pomerania, along with the Holy Mountain in Polanów and the Chełmska Mountain.

Shrines and pilgrimage sites in the area of natural landscape parks in Poland

Nowadays, in the area of Polish natural landscape parks (with buffer zones), there are more than 60 shrines of the Roman Catholic Church. Among them, the largest group includes Marian shrines (41 centres) (tables 2 and 3). There are 9 shrines of saints and blessed figures, 8 shrines of Our Lord and 2 shrines (Czerna and Sobótka) devoted to the veneration of Mary and saints; one centre is a shrine of Christ's Passion and Our Lady of Calvary (Kalwaria Pałacowska), and a shrine on St. Anne's Mountain combines the cult of St. Anne with the veneration of Mary and Christ's Passion. Essentially, pilgrimage centres are present in the area of 45 natural landscape parks (36.8 per cent of the total number). Most shrines operate within the Eagles' Nests Landscape Park (Jaroszowiec, Podzamcze, Zawiercie-Skarżyce, Zarki-Leśniów and Mstów), Kraków Valleys Landscape Park (Czerna, Paczółtowice, Płoki and Przegonia), Nida Landscape Park (Nowy Korczyn, Pińczów, Wiślica) and Poprad Landscape Park (Krynica Zdrój, Stary Sącz and Tylicz) (tables 2 and 3). A high density of the analysed pilgrimage centres is especially noticeable in natural landscape parks of the Polish Carpathians (14 shrines) and the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland (11). There are three shrines within natural landscape parks of each of the following regions: Roztocze, the Lublin Upland and the Małopolska Upland (figure 1).

In the group of shrines located in the area of natural landscape parks, only the shrine on St. Anne's Mountain has – according to the requirements of the *Code of Canon Law*¹ – the status of an international shrine, confirmed with a relevant decree by the Congregation for the Clergy (Decree of 26 August 2015) (Mróz, 2016; www.swanna.com.pl). The shrine on St. Anne's Mountain is the main pilgrimage site of Opole Silesia. In recent years, it has been visited by about 500,000 per year.

Considering the adopted in literature division of pilgrimage centres in terms of the range of influence of a shrine, the number of pilgrims and pastoral activities, other shrines within natural landscape parks (with buffer zones) have been classified to one of the three groups: shrines of the supra-diocesan (supra-regional) rank, shrines of the diocesan rank and shrines of the local rank (Jackowski A., Sołjan I., Bilska-Wodecka E., 1999).

¹ The *Code of Canon Law* distinguishes three categories of shrines in terms of the territorial range of pastoral influence of a shrine and the practice of the faithful going on pilgrimages to the shrine: international, national and diocesan shrines (*Code of Canon Law*). "For a shrine to be called a national shrine, the conference of bishops must give its approval; for it to be called an international shrine, the approval of the Holy See is required." Diocesan shrines, in turn, are subordinate to a local ordinary. See: *Code of Canon Law*, op. cit., canon 1231–1232.

