

# The Catholic Church in the Czech Republic







Dear readers,

With these pages, you get an overview of the most important figures, data, and information that reflect the life of the Catholic Church in our country. Some of these numbers are pleasant to read, others may challenge us as a community of believers to be more authentic to our mission. However, we know that our lives are not made up of numbers or figures alone, even if they are the most accurate, but rather are made up of relationships. Cardinal Tomáš Špidlík used to say that “Eternity is made up of relationships that never end.”

It is our human nature to analyze things, to compare, to judge, simply to be critical. But at the same time, we learn to trust others and be more than a skeptic who destroys relationships. We will more easily adopt this attitude if we realize that every one of these figures and numbers represents a particular life of one of the brothers and sisters who, in the words of the Apostle Paul, “know whom they have believed.”

We are “pilgrims of hope,” as the Jubilee Holy Year 2025 reminds us. Why? Because we know where we are going and who our only true hope is – Jesus of Nazareth, the Victor over All Evil and the Lord of History. His invitation to live with him is what we, the wandering people of God, want to share with all to whom he sends us.

I bless each of you from the bottom of my heart.

Yours

**+ Josef Nuzík**

Archbishop of Olomouc and Metropolitan of Moravia  
President of the Czech Bishops' Conference

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# The Catholic Church Worldwide





## The Pope

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### Leo XIV

(Robert Francis Prevost)

The Pope, Bishop of Rome and successor of St. Peter, is “the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity both of the bishops and of the whole company of the faithful,” as the Catechism says. “The Roman Pontiff, by reason of his office as Vicar of Christ, and as pastor of the entire Church, has full, supreme, and universal power over the whole Church, a power which he can always exercise unhindered.” At the same time, the Pope is the head of Vatican City.

The 267th pope is Leo XIV, born Robert Francis Prevost. He was elected on May 8, 2025, becoming the second American to hold the papal office. A native of Chicago (b. September 14, 1955), he entered the Order of St. Augustine, studied in Rome, and served as a missionary in Peru. He later led his religious order, served as a bishop, and was Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops.

The episcopal motto of Pope Leo XIV:

***“In Illo uno unum”***

*(In the One [Christ], we are one)*





## Papal Visits to Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic:

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### John Paul II

21 – 22 April	1990	Prague, Velehrad, Bratislava
20 – 22 May	1995	Prague, Olomouc
25 – 27 April	1997	Prague, Hradec Králové

### Benedict XVI

26 – 28 September	2009	Prague, Brno, Stará Boleslav
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## Roman Curia

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In his leadership of the Catholic Church, the Pope utilizes the departments of the Roman Curia which, therefore, perform their duties in his name and with his authority.

All the offices have a profile at the website [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va).

## Structure of the Roman Curia

### State Secretariat

- > **Secretary of State**

### Dicasteries

- > **Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith**
- > **Dicastery for the Oriental Churches**
- > **Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments**
- > **Dicastery for the Causes of Saints**
- > **Dicastery for Evangelization**
- > **Dicastery for the Clergy**



- > **Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life**
- > **Dicastery for Bishops**
- > **Dicastery for Communication**
- > **Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life**
- > **Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development**
- > **Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity**
- > **Dicastery for Legislative Texts**
- > **Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue**
- > **Dicastery for Culture and Education**
- > **Dicastery for the Service of Charity**

### **Institutions of Justice**

- > **Apostolic Penitentiary**
- > **Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura**
- > **The Roman Rota**

### **Institutions of Finance**

- > **Council for the Economy**
- > **Secretariat for Economy**
- > **Office of the Auditor General**

## Pontifical Commissions

- > **Pontifical Commission for Latin America**
- > **Pontifical Biblical Commission**
- > **Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors**
- > **Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archaeology**
- > **Interdicasterial Commission for the Catechism of the Catholic Church**
- > **International Theological Commission**

## Offices

- > **Prefecture of the Papal Household**
- > **Office for the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff**
- > **Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church**

Actual members  
of the Roman Curia  
is available at:  
**vatican.va**





## **Pontifical Academies**

- > **Pontifical Academy for Life**
- > **Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences**
- > **Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy**
- > **Pontifical Academy of Sciences**
- > **Pontifical Academy of St Thomas Aquinas**
- > **Pontifical Academy of Theology**
- > **Pontifical International Marian Academy**
- > **Pontifical Academy of Fine Arts and Letters of the Virtuosi al Pantheon**
- > **Pontifical Roman Academy of Archaeology**
- > **Pontifical Academy Culturom Martyrum**
- > **Pontifical Academy for Latin**

## **Other Institutions Connected with the Holy See**

- > **Vatican Apostolic Archive**
- > **Vatican Apostolic Library**
- > **Fabric of Saint Peter**
- > **Agency of the Holy See for the Evaluation and Promotion of Quality in Ecclesiastical Universities and Faculties**
- > **Financial Information Authority**

The Roman Curia also includes the Swiss Guard, the Labour Office of the Apostolic See, the Governorate of Vatican City State, pontifical committees, and other connected institutions.



# Statistics of the Catholic Church in the World

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The Catholic Church is growing all the time. Besides its spiritual activities, it is also involved in the education of millions of young people and aid for people in need all over the world.

## People

From the data compiled by the *Annuarium Statisticum Ecclesiae*, the statistical yearbook of the Church, as of 31 December 2022, it is clear that there are 1 billion and 375 million Catholics in the world, i.e. 17.7% of the world's population.

The number of Catholics per 100 inhabitants by continent is (2022):

America	64.1
Europe	39.6
Oceania	25.9
Africa	19.4
Asia	3.3



In the Catholic Church there were, as of 31. 12. 2022 (in thousands):

Bishops	5 340
Priests	407 872
<i>diocesan</i>	279 610
<i>religious</i>	128 262
Candidates for the priesthood	109 895
Permanent deacons	49 176
Women religious	608 958
Men religious (non-priests)	49 774
Catechists	2 887 652



## Educational Institutions

Data as of 31. 12. 2022:

<i>name of the institution</i>	<i>number of subjects</i>	<i>number of students</i>
Kindergartens	74,368	7.5 million children
Primary schools (level 1)	100,939	34.7 million pupils
Primary schools (level 2) and secondary schools	49,868	11.5 million pupils
Colleges		2.4 million students
Universities		
<i>students of ecclesiastical studies</i>		425,181
<i>other students</i>		3.8 million students



## Health and Social Institutions

Data as of 31. 12. 2022:

Hospitals	5,405
Other health care facilities	14,205
Leper colonies	567
Houses for the elderly, chronically ill and hand-icapped (most of them in Europe – 7,953)	15,276
Orphanages	9,703
Matrimonial counselling centres (most of them in Europe – 5,239)	10,604
Social-educational centres	3,287
Other helping institutions	35,529



# The Apostolic Nunciature in the Czech Republic

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The apostolic nunciature is a diplomatic mission  
of the Holy See in individual countries.



**Apostolic Nuncio  
in the Czech Republic  
H.E. Msgr. Jude Thaddeus  
Okolo**



**Secretary  
R.D. N'gbesso Vital  
Akélé Ohochi**

**Contact:** Voršilská 140/12, 110 00 Praha 1  
Phone: +420 224 999 811  
Fax: +420 224 999 833  
E-mail: [na.repceca@diplomat.va](mailto:na.repceca@diplomat.va)



# **The Catholic Church in the Czech Republic**



## Who We Are

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**The Roman Catholic Church is the largest organized religious community in the Czech Republic.**

According to available data, Sunday services are regularly attended by roughly **300 thousand people** (data from 2024). The most Catholics live in South, Central and Southeast Moravia, and the fewest live in North and West Bohemia. The Church, through its approximately **1,700** priests (including religious priests), tens of men and women religious and its lay faithful, works with other institutions in the areas of the army, police, charity and education.

The Roman Catholic Church runs more than one hundred **schools** and educational institutions. Representatives of the Church participate in the management of three faculties of theology as well.

**Caritas Czech Republic**, established by the Czech Bishops' Conference, is the largest non-governmental provider of health and social care in the Czech Republic. It aims primarily at helping people in need in the Czech Republic; in addition, it runs projects of humanitarian aid and development cooperation abroad. It was the first to introduce the "Adopce na dálku®" program of child sponsorship. The Church also manages cultural monuments, manages its property, it runs hospitals, provides pastoral care and takes part in many other activities.

The Catholic Church consists of local churches (**dioceses**), which are further divided into **parishes** in individual municipalities and towns. Local churches form the **Bohemian ecclesiastical province** and the **Moravian ecclesiastical province**, each headed by a metropolitan archbishop. The Greek-Catholic Church is active in the Czech Republic through an **apostolic exarchate**. The Czech Bishops' Conference is made up of diocesan and auxiliary bishops of dioceses in both provinces together with Greek Catholic bishops. The Conference represents the entire Catholic Church in the Czech Republic.



The structure of the Catholic Church also includes **societies of consecrated and apostolic life** – religious orders, congregations and newer movements and communities. Other juridical persons with independent legal subjectivity are a further part of the Church's organizational structure.

The mission of the Roman Catholic Church is to worship God, to preserve and interpret the revealed truths of God, to proclaim the Gospel, to perform holy services, especially the holy liturgy, to create a visible and organized communion of the faithful of the Latin rite with Christ, based on a life in faith, hope and love, especially through piety, the apostolate and both material and spiritual benefaction.

## The Czech Bishops' Conference (CBC)

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A registered juridical  
person uniting  
all the bishops  
in the Czech Republic



ČESKÁ  
BISKUPSKÁ  
KONFERENCE

The CBC was established after the creation of the Czech Republic on 30 March 1993 in accordance with the statutes approved by the Congregation for Bishops on 23 March 1993.

The CBC, established by the Apostolic See, is a group of bishops of the Czech Republic who jointly exercise certain pastoral functions for the Christian faithful of their territory in order to promote the greater good which the Church offers to humanity, especially through forms and programs of the apostolate fittingly adapted to the circumstances of time and place, according to the norm of law (can. 447 CIC).





The bishops' conference is, according to the law as defined in can. 449, § 2 CIC, a juridical person. Its seat is Prague. Under this same law itself it includes all diocesan bishops of both rites (Roman Catholic as well as Greek Catholic) in the territory, those equivalent to them in law, coadjutor bishops, auxiliary bishops and other titular bishops who perform for the people in the territory or outside of it special functions entrusted to them by the Apostolic See or by the bishops' conference.

The conference consists of: a permanent council, general secretariat, economical council and also various commissions established by the bishops' conference to achieve a specific purpose (can. 451 CIC).

Bishop-delegates have been named to implement certain tasks in accordance with article 26 § 3 of the Statutes of the CBC; they can also appoint their colleagues to form a council. The secretariat of the CBC has been established to take care of the daily operation of all organs. The Czech Bishops' Conference is subject to all the valid regulations of CIC, especially those of can. 447–459.

