The aim of this article is the presentation of the figure of St. John the Apostle in the writings like *Legenda aurea* by J. de Voragine, *Żywoty Świętych Pańskich* by P. Skarga SJ, *Postylla katolicka*, *Postylla mniejsza* by J. Wujek SJ as well as *Arka Testamentu* by S. Starowolski in order to follow the perception of this person in the Polish post-Tridentinum spirituality. The aspect of invention appears the diversity of strategies in using of the data taken from the various sources. The analysis focused on the miracles and the life of virtues points out the increasing role of moral attributes at the cost of supernatural deeds typical of the Counter-Reformation model. Outstanding motive of placing St. John’s head on Jesus’ breast has its deep mystical interpretation made by Starowolski.