Table 2. Shrines in natural landscape parks in Poland

No.	Locality	Name of Shrine	Landscape Park Name	Object of Worship	Diocese
1.	Alwernia	Shrine of Christ the Merciful	Rudno Landscape Park	Image of Christ the Merciful Ecce Homo	Diocese of Kraków
2.	Chełmno	Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows	Chełmno Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Sorrows	Diocese of Toruń
3.	Bruśnik	Shrine of Blessed Virgin Mary Assumed into Heaven	Ciężkowice-Rożnów Landscape Park	Image of Madonna and the Child	Diocese of Tarnów
4.	Ciężkowice	Shrine of Christ the Merciful	Ciężkowice-Rożnów Landscape Park	Image of Christ the Merciful, Ecce Homo	Diocese of Tarnów
5.	Czerna	Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Caramel and St. Rafał Kalinowski	Kraków Valleys Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Mount Caramel and relics of St. Rafał Kalinowski	Diocese of Kraków
6.	Dąbrówka Kościelna	Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation – Our Lady of Dąbrówka	Puszcza Zielonka Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Dąbrówka	Diocese of Gniezno
7.	Gdańsk-Matemblewo	Shrine of Our Lady Pregnant with Jesus	Tricity Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Pregnant with Jesus	Diocese of Gdańsk
8.	Igliczna Mountain	Shrine of Our Lady Cause of Our Joy – Our Lady of the Snows	Śnieżnik Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Cause of Our Joy – Our Lady of the Snows	Diocese of Świdnica
9.	St. Anne's Mountain	Shrine of St. Anne	Landscape Park "St. Anne's Mountain"	Statue of St. Anne and Calvary	Diocese of Opole
10.	Ridge of John Paul II	Mountain Shrine on the John Paul II's Ridge	Little Beskids Landscape Park	Place of worship of St. John Paul II	Diocese of Bielsko-Żywiec
11.	Jaroszowiec	Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians	Eagles' Nests Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Help of Christians	Diocese of Sosnowiec
12.	Jaślika	Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Earth	Jaślika Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady Queen of Heaven and Earth	Diocese of Przemyśl
13.	Kalwaria Pałacowska	Shrine of Christ's Passion and Our Lady of Calvary	Pogórze Przemyskie Landscape Park	Calvary complex and image of Our Lady of Calvary	Diocese of Przemyśl
14.	Kazimierz Dolny	Shrine of Our Lady of Kazimierz	Kazimierz Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Kazimierz	Diocese of Lublin
15.	Kijany	Shrine of Our Lady of Kijany	Wieprz Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Kijany	Diocese of Lublin
16.	Krasnobród	Our Lady of Krasnobród, Dispensatrix of Graces – Comforter of the Zamość Region	Krasnobród Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Krasnobród	Diocese of Zamość-Lubaczów
17.	Krynica-Zdrój	Forest Shrine of Our Lady of Grace – Queen of Krynica Springs	Poprad Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady of Grace	Diocese of Tarnów
18.	Lipnica Murowana	Shrine of St. Szymon of Lipnica	Wiśnicz-Lipnica Landscape Park	Relics of St. Szymon of Lipnica, St. Ursula and Bl. Teresa Ledóchowska	Diocese of Tarnów

No.	Locality	Name of Shrine	Landscape Park Name	Object of Worship	Diocese
19.	Łączki Jagiel- łońskie	Shrine of the Mother to the Church	Czarnorzeki-Strzyżów Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Łączki	Diocese of Rzeszów
20.	Mstów	Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy of Mstów	Eagles' Nests Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Mercy of Mstów	Diocese of Częstochowa
21.	Paczółtowice	Our Lady of Paczółtowice	Kraków Valleys Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Paczółtowice	Diocese of Kraków
22.	Pińczów	Shrine of Our Lady of Mirów	Nida Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Mirów	Diocese of Kielce
23.	Piotrawin	Shrine of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr	Wrzelowiec Landscape Park	Image and relics of St. Stanis- laus, Bishop and Martyr	Diocese of Lublin
24.	Podzamcze	Shrine of Our Lady of the Rocks	Eagles' Nests Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of the Rocks	Diocese of Sosnowiec
25.	Pratulin	Shrine of Bl. Wincenty Lewo- niuk and the Pratulin Martyrs	Podlasie Bug Gorge Landscape Park	Relics of the Blessed Pratulin Martyrs	Diocese of Siedlce
26.	Prudnik-Las	Shrine of St. Joseph	Opawskie Mountains Landscape Park	Image of St. Joseph	Diocese of Opole
27.	Przyłęków	Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians	Żywiec Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Help of Christians	Diocese of Bielsko- Żywiec
28.	Radecznicza	Shrine of St. Anthony	Szczebrzeszyn Landscape Park	Place of revelations and image of St. Anthony	Diocese of Zamość -Lubaczów
29.	Rudy	Shrine of Our Lady of Rudy – Our Lady of Humility	Rudy Landscape Park	Image of Madonna and the Child	Diocese of Gliwice
30.	Rogalinek	Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians	Rogalin Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady Help of Christians	Diocese of Poznań
31.	Sośnica	Shrine of the Elevation of the Holy Cross	Bystrzyca Valley Landscape Park	Chapel of the Holy Stairs	Diocese of Wrocław
32.	Sulistrowiczki	Shrine of Our Lady of Good Counsel of Ślęza	Ślęza Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Good Counsel	Diocese of Wrocław
33.	Sobótka	Diocesan Shrine of Blessed Virgin Mary "Our Lady of the New Evangelization" and of St. Anne	Ślęza Landscape Park	Image of Blessed Virgin Mary "Our Lady of the New Evangeli- zation" and statue of St. Anne	Diocese of Wrocław
34.	Serpelice	Shrine of Christ's Passion	Podlasie Bug Gorge Landscape Park	Calvary and Cross with a statue of Our Lord, Jesus Christ	Diocese of Drohiczyn
35.	Sianowo	Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Kashubia – Our Lady of Sianowo	Kashubia Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Queen of Kashubia	Diocese of Pelplin
36.	Siekierki	Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Peace of the Odra Region	Cedynia Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady Queen of Peace of the Odra Region	Diocese of Szczecin- Kamień
37.	Skoszewy Stare	Shrine of Our Lady of Skoszewy	Łódź Hills Landscape Park	Image of the Madonna and Child	Diocese of Łódź