## Statutory Bodies of the CBC



**President:**  
**Archbishop Josef Nuzík**



**Vice-president:**  
**Bishop Stanislav Přibyl**



**General Secretary:**  
**Father Roman Czudek**

# The Permanent Council of the CBC

The Permanent Council coordinates the implementation of general decisions made by the CBC and the work of the General Secretariat. It is also responsible for the preparation of matters to be discussed at plenary meetings of the conference, and for the proper implementation of its decisions. In addition, the Permanent Council takes decisions on all urgent matters which cannot be discussed during the regularly scheduled plenary meetings. If a decision is to be announced, a statement is to be published, or if a matter of serious importance is involved, then the permanent council takes action only after consulting with diocesan bishops.

The Permanent Council is comprised of the CBC's president, vice-president, the general secretary and at least one elected bishop.

## **Members:**

Archbishop Josef Nuzík – president  
Bishop Stanislav Přibyl – vice-president  
Bishop Martin David  
Bishop Vlastimil Kročil  
Father Roman Czudek

## **Contact:**

Czech Bishops' Conference  
Thákurova 3  
160 00 Praha 6  
Phone: +420 220 181 421  
Fax: +420 224 310 144  
E-mail: sekretariat@cirkev.cz  
Web: <https://cbk.cirkev.cz>

## **CBC communication department**

Phone: +420 220 181 431  
E-mail: tisk@cirkev.cz





## Commissions of the CBC

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Commissions have been created to prepare materials for the Bishops' Conference for several areas of activity of the Catholic Church..

Bishops' commissions are established as needed, for either a limited or unlimited period of time. Their task is to prepare materials for the plenary of the bishops' conference, in accordance with their authorization by the plenary meeting or the Permanent Council.

## Overview of Commissions of the CBC

### 1. For the Doctrine of the Faith

*theological agenda, bioethics agenda, prevention of the sexual abuse of minors, social teachings of the Church*

### 2. For Liturgy

*besides the regular liturgical agenda also liturgical music and the liturgical translation of the Bible*

### 3. For the Clergy

*the agenda of pastoral care of vocations, seminaries and formation of permanent deacons, on-going formation of deacons and priests*

### 4. For Catholic Education

*faculties of theology, the agenda of church schools, catechesis, university pastoral care, the agenda of life-long learning*

### 5. For the Economy and Law

*for the legal section of the Commission, the civil law agenda and canon law agenda*

### 6. For the Prevention and Protection Against Abuse

### 7. Joint Commission of the CBC and the Conference of Major Superiors of Religious Orders

# Bishop-delegates

Bishop-delegates have been named to implement certain tasks in accordance with article 26 § 3 of the Statutes of the CBC; they can also appoint their co-workers to form a council.

## Overview of Bishop-delegates

1. Social Communications and the Weekly Katolický týdeník
2. Laity and Movements
3. Family
4. Pastoral Care of Youth
5. Pastoral Care in Healthcare
6. Pastoral Care in the Armed Forces, Prisons, the Police and Emergency Services (Fire Brigade)
7. Czechs Abroad
8. Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialogue
9. Justice and Peace, Minorities and Migrants
10. Missions and New Evangelization
11. Culture and Historic Monuments (the areas of culture; care of historic monuments, bells, organs and archives; historic monuments in tourism)
12. Information Technologies
13. The Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE)
14. Eucharistic Congresses
15. Care of Creation
16. CBC Representative in the board of the Czech Catholic Biblical Work
17. Charity and Social Services
18. Pastoral Care of deaf people
19. Synodal process

Actual members of all commissions and councils is available at:

<https://cbk.cirkev.cz/komise-a-rady>







## Protection of the Vulnerable and Minors in the Church

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The Church must face cases of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable persons. This is not only a grave sin, but also a great crime, and by its very nature it is completely contrary to the Church's mission and teachings.

The Church is addressing this issue globally, in 2013 the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors was established. Pope Francis has issued two apostolic letters *motu proprio* "As a loving mother" (*Come una madre amorevole*) and "You are the light of the world" (*Vos estis lux mundi*).

The Czech Bishops' Conference, together with the Conferences of Major Religious Superiors, established a contact point with the aim to mediate assistance to minors and vulnerable persons who have been victims of sexual abuse by a cleric or a lay person within the Church's activity.

The Contact Point provides expert spiritual and social care, including therapeutic and psychological help, and it gives orientational legal advice. The Contact Point has a network of expert psychotherapists, clergy and legal advisors throughout the country. This service is free of charge.

## To its clients, the Contact Point guarantees:

- > confidentiality (in conformity with the law)
- > anonymity and protection of personal data
- > mediation of qualified care
- > provision of information and contacts for possible further action

It does not provide the initiation of a church process or a police investigation, but we are able to facilitate these steps at the client's request.

Find out more at [www.ochrananezletilych.cz](http://www.ochrananezletilych.cz)

[help@ochrananezletilych.cz](mailto:help@ochrananezletilych.cz)

Phone: Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at +420 731 633 675





# The Life of the Church



# The Church Educates

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## The Church School System

Education of children, youth and adults is a service for future generations, and it enriches both the Church and society as a whole.

For this reason, Christians are involved in all levels of education and run kindergartens, primary schools, secondary schools, high schools, schools of music, colleges and other educational institutions. Catholic schools are open to all who wish to study at them. They help to advance the democratic principles of the education policy through equitable access to educational opportunities while respecting the freedom of choice of ways to education for Czech citizens, as guaranteed by the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms.

Church schools perform public service in the area of education. Church schools and other educational institutions are often attended by children from socially disadvantaged or large families.

### The Catholic Church has established:

Catholic schools in the Czech Republic	Number of schools
Kindergartens	28
Elementary schools	25
Secondary schools	29
Conservatories	1
Vocational high schools	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>

The Church has further established a wide spectrum of educational institutions, including leisure time facilities, dormitories for youth, foster care facilities, pedagogical-psychological counselling centres.

These institutions have been set up by dioceses, religious orders and parishes.

**The quality of church schools is proven by the number of those wishing to attend them, which greatly exceeds available capacities.**

Church schools provide space in which talented students can develop, and at the same time they educate students from disadvantaged environments or with weak study skills (e.g. two-year special needs schools). Educational institutions serve as a low-threshold network and for the prevention of social-pathological phenomena (e.g. leisure time facilities).

### **Two examples:**

#### **1) St. Giovanni Bosco Secondary Technical School / Kroměříž**

In 2018, the new St. Giovanni Bosco Secondary Technical School opened. It is run by the Olomouc Archbishopric. Applicants can study technical fields focused on forestry, agriculture and gardening. An important element of the school is its focus on comprehensive personal development, including its spiritual dimension.



#### **2) Christian Pedagogical-Psychological Counselling Centre / Pilsen**

The Pedagogical-Psychological Counselling Centre is run by the Bishopric of Plzeň and started its activities in 2018. The main goal of its services is to use its consultation or comprehensive psychological and special education examinations (diagnostics) to provide assistance to children and families encountering difficulties in education and upbringing (activity and attention disorders, specific learning disabilities, difficulties in upbringing) or encountering challenges meeting the specific needs of gifted pupils or of foreigners. The centre also provides help with professional orientation. The centre offers consultations as well as comprehensive psychological and special pedagogical examinations (diagnostics).



### **Department for Church Schools of the CBC**

The department is a service, counselling and negotiation centre for church schools in the Czech Republic. It cooperates with all church schools and educational institutions in the Czech Republic (from kindergartens to colleges, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish).

**Contact:** Phone: +420 220 181 760  
E-mail: [skolstvi@cirkev.cz](mailto:skolstvi@cirkev.cz)  
Web: <https://cbk.cirkev.cz/sekce-cirkevniho-skolstvi>





## Religious Education and Catechesis

The development of a person's spiritual side starting in childhood is an important task of the Church which is carried out on two levels.

The Church offers **religious education classes** at schools. Through these classes, the Church systematically presents Christian teachings and introduces children to what it means to be a Christian. Religious education helps children and youth harmoniously develop their physical, intellectual and spiritual abilities. It also instils in them a sense of responsibility, and it teaches them the correct use of freedom and responsible participation in the life of society.

The Church offers **catechesis** outside of schools. Catechesis allows every person of faith to continuously and systematically deepen his or her faith. This is not just about the transfer of knowledge, rather, it is more about a real meeting with the living God and union with Him. Catechism focuses on building a community with God and with other people. It strives to make a person's faith continuously alive and active, so that it reacts to the call of God in today's world.

In the Czech Republic, there are more than **1,600 catechists and teachers of religious education** (data from 2022).

### Department for Catechesis of the CBC

This is a body which monitors, initiates and creates the conditions for interdiocesan cooperation in the area of catechesis and religious education and its coordination. It carries out tasks from the CBC which are beyond the scope of what individual dioceses can manage on their own. It arranges for the publication and updating of standards for the on-going education and formation of catechists and religious education teachers. It works with other sections, commissions and centres of the CBC. It represents the CBC internationally in the area of catechesis. A significant project of the section is [katecheze.cz](http://katecheze.cz), a methodological portal for catechesis and religious education.

**Contact:** Phone: +420 220 181 513  
E-mail: [katechet@cirkev.cz](mailto:katechet@cirkev.cz)  
[www.katecheze.cz](http://www.katecheze.cz)  
Web: <https://cbk.cirkev.cz/sekcce-katecheticka>



## Faculties of Theology and Seminaries

Graduates find jobs not only in the Church, but also at schools, in the social and public sector, at cultural institutions and in the media.

### **The Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University**

(Katolická teologická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy, KTF)

Thákurova 3, Praha 6, 160 00

Phone: +420 220 181 211

E-mail: [office@ktf.cuni.cz](mailto:office@ktf.cuni.cz)

[www.ktf.cuni.cz](http://www.ktf.cuni.cz)

### **The Sts. Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology of Palacký University** (Cyrilometodějská teologická fakulta UP, CMTF)

Univerzitní 22, Olomouc, 779 00

Phone: +420 585 637 111

E-mail: [dekanat.cmtf@upol.cz](mailto:dekanat.cmtf@upol.cz)

[www.cmtf.upol.cz](http://www.cmtf.upol.cz)

### **The Faculty of Theology of the University of South Bohemia**

(Teologická fakulta Jihočeské univerzity, TF)

Kněžská 8, České Budějovice, 370 01

Phone: +420 387 773 501

E-mail: [dekanat@tf.jcu.cz](mailto:dekanat@tf.jcu.cz)

[www.tf.jcu.cz](http://www.tf.jcu.cz)

### **The Archbishop's Seminary Prague**

(Arcibiskupský seminář Praha)

Thákurova 3, Dejvice, Praha 6, 160 00

Phone: +420 220 181 508

E-mail: [rektor@seminar-praha.cz](mailto:rektor@seminar-praha.cz)

[www.seminar-praha.cz](http://www.seminar-praha.cz)

## Archbishop's Priestly Seminary Olomouc

(Arcibiskupský kněžský seminář Olomouc)

Žerotínovo nám. 605/2, Olomouc, 779 00

Phone: +420 734 287 975

E-mail: aks@ado.cz

[www.knezskyseminar.cz](http://www.knezskyseminar.cz)

## The Preparatory College of Theology (Teologický konvikt)

Žerotínovo nám. 605/2, Olomouc, 779 00

Phone: + 420 732 524 904

E-mail: kupka.jiri@ado.cz

## Pontifical College Nepomucenum

Via Concordia 1, I – 00183, Rome

Phone: +39 067 726 571

[www.nepomucenum.it](http://www.nepomucenum.it)

### Number of students:

Academic year 2023/2024	Number of students
KTF UK	428
CMTF UPOL	1 654
TF JCU	754
The Archbishop's Seminary – Prague	18
Archbishop's Priestly Seminary – Olomouc	17
The Preparatory College of Theology	8
Pontifical College Nepomucenum	7

The number of seminarists (students training to become priests at a seminary) does not include students training to become religious priests. Religious education, studies of theology, religious studies and social work can also be studied at colleges and universities in Hradec Králové, Pardubice, Liberec, Brno, Ostrava, Prague and Olomouc.





