
**Sacrament
and the English
Catholic Novel**

Dissertationes Laudatissimae
Universitas Gedanensis

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**Sacrament
and the English
Catholic Novel**

Gdańsk University Press

Gdańsk 2021

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Typesetting and page layout

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This book belongs to the University of Gdańsk's outstanding doctoral theses series.

The publication was financed by the Vice-Rector for Research
of the University of Gdańsk and the Institute of English and American Studies
of the Faculty of Languages, University of Gdańsk

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Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego

ISBN 978-83-8206-331-8

Gdańsk University Press
ul. Armii Krajowej 119/121, 81-824 Sopot
tel. +48 58 523 11 37, +48 725 991 206
e-mail: wydawnictwo@ug.edu.pl
wydawnictwo.ug.edu.pl

Online bookstore: wydawnictwo.ug.edu.pl/sklep

Printed and bound by

Zakład Poligrafii Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego
ul. Armii Krajowej 119/121, 81-824 Sopot
tel. +48 58 523 14 49

Christian art ... is difficult, doubly difficult – difficulty squared, because it is difficult to be an artist and very difficult to be a Christian, and because the whole difficulty is not merely the sum but the product of these two difficulties multiplied by one another, for it is a question of reconciling two absolutes.

Jacques Maritain, “Christian Art”

When fiction is made according to its nature, it should reinforce our sense of the supernatural by grounding it in concrete observable reality. ... If the Catholic writer hopes to reveal mysteries, he will have to do it by describing truthfully what he sees from where he is.

Flannery O’Connor, “The Church and the Fiction Writer”

The label of a Catholic poet would undoubtedly be too narrow. The matter of who someone is in life, as a person, is something slightly different than the matter of calling someone a “Catholic” or “atheist” poet. (translation – A. S.)

Czesław Miłosz, *Rozmowy polskie*

Table of Contents

Introduction	9
Chapter 1	
Towards a Catholic Literature	13
1.1. Religion and Literature	13
1.2. Catholicism and English Literature up to 1960	33
1.3. Selected Writers Important to the Discussion of the English Catholic Novel	37
Chapter 2	
The Sacraments of Christian Initiation	55
2.1. The Sacrament of Baptism	55
2.2. The Sacrament of Confirmation	71
2.3. The Sacrament of the Eucharist	88
Chapter 3	
The Sacraments of Healing	103
3.1. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation	103
3.2. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick	124
Chapter 4	
The Sacraments at the Service of Communion	139
4.1. The Sacrament of Holy Orders	139
4.2. The Sacrament of Matrimony	160
Conclusions	187
Bibliography	193
Index	201