No.	Locality	Name of Shrine	Landscape Park Name	Object of Worship	Diocese
38.	Surhów	Shrine of Our Lady of Surhów, Mediatrix of Graces and of St. Luke	Skierbieszów Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Surhów, Mediatrix of Graces and of St. Luke	Diocese of Lublin
39.	Swarzewo	Shrine of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary – Queen of the Polish Sea	Coastal Landscape Park	Statue of Mary, Queen of the Polish Sea	Diocese of Gdańsk
40.	Szczyrk	Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Poland	Silesian Beskids Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady Queen of Poland	Diocese of Bielsko-Żywiec
41.	Tenczynek	Shrine of Transfiguration	Tenczyn Landscape Park	Image of Transfiguration	Diocese of Kraków
42.	Topolno	Shrine of Our Lady Health of the Sick	Vistula Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Częstochowa	Diocese of Pelplin
43.	Wejherowo	Wejherowo Calvary	Tricity Landscape Park	Wejherowo Calvary (Kashubian Calvary)	Diocese of Gdańsk
44.	Wieleń Nado-brzański	Shrine of Our Lady Refuge of Sinners	Przemęt Landscape Park	Statue of the Madonna and Child	Diocese of Poznań
45.	Wiślica	Shrine of the Madonna of Władysław the Short	Nida Landscape Park	Statue of the Madonna of Władysław the Short	Diocese of Kielce
46.	Zamarte	Shrine of Our Lady of Carmel	Krajna Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Carmel	Diocese of Pelplin
47.	Zawiercie-Skarżyce	Shrine of Blessed Virgin Mary of Skarżyce	Eagles' Nests Landscape Park	Image of Blessed Virgin Mary of Skarżyce	Diocese of Częstochowa
48.	Żarki – Leśniów	Shrine of Our Lady of Leśniów – Patroness Saint of Families	Eagles' Nests Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady Queen of Families	Diocese of Częstochowa

Source: (Mróz, 2016).

Eleven shrines belong to the group of shrines of the supra-diocesan rank (Czerna, Krasnobród, Kalwaria Pałacowska, Pratulín, Radechnica, Sianowo, Stary Sącz, Swarzewo, Szczyrk, Wejherowo and Żarki-Leśniów). These are pilgrimage sites with the influence range exceeding the boundaries of the parent diocese, as well as the main pilgrimage sites of a given region (Mróz, 2016).

The most numerous group among the analysed sites includes shrines of the diocesan rank – i.e. pilgrimage centres with their range limited to the parent diocese and with almost all pilgrims coming from a distance of up to 100 km, implementing diocesan pastoral programmes (Mróz, 2016). Among the analysed centres, this rank is held by shrines in Alwernia, Chełmno, Ciężkowice, on the Igliczna Mountain and the Ridge of John Paul II, in Gdańsk-Matemblewo, Górecko Kościelne, Janów Lubelski, Kazimierz Dolny, Krynica-Zdrój, Lipnica Murowana, Piotrawin, Podzamcze, Prudnik, Rudy,