## The Church Helps

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A basic part of the life of the Church is helping people in need in difficult life situations and being in solidarity with them.

That is why we establish health care facilities, offer social services, counselling and humanitarian aid and we attend to at-risk social groups in other ways as well.

Providing help to other people is primarily the specific task of Caritas Czech Republic, but it is also embraced by religious orders, the Pontifical Mission Societies in the Czech Republic and the Czech Leprosy Relief ("Likvidace lepry").

**Caritas Czech Republic**

 **Charita**  
Česká republika

Caritas Czech Republic, a non-profit organization, is the largest non-state provider of social and health care services in our country.

It primarily offers social services, health care and preventive care to those living in poverty or in a difficult situation, to people with disabilities, to the incurably ill, the homeless, the drug-addicted, prisoners, and victims of domestic violence or of human trafficking. At the same time, Caritas helps people affected by unexpected events such as flood, fire etc.

Caritas Czech Republic also significantly contributes to humanitarian aid and particularly to development cooperation abroad.

Within the national network of the Caritas, **1,424 service facilities** were offered to clients in 2022. Social services are divided into three groups:

- > social counselling,
- > social care services,
- > social prevention services.

### Statistics from 2023

Employees	9,874
Volunteers - long-term	2,187
Volunteers in total	83,795
Hours worked by volunteers	257,627



## The “Three Kings’ Collection”

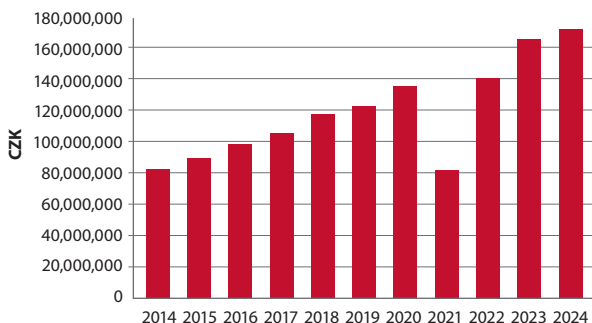
The largest volunteer-based activity of its kind in the Czech Republic.

The proceeds are used to support projects for people who are ill, disabled or elderly, for single mothers in need and for other socially disadvantaged groups; the largest part of the proceeds is used to help directly in the region where the collection takes place. At least one tenth of the proceeds are used every year for development projects abroad. More than 70 000 volunteers took part in the Three Kings’ Collection in 2024.

### Proceeds of the Three Kings’ Collection

2024	172,575,211 CZK
2023	165,860,347 CZK
2022	141,407,024 CZK
2021	81,476,288 CZK
2020	133,803,733 CZK
2019	122,301,612 CZK
2018	116,305,402 CZK
2017	104,425,895 CZK
2016	97,651,016 CZK
2015	89,373,094 CZK
2014	82,752,129 CZK





However, Caritas Czech Republic responds to a variety of needs and organizes other collections as well, especially for the people in our country and abroad who are affected by war or by natural disaster. Caritas is currently running projects in **22 countries around the world** as a part of its humanitarian aid and development cooperation.

#### Contact:

Vladislavova 1460/12

110 00 Praha 1

Phone: +420 296 243 330

Fax: +420 296 243 333

E-mail: sekretariat@charita.cz

[www.charita.cz](http://www.charita.cz)

[www.svet.charita.cz](http://www.svet.charita.cz)

[www.trikralovasbirka.cz](http://www.trikralovasbirka.cz)

**Some examples of projects:**

## **Reception Centres and Emergency Homes**

Reception centres offer one-time help and a place to stay overnight. Caritas runs **21 shelters** with a total capacity of **364 people**. The difficult situation of people in need is then comprehensively addressed in emergency homes. **Specialized emergency homes for mothers in need** provide help to mothers with children in need. In 2021, **34** Caritas emergency housing facilities provided accommodation to a total of **3,477 clients** (parents and children).



## **Specialized Social Counselling Centres**

People in need are offered assistance in specialized social counselling centres, where they can get advice on how to act in dealing with the authorities or where to find help. The centres are often engaged in debt counselling, labour-law relations, family and interpersonal relations, property relations, compensation for damage, consumer protection and other issues.

There are **74 specialised counselling** centres run by Caritas. In 2023, these made a total of **205,612 interventions/contacts for 50,738 individuals**.

## **Hospice Care Services**

These aim at accompanying the sick and their families in difficult life situations. Local Caritas offices run **4 hospice care facilities** (with a total capacity of 140 people; these were used by a total of **1,030 clients** in 2021) and 53 health care services that operate on the basis of **home hospice care**, which works in a natural home environment (**1,337 clients** were cared for in 2021). Overall, **19 mobile hospice care** teams provided care to 1,858 patients in 2021. In addition, there are other hospice care and mobile hospice care facilities in the Czech Republic based on Christian values.



## Pontifical Mission Societies in the Czech Republic

The Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS) are a Church-run non-profit organization which coordinates missionary activities around the world under the direct leadership of the Pope. They operate on five continents – in more than **130 countries of the world**. PMS renewed their activity in the Czech Republic in **1993**, since their activities were banned during the communist regime. The goal of PMS is to proclaim faith and help people in the world's poorer regions. The societies help people in need regardless of their race, religious affiliation or nationality. In the missions, people are taught farming, and the societies lead them to cooperation while always respecting their dignity.

The organization also coordinates a variety of activities in parishes and spreads information via video spots and documents.

### Contact:

Leoš Halbrštát, PMS National Director  
Na Kropáče 30/1  
500 03 Hradec Králové  
Phone: 604 838 882  
E-mail: [pmd@missio.cz](mailto:pmd@missio.cz)  
[www.missio.cz](http://www.missio.cz)



## Council for Justice and Peace

Within the CBC, the council is engaged in human rights in both the Czech Republic and abroad and acts against the violation of these rights. It monitors social and environmental problems in Czech society. It submits analyses of these problems and looks for approaches to solving them that do not increase tension between different social groups. It also presents the social doctrine of the Church to the public. For more information see [www.jupax.cz](http://www.jupax.cz).



## Help Around the World

The Czech Church helps people in need in more than 260 places around the world.

**The following organizations are just a few examples of our engagement abroad**

- > Caritas CR
- > Pontifical Mission Societies
- > **Religious orders** (Women religious are currently implementing projects in 5 countries and men religious are in 11 countries, primarily through the missionary work of the Salesians.)
- > Leprosy relief
- > Cagliari – Salesian voluntary service



## Some selected aid organisations

### > **Maltese Aid**

Founded by the Czech Grand Priory of the Sovereign Military Order of St. John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, it provides social services, organizes volunteer programs and engages in other humanitarian activities.

[www.maltezskapomoc.cz](http://www.maltezskapomoc.cz)

### > **Cesta 121**

A private organization, whose mission is to allow priests to live out their old age in an environment where they feel at home. It also aims to be close to them in times of need.

[www.cesta121.cz](http://www.cesta121.cz)

### > **Leprosy Relief**

Founded by the Archbishop of Prague, its primary aim is to help to treat infectious diseases (leprosy, tuberculosis) in developing countries.

[www.likvidacelepry.cz](http://www.likvidacelepry.cz)

### > **Czech Catholic Charity**

This is a specific service which the state provides for elderly nuns and priests on the basis of resolving the obligation of the state to mitigate the impact of injustices committed against nuns and priests.

[www.ckch.cz](http://www.ckch.cz)







## The Church Provides Services in Healthcare

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The establishment, running and development of healthcare services have been integral to the Church throughout its two-thousand-year history.

Through the activities of religious orders and congregations, the Catholic Church has established three hospitals and other health-care facilities. Through Caritas Czech Republic and various civic associations, the Church also operates more than ten inpatient hospices, which combine health and social services.

### Hospitals

- > **Hospital of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Borromeo in Prague**  
[www.nmskb.cz](http://www.nmskb.cz)
- > **Hospital of the Brothers of Mercy in Vizovice**  
[www.nmbvizovice.cz](http://www.nmbvizovice.cz)
- > **Hospital of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul in Kroměříž**  
[www.nemomil.cz](http://www.nemomil.cz)
- > **Hospital of St. Elizabeth Na Slupi in Prague**  
[www.alzbeta.cz](http://www.alzbeta.cz)
- > **Hospital of the Holy Cross Žižkov**  
[www.nskz.cz](http://www.nskz.cz)

# Homes for the Elderly

Around the Czech Republic, a wide range of homes exist. These are run by religious orders and congregations whose charisma is providing service to those who are ill, suffering or in need. Their goal is to reduce the pain of those who are suffering, to give them company in the search for meaning in their suffering, to help them accept their own aging and death, and to accompany them in the final phase of their lives.

- > **Home of St. Charles Borromeo in Prague - Řepy**  
[www.domovrepy.cz](http://www.domovrepy.cz)
- > **Home of St. Elizabeth in Jablunkov**  
[www.domovsvatealzbety.jablunkov.cz](http://www.domovsvatealzbety.jablunkov.cz)
- > **Home of St. Agnes in Velký Újezd**  
[www.dsvanezky.cz](http://www.dsvanezky.cz)
- > **Home of the Holy Cross in Kroměříž**  
[www.domov-km.cz](http://www.domov-km.cz)
- > **Home of St. Norbert in Svatý Kopeček near Olomouc**  
[www.domov-sv-norberta.webnode.cz](http://www.domov-sv-norberta.webnode.cz)
- > **Home of Mother Rosa in Rajhrad**  
[www.domaro.cz](http://www.domaro.cz)
- > **Home of St. Anthony in Moravské Budějovice**  
[www.dsvamb.cz](http://www.dsvamb.cz)
- > **Home of St. Elizabeth in Žernůvka u Tišnova**  
[www.dosa.cz](http://www.dosa.cz)
- > **Home of Blessed Bronislava in Humpolec**  
[www.domovbronislavy.cz](http://www.domovbronislavy.cz)
- > **Senior Home – Home of St. Zdislava in Opava**  
[www.socialnisluzbymarimum.cz/domov-pro-seniory-sv-zdislavy](http://www.socialnisluzbymarimum.cz/domov-pro-seniory-sv-zdislavy)

Local branches of Caritas, which form the nationwide Caritas Czech Republic network, provide these services and run an additional **45** homes for the elderly.





