



Study programme: **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY**

Study field: **6171S00 Theology**

Degree of university education: **joined 1st and 2nd degree**

Form of study: **full-time, part-time**

Duration of study: **5 years**

Academic degree: **Mgr.**

The study programme ORTHODOX THEOLOGY is focused on:

- biblical exegesis,
- theological synthesis,
- the study of the Greek originals of patristic literature,
- Byzantology,
- the study of Greek language and culture,
- the deepening and development of practical theology,
- basic research on the history of the Orthodox Church in Slovakia,
- the functioning of Church Slavonic in the Carpathian region,
- inter-confessional relations in Slovakia,
- current issues of charitable and social services.

The study programme ORTHODOX THEOLOGY consists of compulsory subjects: *Introduction to Liturgy / Introduction to the Old Testament / Church History I.-III. / History of the Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia / Church Slavonic Language I.-V. / Summary Seminary Practice I.-IX. / History of Liturgies / Exegesis of the Old Testament / Gnosiology / Pastoral Theology I.-III., Liturgy I.-II. / Triadology / Introduction and History of the New Testament / Patrology, Christology / Exegesis of the Synoptic Gospels / Holy Mysteries / Ecclesiastical Writers I.-II. / Ecclesiology, Exegesis of the General Epistles and the Apocalypse / Homiletics I.-III. / Catechetics I.-II. / Sacred Acts of Worship / Christian Anthropology / Exegesis of the Gospel according to John / Canon Law I.-II. / Projecting in charitable and humanitarian fields / Exegesis of the Acts of the Apostles and Paul's letters / Orthodox spiritual life / History of local Churches / Byzantology / Christian ethics / Confessing / Missiology / Bioethics / Constitution of the Orthodox Church in the Czech lands and in Slovakia and obligatory electives: *General and developmental psychology / Basics of philosophy / Introduction to biblical archaeology / Church folk singing I.-V. / General Pedagogy / Liturgical Year / History of Religions / Practical Iconography I.-II. / Typikon I.-II. / Social psychology and social-psychological training / Psychology and pathopsychology of personality / Theory of education / New Greek language I.-IV. / Biblical Greek Language I.-II. / Orthodoxy and spiritual health / Eortology I.-II. / Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts / General Didactics / Comparative Theology I.-II. / Byzantine Culture and Literature / Gregory of Nazianzus and his times / Theology of the Orthodox Icon / Applied Social Work / Byzantine Philosophy and Art / Mass Communication / Social Psychological Training / Social Counseling / Sociology / Sectology / Liturgical Practice / Basics of Psychotherapy.* It also includes voluntary courses within the university; for the faculty these are: *Choral Singing I.-IV.**

The 1st and 2nd level of the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** is joined because of the requirement of the Orthodox Church in the Czech lands and Slovakia, which results from the specifics of the faculty, which are enshrined in the University Act. A graduate can become a priest only with a complete university education.

The general characteristics of the profile of the graduate of the study program **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** are the ability to perform independently demanding spiritual, catechizing, recatechizing, counseling, organizational, social and missionary ministry in the Orthodox Church. In this way, he transfers his theoretical and practical knowledge into practical ecclesiastical and social life.

In the practical life of the Church, it meets the spiritual needs of the faithful in the liturgical, sacramental and prayer life, in the pastoral care of the faithful, with special attention to children and youth. It is also competent to conduct outreach activities among all sectors of the population, not only within the Church but also outside it.

As a priest, he is also active in the school sector and cooperates in the educational and teaching process in coordination with the management of the various primary and secondary schools. He also works closely with the religious education teachers - catechists at primary and secondary schools in the respective religious communities.

In line with current social trends, the priest also becomes a coordinator of social and charitable care for disabled citizens in their place of work, so as a qualified worker he is involved in various projects.

Many clergy also pursue doctoral studies, and they are prepared for more demanding scientific work in collaboration with faculty or foreign theological schools.

The scope of acquired knowledge of the graduate of the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** consists of the basic knowledge at the level of synthesis and evaluation in the field of:

- theological, which is the prerequisite and basis for their future work,
- historical, which helps them to orient themselves correctly in the national and confessional history of our environment,
- cultural and social, which requires a correct approach to people of all classes and social status, in a correct understanding of social contexts, personality development, quality of life, and they also have a good knowledge of the systemic processes of education and their quality and effectiveness,
- social, which is particularly relevant in the current context (unemployed, homeless, handicapped, etc.)