Table 3. Shrines located in buffer zones of natural landscape parks in Poland

No.	Locality	Name of Shrine	Landscape Park Buffer Zone	Object of Worship	Diocese
1.	Frysztak	Shrine of the Holy Cross	Czarnorzeki- Strzyżów Landscape Park	Crucifix of the mid-17th century	Diocese of Rzeszów
2.	Górecko Kościelne	Shrine of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr	Puszcza Solska Landscape Park	Image and relics of St. Stanis- laus, Bishop and Martyr	Diocese of Zamość -Lubaczów
3.	Inwałd	Shrine of Our Lady of Inwałd	Little Beskids Landscape Park	Image of Madonna and the Child	Diocese of Bielsko- Żywiec
4.	Janów Lubelski	Shrine of Our Lady of Grace – Our Lady of the Rosary	Janów Forests Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Grace	Diocese of Sandomierz
5.	Ostrów Lubelski	Shrine of Our Lady of Ostrów	Łęczna Lake District Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Ostrów	Diocese of Siedlce
6.	Owińska	Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima	Puszcza Zielonka Landscape Park	Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima	Diocese of Poznań
7.	Płoki	Shrine of the Patroness of Polish Workers' Families	Kraków Valleys Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady Patroness of Polish Workers' Families	Diocese of Kraków
8.	Przeginia	Shrine of the Holy Saviour	Kraków Valleys Landscape Park	Image of the Suffering Christ	Diocese of Sosnowiec
9.	Stary Sącz	Shrine of St. Kinga of Poland	Poprad Landscape Park	Sarcophagus with relics of St. Kinga of Poland	Diocese of Tarnów
10.	Stuzianna	Shrine of Our Lady of the Holy Family	Spała Landscape Park	Image of the Holy Family of Nazareth	Diocese of Radom
11.	Święta Woda (Wasilków)	Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows	Knyszyn Forest Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Sorrows	Diocese of Białystok
12.	Tylicz	Shrine of Our Lady of Tylicz – Protectress of Families and Health of the Sick	Poprad Landscape Park	Image of Our Lady of Tylicz	Diocese of Tarnów
13.	Wąwolnica	Shrine of Our Lady of Kębło	Kazimierz Landscape Park	Statue of Our Lady of Kębło	Diocese of Lublin
14.	Wolica-Tokarnia	Diocesan Shrine of St. Maximil- ian Maria Kolbe	Chęciny-Kielce Landscape Park	Statue and relics of St. Maximil- ian Maria Kolbe	Diocese of Kielce

Source: (Mróz, 2016).

Sobótka, Serpelice, Sośnica, Sulistrawiczki, Studzianna, Święta Woda, Tylicz, Wąwolnica, Wieleń Nadobrzański, Wiślica and Zawiercie-Skarżyce.

Twenty-four centres have been assigned to the group of shrines with the local rank. These are shrines in Bruśnik, Dąbrówka Kościelna, Frysztak, Inwałd, Jaroszewiec, Jaśliska, Kijany, Łączki Jagiellońskie, Mstów, Ostrów Lubelski, Owińska, Paczółtowice, Pińczów, Płoki, Przeginia, Przyłęków, Roga-



Figure 1. Shrines of the Roman Catholic Church in the area of natural landscape parks in Poland

Source: (Mróz, 2016).

linek, Siekierki, Koszewy Stare, Surhów, Tenczynek, Topolin, Wolica-Tokarnia and Zamarte. The territorial range of influence of these centres generally does not exceed the boundaries of a deanery, and the vast majority of pilgrims coming to these centres from a distance of 10-15 km (Mróz, 2016).

Conclusions

Among many changes occurring in the world of tourism in our times, the growing popularity of religious tourism, nature tourism and eco-tourism becomes noticeable. Along with increased environmental awareness of societies, there is also a boost in health awareness – concern for both physical and mental health, as well as well-being. More and more often, in their spare time, residents of congested and polluted towns and cities search for a change in their surroundings, calmness, contact with nature and active recreation.

Among destinations of this group of tourists, particular importance is attached to areas of legally protected nature. In Poland, within this type of areas, there are currently over 70 pilgrimage centres. The most important of them include the Shrine on the Mount of the Holy Cross, the Shrine of St. Anne on St. Anne's Mountain, as well as the Shrine of Our Lady of Jaworzyna, Queen of the Tatras at Wiktorówki, the Shrine of St. Brother Albert at Kalatówki and the Crosses on Giewont and Tarnica. During the tourist season, these centres are visited by dozens of pilgrim and tourist groups, as well as thousands of tourists who rest in a given region. The rank of these pilgrimage centres will probably increase in the next few years because travels with religious and cognitive motifs to areas of high landscape values will enjoy growing popularity.

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