## Hospices

Another form of care for the ill is provided by hospices. These care for the incurably and gravely ill. Their main goal is to provide the best quality of life in its final phase and to allow for a dignified passing.

The following forms of hospice care are available:

> **Home hospice**

Home hospice provides care to patients in their residences, i.e. in their home environment. They thus allow gravely ill family members to spend the end of their life close to their loved ones.

> **Inpatient hospice**

This is a facility in which patients are given accommodation and care.

> **Outpatient hospice**

In outpatient hospices, the patient is given care during the day (from morning to evening) and then spends the night at home.

## Some Other Selected Facilities run by Religious Societies

> **Home of St. Faustyna in Dvůr Králové nad Labem**

(for residents undergoing a difficult transition period in their lives)

<https://www.kmbm.cz/dsf/byty>

- > **Misericordia in Dvůr Králové nad Labem**  
(integrating the socially disadvantaged into society)  
<https://misericordia.kmbm.cz>
- > **Sheltered housing of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Velehrad**  
<http://chbvelehrad.cz>
- > **Day Care Facility Domovinka in Opava**  
<https://www.socialnisluzbymarimum.cz/domovinka>
- > **Clinical Psychology and Psychiatry Outpatient Centre in Liberec**
- > **Domov Žlutý Petrklíč z.s. in Lomec u Vodňan**  
(Congregation of the Grey Sisters of Third Order of St. Francis) provides social services for persons with mental or combined disabilities  
<http://domovzlutytrklkic.cz>



## Caritas Czech Republic

Caritas Czech Republic provides healthcare services in the following areas:

- > **Home healthcare**  
There are 1000 nurses employed in 78 home healthcare facilities. The number of patients treated reached 40,933 in 2021.



> **Healthcare in residential facilities**

There are 336 nurses caring for 2,364 clients in homes for the elderly and in homes offering special services.

**Home hospice care** is safe and free of charge for patients and it is carried out on a high professional level. There are 53 home hospice care centres and in 2021 Caritas nurses helped to provide final care to 1,337 people.

**Mobile hospice care** was included at the end of 2017 in the legislative framework of the reimbursement decree for 2018. Caritas Czech Republic has 19 mobile hospice care teams, staffed by 243 nurses. In 2021 they cared for 1,858 ill patients.

There are **4 inpatient hospices** run by Caritas Czech Republic. They are located in Červený Kostelec, in Ostrava, in Rajhrad near Brno and in Svatý Kopeček near Olomouc. They have a total capacity of 156 beds, and in 2021 89 nurses cared for 1,179 terminally ill patients.

- > In some dioceses hospice services are supplemented by **out-patient pain treatment centres**. In the dioceses of Brno, Hradec Králové and Olomouc physical therapy outpatient treatment centres improve the quality of rehabilitation services in hospices. In these three dioceses new outpatient palliative medicine centres have also been recently established.
- > **Caritas nurses** also work in residential facilities – in homes for the elderly, homes offering special services and also in palliative care services.





## The Church Accompanies

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Today, the Catholic Church is represented in the army, the police and in prisons, where it is dedicated to spiritual accompaniment. This spiritual service was renewed in the Ministry of Defence (MD) on 3 June 1998.

### Hospital Chaplains

On 11 July 2019, the Czech Ministry of Health, the Czech Bishops' Conference (CBC) and the Ecumenical Council of Churches in the Czech Republic (ECC) ceremoniously signed a three-way agreement on spiritual service in healthcare. This agreement is a historically significant step, establishing for the first time a framework, concepts and structure for providing spiritual care by the Church in healthcare facilities. The goal of this agreement was to establish the conditions for mutual cooperation between the Czech Ministry of Health and CBC and ECC church representatives in the provision of spiritual care at in-patient healthcare facilities run by health service providers and to do so in compliance with valid legal regulations.

Hospital chaplains play a vital role in the provision of spiritual care in healthcare facilities, or in social services. The term hospital

chaplain is used internationally to designate a person who provides spiritual services in healthcare facilities. They can be priests or lay people, men or women. Hospital chaplains work pursuant to a commission by their particular Church and based on a contract with the hospital. The offer ill people the opportunity for personal encounters and conversation, human closeness and accompaniment in times of illness, searching for a way to cope with difficult situations with dignity, to overcome loneliness and to find motivation, understanding and hope. At a patient's request, they can arrange for a visit by a priest or other religious leader according to the patient's wishes and religious affiliation. The hospital chaplain service is ecumenical in nature. It works on the basis of the Agreement of the Czech Bishops' Conference and Ecumenical Council of Churches of the Czech Republic from 2006, including addenda from 2012 and 2019. The activities of hospital chaplains are further guided by the Methodological Instruction for spiritual care in health care facilities with in-patient care of health care providers of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic from 2017.

Currently, there are **105 hospital chaplains assigned by the Catholic Church to 78 healthcare facilities** which are united in the **Catholic Association of Hospital Chaplains** in the Czech Republic. An additional 9 experts in pastoral care are also members of this association.

The second umbrella organization, **the Association of Hospital Chaplains**, includes mainly chaplains assigned by churches in the **Ecumenical Council of Churches in the Czech Republic**. Currently, there are **37 chaplains** in active service registered in this association. In all, the association has almost 70 members (including former hospital chaplains, supporters etc.).

On 15 May 2019, the 1st conference entitled "Interdisciplinary Dialogues for Chaplain Service" was held in Olomouc. This meeting brought hospital, military and prison chaplains together with healthcare workers and psychologists. The conference's theme was "The Relationship between Psychology and Spirituality." The conference took place thanks to the joint efforts of the following parties: Military Hospital Olomouc, the Olomouc Archdiocese, the Catholic Association of Hospital Chaplains in the Czech Republic, the Association of Hospital Chaplains, Spiritual Services in the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic, Prison Pastoral Care and the Secondary Business and Language School Přerov.

In early October 2022, the XVIIth formation and education meeting for hospital chaplains in healthcare and social services in the Czech Republic took place.

[www.nemocnicnikaplan.cz](http://www.nemocnicnikaplan.cz)



## Military Chaplains

Military chaplains are ministers who are sent by the Christian churches associated in the Ecumenical Council of Churches and in the Czech Bishops' Conference to serve anyone in the army who asks for assistance. The universal offer made by military chaplains, directed to all those working under the Ministry of Defence and to their families, is not necessarily of a religious character: it respects individual principles and views as well as the atmosphere in a military unit operating in the Czech Republic or in an operation abroad.

A total of 31 military chaplains from the Catholic Church have participated in the Spiritual support service of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic from its inception to the present day. Of these, 30 are members of the Roman Catholic Church (22 priests and 8 permanent deacons) and 1 is a member of the Greek Catholic Church.

At the present time, 14 military chaplains are in active service – 13 Roman Catholics (7 priests and 6 permanent deacons) and 1 Greek Catholic priest. One additional permanent deacon is a military chaplain for active reserves.

<https://kaplani.army.cz>





## Prison Pastoral Care

Prison pastoral care is a group of prison chaplains employed by the Prison Service of the Czech Republic. At the present time a total of 54 chaplains are active in Prison Service of the Czech Republic in 37 prison facilities, 24 of which are Roman Catholics and 4 of which are from the Greek Catholic Church.

Besides organizing spiritual service, they also take part in the creation and application of educational programs leading to a change in prisoners' values, and as the case may be to the study of theology. Spiritual exercises – one-day-long retreats – have taken place in several facilities. Chaplains serve other employees of the Prison Service as well and are advisors to prison directors in matters of religious life today.

## Ministry in the Police of the Czech Republic

The spiritual service is provided on an ecumenical basis and is carried out by chaplains – persons commissioned by individual Churches and sent by the Czech Bishops' Conference and the Ecumenical Council of Churches. It is an offer of help to all those working in the police or to their family members and loved ones. It is not a missionary service and everyone has the right to accept or refuse it.

The ministry aims at, among others, offering help in dealing with personal crises or difficulties that arise in the work, personal and family lives of police officers. The ministry is not considered a substitute for the work of psychologists or doctors. Chaplains collaborate with psychologists, peers, people in the crisis intervention groups and other professionals.

## Help to Minorities and People in Difficult Situations

The Church also assists migrants and Romani people and offers spiritual help to people in difficult life situations or crises.

## Pastoral Care of Vocations in the Czech Republic

This care aims at helping a person to find God's plan for his or her life and to answer God's call. A team of priests, consecrated persons and lay faithful of the Catholic Church was created in November 2006 for this task. It is their great wish that young people find the vocation to which God is calling them.

Find out more at [www.hledampovolani.cz](http://www.hledampovolani.cz).





## The Church and Culture

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Care for cultural monuments and for creating new cultural values has always been an area where the Church has been significantly involved.

The great number of architectural monuments in our country – not only churches – bears witness to this fact. The Catholic Church cares for more than **7,500 historical buildings**, particularly churches and chapels, which are a significant part of the cultural heritage of the Czech Republic. Whether they are a thousand years old or of more recent heritage, an integral part of all of them is their artistic décor, which often contains splendid, priceless **pieces of art**. The most precious pieces, or pieces which used to decorate churches which have been deconsecrated, are often assembled in museums and presented to the public. The history and the present of the Christian arts is a subject of study at several universities in the Czech Republic. Excellent cooperation is developing between ecclesiastical subjects and various museums and galleries, and well-developed lecture activities are of increasing importance as well.

Besides the visual arts, the Church has always focused on other forms of the arts as well: monasteries were bearers of medieval culture in the form of copied **manuscripts** and even later on Christians took special care of **books**. Many monastery or parish libraries are open to the public for research, and the Church cooperates in this area with students of archival science. In addition, new libraries of religious orders or educational institutions of theology are being established.

Liturgy is inseparably connected with **music** – whether it is with what is known as classical music, which was created to accompany liturgical celebrations, or with modern music, which is especially preferred by young people. Christians are also involved in the **audio-visual arts**, in the area of new communication forms, and thus in contemporary culture as well. **Publishing activities** have both a rich history and present.





## The Church and Family

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The Church is not created by buildings, but rather by living communities of people who share their faith and help each other. This is why special attention is paid to families, the building blocks of society.

The Church operates **family centres** in many locations, as well as diocesan and deanery or regional **centres for family life** while it also provides **psychological counselling** for married couples, families and individuals in difficult life situations. At the same time, the Church also attends to other spheres of life and has established a wide variety of **citizens' associations** for these.

## National Family Centre (NFC)

The Centre monitors the phenomenon of the family in Czech society and the legal, cultural and social conditions where families fulfil their function. At the same time, it promotes a pro-family climate in society. It supports and initiates pro-family activities and projects, makes available foreign experience in the area of family policy and cooperates with the makers of family policy at all levels – regional, municipal, national and international. It communicates with legislators and asserts “Family Mainstreaming” in the legislative process.