By studying, the graduate acquires practical and methodological knowledge in a key area of the field, which serves as a basis for practice, research or artistic creation. Professional and methodological knowledge in several areas of the discipline or practice, serving as a basis for innovation and originality in practice, research or artistic endeavour.

A graduate knows:

1. to propose solutions to methodological, professional, artistic or practical problems;
2. to modify general and professional knowledge in solving specific professional problems;
3. to propose and evaluate solutions to methodological, professional, artistic, practical, or scientific problems in multiple disciplines or practice areas;
4. to formulate recommendations for the advancement of a given scientific, professional, or artistic field;
5. to establish scientific or practical assumptions for solving problems.

In the area of practical skills, the graduate can:

1. to implement solutions to methodological, professional, artistic or practical problems;
2. to use methods, tools, instruments and materials creatively;
3. to implement and evaluate solutions to methodological, professional, artistic, practical, or scientific problems in multiple areas of the discipline or practice;
4. to create guidelines, projects, implementations, and evaluation procedures for activities in the discipline.

The graduate's skills are also aided by the completion of a special kind of liturgical practice related to the future exercise of the priestly vocation. The graduate is able to actively participate in the preparation and fundraising of pro-social and charitable projects within the framework of his/her activity in the ecclesial communities. All of the above acquired knowledge, skills and abilities fully correspond to the profile of the graduate of the study programme in question.

Additional knowledge, skills and abilities of the graduate of the study program **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** consist in the completion of a special kind of liturgical practice related to their future exercise of the priestly vocation. They have the opportunity to complete the pedagogical minimum within the university, which qualifies them to act professionally as teachers of religious education in primary and secondary schools. The PC competency they have acquired helps them to increase their skill level, especially for organisational, administrative and project work, as churches have been asked to have clergy actively involved in the preparation of social and charitable projects in the context of the new social conditions and needs.

Graduates of the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** will be employed as:

- parish priest, religious priest (clergyman, monk in the rank of priest or deacon (2636006) of the Orthodox Church, catechist, outreach worker,
- chaplain, assisting clergyman (2636009),

- spiritual administrator, administrator, parish administrator (2636005) - archdeacon, dean, administrator of an ecclesiastical community,
- supreme representative of the Church (2636002) - metropolitan, archbishop, bishop,
- manager in an ecclesiastical organisation (2636003) - protosynkel (director of the episcopal office),
- clerical member of the Church's headquarters (2636004) - synkel (secretaries of metropolitan and eparchial offices)
- in areas where a creative approach and skills in organisational, educational and research work are required,
- coordinators of social and charitable care for handicapped citizens,
- in various state offices and institutions, local authorities at home and abroad,
- in the Slovak Armed Forces as military clergymen.

(Qualification requirements to perform the above activity are subject to the requirements of the internal regulations of the Orthodox Church: <https://orthodox.sk/pravoslavna-cirkev/ustava/> https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/prilohy/SK/ZZ/2020/449/20210101_5289809-2.pdf; Graduates meet the qualifications to serve in the officer corps for the military specialty of military chaplaincy: <https://www.epi.en/zz/2019-443#p3>; Clergyman performing spiritual ministry in the university pastoral centre: <https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2004/395/20040713> Article 5, paragraph 3; Graduates meet the qualification prerequisite for the performance of the activity of a teacher of religion within the meaning of Section 11-13 of Act No. 138/2019 Coll. on pedagogical employees and professional employees and on amendment and supplementation of certain acts: <https://www.minedu.sk/data/att/18688.pdf>. The fulfilment of the qualification prerequisites for the performance of the pedagogical activity of a teacher of religion and religious education is explained in the opinion of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic: https://www.minedu.sk/data/files/6522_kvalif_predpoklady.pdf).

The graduate of the **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** study program has the required knowledge of key areas of theological knowledge, understands the essential connections between the various components of theological education, knows the spiritual and social context of the environment in which he/she will be working, and can navigate key personal, social, family, spiritual, and societal issues. Knows how to use information technology in practical and professional activities. Is able to work cooperatively with workers in related professions. Creatively applies principles and practices associated with planning, organizing and evaluating spiritual, educational and social care. The graduate's level of knowledge is enhanced by the skills of scientific research in the theological, historical, social and cultural fields, and he/she has the prerequisites for the performance of demanding management functions at all levels of ecclesiastical work, as well as pedagogical and scientific work at the faculty and outside it.