At the same time, the NFC serves as an educational institution specializing in the development of family and parenting skills, the prevention of social exclusion and primary prevention. It plays a role in pastoral work as a coordination and information centre for diocesan and regional family centres.

**Contact:**

Phone: +420 542 214 865

E-mail: [rodiny@rodiny.cz](mailto:rodiny@rodiny.cz)

[www.rodiny.cz](http://www.rodiny.cz)



## The Church and Youth

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### Youth Department of the CBC

*"God is the giver of youth and he is at work in the life of each young person. Youth is a blessed time for the young and a grace for the Church and for the world. It is joy, a song of hope and a blessing. Making the most of our youthful years entails seeing this season of life as worthwhile in itself, and not simply as a brief prelude to adulthood." (Christus Vivit, 135)*

The Youth Department accompanies young people on their way through life. It is an official tool of the bishops in the Czech Republic. Its tasks are: to coordinate, to inform, to represent, inspire and to preach the gospel. It delivers to bishops suggestions and comments not only from young people, but also from specialists, movements and individual associations and clubs.



In cooperation with the diocesan youth centres it organizes:

- > youth participation in World Youth Days
- > national youth meetings
- > study and formation courses for people who work with youth
- > it creates materials for practical use in youth associations
- > it sponsors the magazine for girls "IN! – dívčí svět"  
("IN! – the World of Girls")

**Contact:**

Phone: +420 220 181 753

E-mail: [mladez@cirkev.cz](mailto:mladez@cirkev.cz)

<https://cbk.cirkev.cz/sekce-pro-mladez>

## Diocesan Youth Centres (DYC)

Diocesan Youth Centres are homes open to youth where a priest and team of young people live. The centres are established by the diocesan bishop. They establish a team life, while they themselves live in a community and create programs for visits by groups of young people. The goal is to present a virtuous, human way of life inspired by the Gospel. The service's deeper meaning is in motivating young people to be responsible and to engage in personal service connected with society.

- > **DYC Mamre**  
Osová Bítýška (Diocese of Brno)  
<https://mladez.biskupstvi.cz/mamre/>
- > **DYC Ktiš**  
Ktiš (Diocese of České Budějovice)  
<https://ktispromlade.cz/>
- > **DYC Vesmír (Universe)**  
Jedlová v Deštném v Orlických horách  
(Diocese of Hradec Králové)  
[www.vesmir.signal.cz](http://www.vesmir.signal.cz)



- > **IDYC Křižovatka (Crossroads)**  
Příchovice (Diocese of Litoměřice)  
<https://krizovatka-prichovice.cz/>
- > **ADYC Přístav (Harbour)**  
Rajnochovice (Archdiocese of Olomouc)  
<https://pristav.ado.cz/>
- > **DYC Stará Ves nad Ondřejnicí**  
Stará Ves nad Ondřejnicí (Diocese of Ostrava-Opava)  
<https://dcm.doo.cz/pages/with-contacts?url=dsm&peopleGroup=dsm>
- > **ADYC Nazaret**  
Praha-Kunratice (Archdiocese of Prague)  
<https://adcm.cz/>

Children and young people can spend quality time in thirteen **Salesian youth centres** and also in educational and leisure-time organizations such as the Scouts, the Czech Scouts and more.

*"If you are to accompany others on this path, you must be the first to follow it, day in and day out." (Christus Vivit, 298)*





## The Church Communicates

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**Proclaiming the Gospel calls for entering the world of media and new forms of digital communication.**

Proclaiming the Gospel – the good news – is the primary task that Christians have received from Jesus Christ. Following the example of St. Paul, the Church makes efforts to use all means available in a particular time and environment to reach those to whom God's offer of salvation is aimed – in other words, to reach all people.

This is why Christians do not only use public media, but they also establish their own media and run Christian-oriented publishing houses.

The Internet offers an enormous range of options, and therefore Christians also make use of it to proclaim the Gospel. The Czech Bishops' Conference, individual dioceses, religious orders, parishes and other organizations have their own websites, and many of them are also active on a variety of social media and new media.

### **KatMedia:**

The company, which the Czech Bishops' Conference owns, runs the Catholic Weekly newspaper ("Katolický týdeník") and the Carmelite Publishing House ("Karmelitánské nakladatelství").

## Print Media:

### > **“Katolický týdeník” (Catholic Weekly)**

The national official newspaper of the Czech and Moravian ecclesiastical provinces. It informs about events in the Catholic Church in the Czech Republic and in the world.

- > published since 1990
- > 28 thousand copies per week
- > overview of events (not only) in the Catholic Church in the Czech Republic as well as abroad and in the Vatican, journalism, opinions, news from dioceses
- > digital version on the website

### > **“Karmelitánské nakladatelství”**

(KNA, Carmelite Publishing House)

Founded in 1991 by the Carmelite Order, owned by the Czech Bishops' Conference since 2019, part of the Katmedia Ltd since 2022.

- > 3 million copies, 2,200 titles published, 21 series
- > 11 Carmelite bookstores
- > e-shop on the [cirkev.cz](http://cirkev.cz) website



## Digital Media:

### > **Portal [Cirkev.cz](http://Cirkev.cz)**

This includes the online news website [cirkev.cz](http://cirkev.cz), which is run by the Press Office of the Czech Bishops' Conference and reports on Church news from at home and abroad. The portal also includes a digital version of the Catholic Weekly, an e-shop offering Christian literature, liturgical items, products from monasteries etc., as well as the official website of the Czech Bishops' Conference.





## Radio:

- > Radio Proglas (private Christian radio station)

## Television:

- > TV NOE
- > Czech Public TV, religious broadcasting

In the Czech Republic a number of additional print and electronic Catholic media can be found. These are run by religious orders or by private companies.

## Člověk a Víra (Man and Faith)



This photography association was started in 2011 with the goal of developing Christian photography and making a contribution to the improvement of the behaviour of photographers during church services and rites. At the present time, the association has more than one hundred members all around the Czech Republic. Their photographs are published regularly in church and other periodicals, in books and on social networks. It also runs the largest Czech databank of photographs in a church environment. Every year, it organizes an exhibit of the best photographic works. Many of the photographs in this publication are from this association.

[www.clouekavira.cz](http://www.clouekavira.cz)

**Digital cartography** also offers new opportunities:

- > web search engine for masses and religious services – [bohosluzby.cirkev.cz](http://bohosluzby.cirkev.cz)



# The Church Manages its Property

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The Church is gradually preparing for life without state funding. It makes investments primarily in real estate and in socially beneficial activities.

The state is reducing funding for Churches, and the sum is lower every year. State funding will come to an end completely in 2030. For this reason, churches in the Czech Republic are responsibly preparing themselves for the period when they will have to survive on their own. They are investing their resources so that they will be able to fund their activities in the future as well as develop them in accordance with their mission.

The costs of the main (spiritual) activities of the Church in 2023 amounted to CZK 4.014 billion, of which a quarter consisted of personnel expenses. The economic result from the main activity, which is inherently loss-making, was -CZK -822 million. The Church's economic activities are intended to ensure the sustainability of its financing after the separation from the state is completed, and in 2023, these activities yielded a profit of CZK 1.476 billion.

The overall financial result of the Catholic Church in the Czech Republic, excluding orders and religious congregations, was a profit of CZK 654 million. This is more than the annually decreasing state contribution, which amounted to CZK 536 million in 2023. The dioceses paid CZK 254 million in income tax to the state.

The profit from economic activities is primarily used to subsidize spiritual activities but is also invested – together with compensation for unreturned property – in ensuring the Church's future financial self-sufficiency.

The Church is the second largest owner of historically significant property and cultural monuments in the Czech Republic. At least half of Church buildings are cultural monuments, and some are even national cultural monuments, thus special rules apply to their repair. Expenses for making repairs to churches and other sacred structures is the largest budget item for all eight dioceses of the Catholic Church.

Church investments are directed into four basic areas:

- > agriculture and forestry
- > buildings
- > pure financial investments
- > investments of individual dioceses

The investments of individual dioceses in their own business projects usually have an original, regional character (for example, some dioceses own local breweries).



## The Church Opens Itself

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Sacred buildings and places of pilgrimage are part of the precious treasure that the Church wishes to share with all people.

### Church Tourism

The Bishopric of Brno runs a web portal which presents Christian religious monuments, shrines, pilgrimage paths, places of accommodation and other interesting sites which share the Christian faith as a common denominator. In this way, the portal connects Christian heritage sites from locations around the Czech Republic with supplementary activities that help in spiritual, mental and physical renewal.

Many dioceses are now presenting this new area of activities at various leisure and tourism trade fairs. At the same time, the number of opportunities to visit churches with guided tours has been growing as part of efforts to open up churches beyond the times intended for worship.

[www.cirkevniturstika.cz](http://www.cirkevniturstika.cz)

### Monastery Tourism

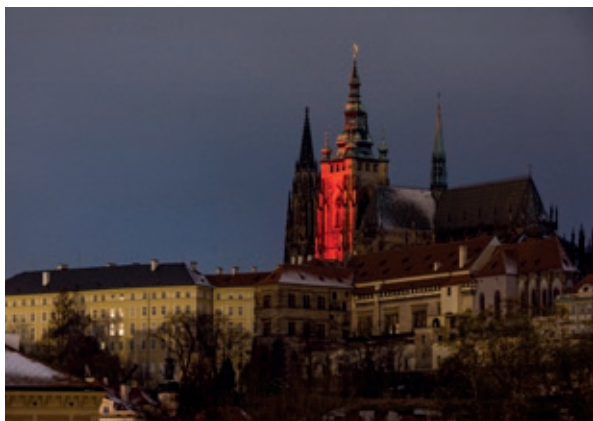
The goal of the Monastery Tourism project is to bring together the network of monastic communities which currently offer their services to the public. Most common is the opportunity to stay in a monastic complex with the option of participating in the community's spiritual programs or just to experience the atmosphere of quiet contemplation and a different rhythm of life. In addition to accommodation, monasteries also offer a wide range of local products ranging from organic foods and liqueurs to ceramics and homemade objects to publications of spiritual literature.

[www.klasterniturstika.cz](http://www.klasterniturstika.cz)

## The Night of the Churches

During this event the public at large is invited to visit churches and houses of worship during the evening and night hours. The aim is to help people experience not just the cultural value of churches, but also to introduce them to a Christian environment of music, visual arts, theatre, conversation and encounters. More than 1,500 churches and houses of worship all around the Czech Republic are involved in this ecumenical event, which has been held in the Czech Republic since 2009.

[www.nockostelu.cz](http://www.nockostelu.cz)



## Red Wednesday

Red Wednesday is an event whose primary significance is to publicly commemorate all people who are persecuted for their religious convictions. The symbol of this initiative is a red light, symbolizing the blood of those who suffer for their faith. For that reason, people light candles on this day, and some significant structures (churches, pillars, statues etc.) are even lit up with red lights. The British branch of the Aid to the Church in Need organisation initiated the event, which in the Czech Republic is organized by the Czech Bishops' Conference together with the Czech Ecumenical Council of Churches and the Czech Federation of Jewish Communities. Similar events take place in many places around the world, including London, Bratislava, Vienna, Budapest and the Philippines.

[www.cervenastreda.cz](http://www.cervenastreda.cz)

## Christian Christmas

The idea behind this project is to bring the general public closer to the spiritual message of Christian Christmas by providing an opportunity to visit nativity scenes and thematic programs offered by Christian parishes and assemblies during Advent and Christmas.

[www.krestanskevanoce.cz](http://www.krestanskevanoce.cz)



**Dioceses**



The Catholic Church in the Czech Republic is divided into **two ecclesiastical provinces**: the Province of Bohemia and the Province of Moravia.

## The ecclesiastical Province of Bohemia is comprised of:

- > Archdiocese of Praha
- > Diocese of České Budějovice
- > Diocese of Hradec Králové
- > Diocese of Litoměřice
- > Diocese of Plzeň

## The ecclesiastical Province of Moravia is comprised of:

- > Archdiocese of Olomouc
- > Diocese of Brno
- > Diocese of Ostrava-Opava

## Apostolic Exarchate

The apostolic exarchate is an organizational and juridical ecclesiastical body for the Catholics of the Byzantine-Slavonic Rite (Greek Catholics) who live in the Czech Republic. It is subject to the Holy See.







## Basic Data

Diocese	Catholics
<b>Province of Bohemia</b>	
Archdiocese of Praha	558,000
Diocese of České Budějovice	281,880
Diocese of Hradec Králové	400,000
Diocese of Litoměřice	160,000
Diocese of Plzeň	113,000
<b>Province of Moravia</b>	
Archdiocese of Olomouc	568,000
Diocese of Brno	500,000
Diocese of Ostrava-Opava	422,000
<b>Apostolic Exarchate</b>	18,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,020,880</b>

# Archdiocese of Praha

## Cathedral:

Sts. Vitus, Wenceslaus and Adalbert

## Patron saints:

St. Adalbert, St. Vitus, St. John of Nepomuk, St. Wenceslaus



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	8,765
Population	2,404,000
Catholics	558,000
Vicariates	14
Parishes	146
Priests	298
Religious priests	132
Number of permanent deacons	32
Churches and chapels	1,023

## Contact:

Arcibiskupství pražské  
Hradčanské nám. 56/16  
119 02 Praha 1 - Hradčany  
Phone: +420 220 392 111  
E-mail: [apha@apha.cz](mailto:apha@apha.cz)  
[www.apha.cz](http://www.apha.cz)

The diocese was established in the year 973 on the initiative of Prince Boleslaus II of Bohemia and with the agreement of Holy Roman Emperor Otto I and Bishop St. Wolfgang of Regensburg. Pope Clement VI elevated the diocese to the rank of archdiocese on 30 April 1344 and thus established a separate ecclesiastical province for Bohemia and Moravia.

The archdiocese develops evangelization projects aimed at people who do not have formal religious beliefs, or at those who are interested in deepening their faith. The projects range from Internet Projects from the Pastoral Centre ([vira.cz](http://vira.cz) – "Faith", [pastorace.cz](http://pastorace.cz) – "Pastoral Care") to events such as "Education and Values", a week when the church presents to pupils from primary, secondary and high schools the cultural and spiritual heritage administered by it. It publishes a magazine called **Zpravodaj pražské arcidiecéze** (Prague Archdiocese Bulletin).

## What to see?

- > Cathedral of Sts. Vitus, Wenceslaus and Adalbert
- > St. Nicholas Church in the Lesser Town (Prague)
- > Svatá Hora (Holy Mountain) pilgrimage site
- > Stará Boleslav pilgrimage site
- > Monasteries – Strahov, Sázava, Mníšek pod Brdy

## Where to stay?

- > Panský Dům Guest House in Rožmitál pod Třemšínem



**Archbishop**  
**Msgr. Jan Graubner**  
 37th Archbishop of Prague (2022)



**Archbishop emeritus**  
**Cardinal Dominik Duka OP**  
 36th Archbishop of Prague (2010)



**Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Msgr. Václav Malý**  
 (1997)



**Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Msgr. Zdenek Wasserbauer**  
 (2018)



**Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus**  
**Msgr. Karel Herbst SDB**  
 (2002)



# Diocese of České Budějovice

## Cathedral:

St. Nicholas

## Patron saints:

St. Nicholas, St. John of Nepomuk,  
St. John Nepomucene Neumann



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	12,500
Population	752,000
Catholics	281,880
Vicariates	10
Parishes	241
Priests	102
Religious priests	36
Number of permanent deacons	14
Churches and chapels	571

## Contact:

Biskupství českobudějovické  
Biskupská 4, P. O. BOX 14  
370 21 České Budějovice  
Phone: +420 380 420 311  
E-mail: sekretariat@bcb.cz  
kurie@bcb.cz  
[www.bcb.cz](http://www.bcb.cz)

The Diocese of České Budějovice came into being on New Year's Day 1786, pursuant to a bull of Pope Pius VI in September 1785. Today it consists of 241 parishes in 10 vicariates situated in the South Bohemia, Plzeň and Vysočina regions. The diocese publishes a periodical called **Setkání** (Meeting).

## What to see?

- > Albrechtice nad Vltavou (Týn nad Vltavou)
- > Dobrá Voda u Nových Hradů
- > Kájov (Český Krumlov)
- > Klokoty (Tábor)
- > Křemešník (Pelhřimov)
- > Lomec (Vodňany)
- > Paštiky (Blatná)
- > Římov (České Budějovice)

## Where to stay?

- > St. Gunther House (Dům sv. Vintíře), Dobrá Voda u Sušice
- > Domus Maria, Kašperské Hory
- > Our Lady House ("Domov Panny Marie"), Štěkeň chateau
- > Parish House in Zálší
- > Parish House (Farní domov), Železná Ruda
- > Parish House in Žirovnice
- > Parish House in Žumberk u Trhových Svinů
- > Emmaus Pilgrim House, Tábor-Klokoty



**Diocesan Bishop**  
**Msgr. Vlastimil Kročil**

13th Bishop of České Budějovice (2015)



**Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Msgr. Pavel Posád**

(2008)

# Diocese of Hradec Králové

## Cathedral:

The Holy Spirit

## Patron saints:

St. Clement I

Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	11,650
Population	1,260,000
Catholics	400,000
Vicariates	14
Parishes	258
Priests	190
Religious priests	34
Number of permanent deacons	42
Churches and chapels	1,076



## Contact:

Biskupství královéhradecké  
Velké nám. 35  
500 01 Hradec Králové  
Phone: +420 495 063 611  
E-mail: [biskupstvi@bihk.cz](mailto:biskupstvi@bihk.cz)  
[www.bihk.cz](http://www.bihk.cz)

The diocese, with its seat in Hradec Králové, was established under Prague Archbishop Ernst von Harrach by a bull of Pope Alexander VII dated 10 November 1664. The diocese is located in the Hradec Králové and Pardubice regions and in parts of the Vysočina, Central Bohemia and Liberec regions. The Diocese of Hradec Králové publishes a magazine called **Adalbert**.

## What to see?

- > Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Hradec Králové
- > Church of the Assumption in Neratov
- > "Mountain of Mother of God" pilgrimage site in Králíky
- > Premonstratensian Monastery in Želiv
- > Our Lady of Help, Chlumek
- > Benedictine monastery in Broumov
- > in Luž pilgrimage church

## Where to stay?

- > Vesmír Diocesan Youth Centre in Deštné in the Orlické Mountains
- > Hotel Klášter Želiv
- > Dům hostů, klášter Broumov
- > Pilgrimage area at the Mountain of Mother of God in Králíky



**Diocesan Bishop**  
**Msgr. Jan Vokál**

25th Bishop of Hradec Králové  
(2011)



**Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Msgr. Prokop Brož**

(2025)



**Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus**  
**Msgr. Josef Kajnek**

(1992)

# Diocese of Litoměřice

## Cathedral:

St. Stephen

## Patron saints:

St. Zdislava, St. Stephen,  
St. Felix, St. Victorinus



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	9,393
Population	1,363,000
Catholics	160,000
Vicariates	10
Parishes	384
Priests	69
Religious priests	33
Number of permanent deacons	11
Churches and chapels	1,243

## Contact:

Biskupství litoměřické  
Dómské nám. 1/1  
412 88 Litoměřice  
Phone: +420 416 707 511  
E-mail: [biskupstvi@dltm.cz](mailto:biskupstvi@dltm.cz)  
[www.dltm.cz](http://www.dltm.cz)

The diocese was established by a bull of Pope Alexander VII dated 3 July 1655. Today the Diocese of Litoměřice covers the area of two regions, Ústí nad Labem and Liberec, and also parts of three other regions: Hradec Králové, Central Bohemia and Karlovy Vary. The bishopric publishes a diocesan magazine called **Zdislava**.

## What to see?

- > Jablonné v Podještědí the tomb of St. Zdislava, the main patron saint of the diocese
- > The Horní Police, Hejnice, Filipov and Bohosudov Marian pilgrimage sites
- > Part of the St. James's Way and the Via Sacra pilgrimage path pass through the diocese
- > "St. Stephen's" Bishop's Brewery in Litoměřice
- > The Cistercian Abbey at Osek

## Where to stay?

- > Hejnice Monastery - educational, convention and pilgrimage centre
- > St. Stephen's Hostel in Litoměřice
- > Jítrava Parish House
- > Monastery Guest House in Jiřetín pod Jedlovou



**Diocesan Bishop**  
**Msgr. Stanislav Příbyl**

21th Bishop of Litoměřice (2024)



**Bishop Emeritus**  
**Msgr. Jan Baxant**

20th Bishop of Litoměřice (2008)



# Diocese of Plzeň

## Cathedral:

St. Bartholomew

## Patron saints:

Blessed Hroznata



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	9,661
Population	835,000
Catholics	113,000
Vicariates	10
Parishes	68
Priests	98
Religious priests	42
Number of permanent deacons	6
Churches and chapels	907

## Contact:

Biskupství plzeňské

nám. Republiky 35

301 00 Plzeň

Phone: +420 377 223 112

E-mail: [bip@bip.cz](mailto:bip@bip.cz)

[www.bip.cz](http://www.bip.cz)

The Diocese of Plzeň was established by a bull of Pope Saint John Paul II dated 31 May 1993. Msgr. František Radkovský was its first appointed bishop. On 30 April 2016, Msgr. Tomáš Holub became bishop of the diocese. The diocese publishes a magazine called **Zpravodaj plzeňské diecéze** (Diocese of Plzeň Bulletin).

## What to see?

- > Cathedral of St. Bartholomew
- > Museum of Church Arts of the Diocese of Plzeň
- > Premonstratensian Monastery in Teplá
- > Paths on the St. James's Way leading through the diocese
- > Maria Loreto in Starý Hrozňatov, Church of the Assumption in Přeštice, Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception and St. Ignatius in Klatovy, Church of the Assumption in Chlum Svaté Máří, the Highway Chapel of the Reconciliation by Šlovice and so on

## Where to stay?

- > Recreational centre in Boží Dar
- > Recreational centre in Pernink
- > [www.bip.cz/cs/rekreacni-centra](http://www.bip.cz/cs/rekreacni-centra)



**Diocesan Bishop**

**Msgr. Tomáš Holub**

2nd Bishop of Plzeň (2016)



**Bishop Emeritus**

**Msgr. František Radkovský**

1st Bishop of Plzeň (1993)

# Archdiocese of Olomouc

## Cathedral:

St. Wenceslaus

## Patron saints:

St. Wenceslaus, Sts. Cyril and Methodius,  
St. Christinus and companions, St. Adalbert,  
St. Vitus, St. Procopius, St. Cordula,  
St. Ludmila, St. Paulina



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	10,018
Population	1,376,000
Catholics	568,000
Vicariates	21
Parishes	418
Priests	293
Religious priests	91
Number of permanent deacons	39
Churches and chapels	1,275

## Contact:

Arcibiskupství olomoucké  
Wurmova 562/9  
pošt. schr. 193  
779 00 Olomouc  
Phone: +420 587 405 411  
E-mail: [ado@ado.cz](mailto:ado@ado.cz)  
[www.ado.cz](http://www.ado.cz)

The Diocese of Olomouc, as a continuation of the Moravian archdiocese of St. Methodius from the year 869, was established in 1063 by Pope Alexander II on territory appropriated from the Diocese of Prague. Pope Pius VI elevated the diocese to the status of archdiocese by bull of 5 December 1777. The Archdiocesan Centre for Family Life offers help to families in all 21 deaneries. The archdiocese publishes a magazine called **Oldin** - the Olomouc archdiocese informer.



**Archbishop**  
**Msgr. Josef Nuzík**  
15th Archbishop  
of Olomouc (2024)



**Auxiliary Bishop**  
**Msgr. Antonín Basler**  
(2017)



**Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus**  
**Msgr. Josef Hrdlička**  
(1990)

## What to see?

- > Velehrad, Days of the People of Good Will
- > Svatý Hostýn, pilgrimage site
- > Archbishop's Palace in Olomouc
- > Archbishop's Chateau in Kroměříž
- > Archdiocesan Museums (Olomouc, Kroměříž)
- > Svatý Antoníněk

# Diocese of Brno

## Cathedral:

Sts. Peter and Paul

## Patron saints:

Sts. Peter and Paul

Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	10,668
Population	1,387,000
Catholics	500,000
Vicariates	20
Parishes	451
Priests	304
Religious priests	74
Number of permanent deacons	53
Churches and chapels	1,485



## Contact:

Biskupství brněnské  
Petrov 269/8  
601 43 Brno  
Phone: +420 533 033 111  
E-mail: [brno@biskupstvi.cz](mailto:brno@biskupstvi.cz)  
[www.biskupstvi.cz](http://www.biskupstvi.cz)

The establishment of the Diocese of Brno was part of Empress Maria Theresa's ecclesiastical reforms, which in the 1770's had a radical impact on the life of the Church all over the Habsburg Monarchy. On the Empress's initiative, the Diocese of Olomouc was elevated to archdiocese pursuant to a bull from Pope Pius VI on 5 December 1777, and at the same time a new diocese with its seat in Brno was established in the southwest part of Moravia. In the diocese today, living traditions are still followed and joyous faith is still prevalent. Current pastoral priorities include care for the family and for the parish. The "Church Tourism" project, with its "Cirkevní turistika" brochure and website with the same name, attracts visitors to pilgrimage sites. The diocese also manages the website for Night of the Churches, Christian Christmas and Easter and publishes also topical magazines for catechism, for youth and for church musicians.

## What to see?

- > St. John of Nepomuk pilgrimage church in Zelená hora, Žďár nad Sázavou
- > Porta coeli Convent
- > Diocesan Museum in Brno
- > Rosa coeli Convent



**Diocesan Bishop**  
**Msgr. Pavel Konzbul**  
14th Bishop of Brno (2022)



**Diocesan Bishop Emeritus**  
**Msgr. Vojtěch Cikrle**  
13th Bishop of Brno (1990)

# Diocese of Ostrava-Opava

## Cathedral:

Divine Saviour

## Patron saints:

Blessed Marie Antonína Kratochvílová,  
St. Hedwig of Silesia, St. John Sarkander,  
St. Melchior Grodziecki,  
Blessed Metoděj Dominik Trčka



Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	6,150
Population	1,290,000
Catholics	422,000
Vicariates	11
Parishes	276
Priests	198
Religious priests	31
Number of permanent deacons	19
Churches and chapels	603

## Contact:

Biskupství ostravsko-opavské  
Kostelní náměstí 3172/1  
728 02 Ostrava  
Phone: +420 596 116 522  
Phone: +420 597 822 200  
E-mail: [kurie@doo.cz](mailto:kurie@doo.cz)  
[www.doo.cz](http://www.doo.cz)

The Diocese of Ostrava-Opava is the youngest diocese in the Czech Republic. It was established by Pope Saint John Paul II on 30 May 1996 by the *Ad Christefidelium Spirituali* bull. The diocese publishes a magazine called **Okno** (Window).

## What to see?

- > Cathedral of the Divine Saviour in Ostrava
- > Our Lady of the Assumption Co-Cathedral in Opava
- > Basilica of the Visitation of Our Lady in Frýdek
- > Maria Hilf pilgrimage site by Zlaté Hory
- > Other interesting churches in the Moravian-Silesian Region open as part of the "Open Temples" project  
[www.doo.cz/otevrenechramy](http://www.doo.cz/otevrenechramy)
- > The "Silesian Lily" international festival of contemporary Christian music [www.slezskalilie.cz](http://www.slezskalilie.cz)



**Diocesan Bishop**  
**Msgr. Martin David**  
(2023)

# Apostolic Exarchate in the Czech Republic

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## **Cathedral:**

St. Clement in Prague

## **Patron saints:**

St. Clement, Sts. Cyril and Methodius,  
St. Agnes, St. Nicholas



Current estimated number of Greek Catholics in the Czech Republic	20,000 (a large portion is comprised of Ukrainian and Slovak nationals)
Number of deaneries	7
Number of parishes	20
Number of filial centres	23
Priests and deacons in spiritual service	31
Priests without assignment (retired)	7

*Source: Information of the exarchate based on data from 2021*

## **Contact:**

Apoštolský exarchát  
Haštalské nám. 4  
110 00 Praha 1  
Phone: +420 221 778 491  
E-mail: [exarchat@exarchat.cz](mailto:exarchat@exarchat.cz)  
[www.exarchat.cz](http://www.exarchat.cz)

Greek Catholics, or more precisely Catholics of the Byzantine Rite, are part of the community of the Catholic Church, with whom they are in full spiritual communion. They acknowledge the authority of the Bishop of Rome (the Pope), however, their rituals are a bit different, as are certain disciplinary features. They celebrate worship services and conduct other liturgical acts in the Byzantine-Slavonic Rite.

The Apostolic Exarchate for Catholics of the Byzantine Rite was established in the Czech Republic by Pope Saint John Paul II on 15 March 1996. It is headed by a bishop who has all the rights of an eparchial bishop. An exarchate is the first stage of an eparchy (diocese) and is subject to the direct authority of the Apostolic See – it is managed by the Congregation for the Oriental Churches.

Until the Holy See decides  
on the appointment of the bishop-exarch,  
the pastoral administration is entrusted  
to the Vicar General,  
**Mit. Mgr. Vasyl Slivocký.**

The Exarchate publishes a bimonthly bulletin called **Exarchát** and the Greek Catholic Calendar yearbook. The Greek Catholic Charity has been active in the Apostolic Exarchate since 2008. The Apostolic Exarchate is also connected with the Institute of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, which focuses on the study of the Eastern Christian spiritual tradition in the framework of the history of dogmatic theology, liturgy, law and the spirituality of Eastern Christians, primarily of the Byzantine Rite.

### What to see?

- > Svatá Hora (Holy Mountain) near Příbram – for the traditional Greek Catholic feast day (usually the last Saturday in June)
- > Velehrad – for the traditional Greek Catholic feast day (5 July in the afternoon in the Basilica of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and Sts. Cyril and Methodius)
- > All Saints' Church, Collegiate Chapter of All Saints at Prague Castle – for the traditional Greek Catholic feast day for St. Procopius (usually Sunday before or after the saint's feast day on 4 July)
- > Church of St. Bartholomew in Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – for the feast day for the beatified Greek Catholic Father Metoděj Dominik Trčka, CSsR (end of August)

### Important churches:

- > Cathedral of St. Clement, Church of Sts. Cosmas and Damian in Emauzy, Holy Trinity Church, Rotunda of St. Longin in Prague
- > Church of St. Nicholas in Plzeň
- > Chapel of St. Andrew in Karlovy Vary
- > Church of St. Joseph in Brno







# Overview of Sacraments Performed

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The Church accompanies a person throughout his or her life. Through the sacraments it helps make full key periods from birth to death.

## Overview of Sacraments Performed in 2023

Diocese	Baptisms	Confirma- tions	1st Holy Commun- ion	Weddings	Funerals
Praha	1,997	503	949	438	1,683
Plzeň	634	114	151	105	586
České Budějovice	1,295	298	484	304	1,875
Litoměřice	990	171	159	167	860
Hradec Králové	1,745	351	695	430	2,092
Olomouc	3,461	1,020	2,000	847	4,326
Brno	3,674	942	2,008	956	3,992
Ostrava-Opava	2,459	418	1,277	658	3,271
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,255</b>	<b>3,817</b>	<b>7,723</b>	<b>3,905</b>	<b>18,685</b>

Source: information of the dioceses /exarchate



# Religious Orders and Movements



# Religious Orders and Congregations

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The consecrated life is an answer to the longing for happiness and a full life. It is one of the possible ways to follow Jesus Christ intensely.

## Conference of Major Superiors of Men Religious

The conference is comprised of the major superiors of orders of men religious and societies of apostolic life in the Czech Republic. The conference's statutes have been approved by the Pope. It has been established by him as the ecclesiastical legal person and remains under his supreme leadership. Members of the conference help each other in addressing common issues; they support one another in religious life and help achieve the goals of each institution. They cooperate and coordinate their activities in the fields of pastoral care and charity and in matters that are to be carried out in cooperation with the ecclesiastical authority.

Men religious communities are particularly active in pastoral care and education; their members teach at universities and institutes of higher education, participate in publishing activities, and some work at Caritas or in healthcare. Find out more at [www.rehole.cz](http://www.rehole.cz).

**As of 1 January 2023,  
there were:**

- > 602 men religious
- > 92 community houses

**Contact:**

Conference of Major Superiors  
of Men Religious (CZ)  
Markétská 1/28, 169 00 Praha 6 – Břevnov

**President:**

Prokop Siostrzonek, OSB  
Archabbot of the Břevnov Abbacy

**Vice-president:**

Marian Rudolf Kosík, OPraem.  
Abbot of the Monastery in Nová Říše

**Presidency Members:**

Lukáš Fošum, OP, prior provincial of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans)  
Juan Provecho, OSA, delegate prior provincial of the Augustinians  
Dismas Tomašík, OFM Cap., provincial superior of the Capuchins  
Josef Šedivý, O.Cr., grandmaster of the Knights of the Cross with the Red Star

**Secretary:**

Zachariáš T. Kristek, OPraem.



## List of Men Religious Orders:

- > **Order of St. Augustin** (OSA)
- > **Canons Regular of St. Augustine** (CRV)
- > **Order of St. Benedict – Slavonic Benedictine Congregation of St. Adalbert** (OSB)
- > **Order of Cistercians** (OCist.)
- > **Order of Preachers (Dominicans)** (OP)
- > **Order of Friars Minor** (OFM)
- > **Institut Chemin Neuf** (ChN)
- > **Order of the Brothers of the House of Saint Mary in Jerusalem** (O.T.)

- > **Society of Jesus (Jesuits) (SJ)**
- > **Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (OFMCap.)**
- > **Order of Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel (O.Carm.)**
- > **Order of the Discalced Carmelites (OCD)**
- > **Military Order of the Crusaders of the Red Star (O.Cr.)**
- > **Sovereign Military Order of Malta (Omelit)**
- > **Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception (MIC)**
- > **Hospitaller Order of St. John of God (OH)**
- > **Order of Friars Minor Conventual (Minorites) (OFMConv.)**
- > **Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo (FSCB)**
- > **Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI)**
- > **Society of the Catholic Apostolate (Pallottines) (SAC)**
- > **Order of Minims of St. Francis of Paula (OM)**
- > **Order of St. Paul the First Hermit (OSPPE)**
- > **Congregation of the Most Holy Sacrament (CFSSS)**
- > **Order of the Pious Schools (Piarists) (SchP)**
- > **Order of the Premonstratensians (OPraem.)**
- > **Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists) (CSsR)**
- > **Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB)**
- > **Missionaries of Our Lady of Salette (MS)**
- > **Society of the Divine Saviour (SDS)**
- > **Order of the Cistercians of the Strict Observance (OCSO)**
- > **Secular Institute of Schoenstatt-Patres (ISCh)**





## Conference of Major Superiors of Women Religious

The conference consists of the major superiors of orders of women religious and societies of apostolic life in the Czech Republic. The conference's statutes have been approved by the Pope. It has been established by him as the ecclesiastical legal person and remains under his supreme leadership. Members of the conference help each other in addressing common issues; they support one another in religious life and help achieve the goals of each institution.

They cooperate and coordinate their activities in the fields of pastoral care and charity and in matters that are to be carried out in cooperation with the ecclesiastical authority. Women religious communities are active in education, healthcare, charity work, spiritual accompaniment, publishing, they teach at universities and their members are also specialists in assistance professions etc. Some communities live the contemplative life..

### **As of 1 January 2023, there were:**

- > 966 women religious
- > 137 women religious communities

### **Contact:**

Conference of Major Superiors of Women Religious in the Czech Republic  
Thákurova 3  
160 00 Praha 6  
E-mail: sekretarka@rehole.cz  
[www.rehole.cz](http://www.rehole.cz)



**President:**

SM. Krista L. Chládková, OP  
general superior of the Czech Congregation of the Dominican Sisters

**Vice-president:**

Sr. Vojtěcha Zikešová  
general superior, Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate

**Presidency Members:**

Sr. Marie Anna Linhartová, OSU, provincial superior  
SM. Ancilla Anna Doležalová, general superior  
Zdeňka Švédová, FMA

**Secretary:**

Sr. Fidelis Sedláková, SCB



## List of Women Religious Communities:

### I. Monastic institutions

#### 1. Contemplative monastic institutions

- > **Porta Coeli Cistercian Convent** (OCist)
- > **Nuns of the Order of Preachers** (OP)
- > **Order of the Poor Clare Sisters** (OSC)
- > **Order of the Capuchin Poor Clares** (OSCCap.)

- > **Order of Canons Regular of Prémontré (OPraem.)**
- > **Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance - Trappists (OCSO)**
- > **Order of the Sisters of the Visitation of Holy Mary (VSM)**



## 2. Other Monastic Institutions

### 2.1 Monastic Institutions with a Superior in the Czech Republic

- > **Elizabethan Sisters (OSE)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Borromeo (SCB)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Sts. Cyril and Methodius (SCM)**
- > **Czech Province of the Congregation of the Daughters of Divine Love (FDC)**
- > **Czech Congregation of the Dominican Sisters (OP)**
- > **Sisters of the Apostolate of St. Francis (AF)**
- > **Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate (CImConc)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Third Order of St. Francis in Opava (SMFO)**
- > **Czech Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross (SCSC)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Third Order of St. Francis under the Protection of the Holy Family in Brno (OF)**



- > **Congregation of the Grey Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis** (OSFGr)
- > **School Sisters of St. Francis - Czech Province** (OSF)
- > **Bohemian-Moravian Province of the Norbertine Sisters** (S.Praem)
- > **Province of the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians** (FMA)
- > **Society of the Sisters of Jesus** (SSJ)
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of the Most Holy Sacrament** (KSNS)
- > **Czech Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Hedwig** (CSSH)
- > **Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (Silesian) - Bohemian-Silesian Province** (ABMV)
- > **Czechoslovakian Province of the School Sisters of Notre Dame** (SSND)
- > **Congregation of the School Sisters of Notre Dame**
- > **Czech Province of the Congregation of Sisters Comforters of the Divine Heart of Jesus** (CSC)
- > **Czech Province of the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul** (SV)
- > **Bohemian-Moravian Province of the Ursulines of the Roman Union** (OSU)
- > **Venio Benedictine Abbey of Transfiguration of the Lord** (OSB)

## 2.2 Monastic Institutions without a Superior in the Czech Republic

- > **Czech Province of Congregatio Jesu (CJ)**
- > **Convent of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart (FMSC)**
- > **Czechoslovakian Province of the Sisters of Mercy of Our Lady of Jerusalem (OT)**
- > **Convent of the Congregation of the Carmelite Sisters (INSC)**
- > **Congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of the Infant Jesus (CSCIJ)**
- > **Convent of the Carmelite Sisters of St. Teresa (CSTF)**
- > **Monastic House of the Institute of the Daughters of St. Paul (FSP)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy (KMBM)**
- > **Community of the Infant Jesus Sisters of Nicolas Barré (SDJ)**
- > **Fraternity of the Little Sisters of Jesus (FSMJ)**
- > **Missionaries of Charity (MC)**



- > **Congregation of the Sisters of the Divine Saviour (CSSsS)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of Angels (CSA)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth (CSSE)**
- > **Community of the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS)**



- > **Convent of the Servers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SSCJ)**
- > **Congregation of the Sisters Disciples of the Divine Master (PDDM)**

## II. Societies of the Apostolic Life

- > **Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul (DKL)**

## III. Secular Institutes

- > **Secular Institute “Madonna della Strada” (MDS)**
- > **Centre of the Secular Institute “SERVITIUM CHRISTI” (CSI-SCH)**
- > **Czech Province of the Secular Institute of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary (ISSM)**
- > **Secular Institute of the Work of Blessed Zdislava (DBZ)**



## Church Movements

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New movements and communities bear witness to the diversity of the Church. They grow out of initiatives inspired by the Holy Spirit, and they long to develop and serve in specific areas of life.

A wide variety of groups (communities) exist within the Church, allowing every person of faith to put his or her gifts and talents to use in a specific way.

Each of these initiatives fills different needs of the Church and the world, and they complement each other. They are a fruit of the diversity of the Church's life.

## Catholic Movements and New Communities in the Czech Republic:

> **Community of the Beatitudes** / [www.blahoslavenstvi.cz](http://www.blahoslavenstvi.cz)

The community's characteristic feature is a life that is both contemplative and apostolic and includes service to the local Church.

> **Comunione e Liberazione** / [cz.clonline.org](http://cz.clonline.org)

The movement aims to lead its followers to Christian maturity, and thus to cooperate to the Church's mission in all spheres of contemporary life.



> **Cursillo** / [cursillo.cz](http://cursillo.cz)

Cursillo is a global movement of priests and laypeople, who take part in the Church's evangelization activities around the world. Its primary activity is the organization of weekend courses that help strengthen participants' relationship with God.

> **Emmanuel Community** / [emmanuel.cz](http://emmanuel.cz)

Emmanuel means "God with Us" and the community's members try primarily to come to know Jesus as the centre of their own everyday lives.

> **Fatima Apostolate** / [cm-fatima.cz](http://cm-fatima.cz)

The apostolate's main mission is the renewal of the Church through praying the rosary in unity with Mary, Mother of Jesus, in the spirit of the Pentecostal Cenacle.

> **Focolare Movement** / [focolare.cz](http://focolare.cz)

The movement strives to fulfil the Gospel in the spirit of Jesus's call "that they may be one" and it is involved in interreligious dialogue in many countries around the world.

> **Charismatic Renewal** / [www.cho.cz](http://www.cho.cz)

Charismatic renewal is one of the ways to re-discover the mystery of the Pentecost, the mystery of Christian life lived from the gifts of God, from the power and love of the Holy Spirit which has been poured into our hearts.

> **Chemin Neuf Community** / [chemin-neuf.cz](http://chemin-neuf.cz)

This is an originally French Roman Catholic community with a call to ecumenism. It develops activities for spiritual formation and evangelization.



> **Koinonia John the Baptist** / [koinonia.cz](http://koinonia.cz)

The association is founded as a living community built on friendship, experiencing prayer under the powerful workings of the Holy Spirit and bearing witness to joy in Christ's resurrection.

> **Legion of Mary** / [legio-mariae.cz](http://legio-mariae.cz)

The goal of the Legion of Mary lay organization is to develop its members' spiritual life and to spread the kingdom of Christ through Our Lady.

> **Miles Jesu** / [www.milesjesu.org](http://www.milesjesu.org)

The main charismata of Miles Jesu are the formation of laypeople, work for Christian unity, helping young people to find their orientation in life, and providing help to the poor and the sick in the poorest countries.

> **Mothers Prayers** / [modlitbymatek.cz](http://modlitbymatek.cz)

The Mothers Prayers movement is built on regular meetings and prayers for the mothers' children and own families.

> **Neocatechumenal Way** / [neocatechumenaleiter.org](http://neocatechumenaleiter.org)

The term "neocatechumenal way" describes a means for the spiritual formation of adults, who have already been baptized but have not yet received sufficient Christian preparation and training.





> **Noah Community** / [komunitanoe.cz](http://komunitanoe.cz)

This is an open Christian community seeking to live an authentic life from the Gospel in the midst of today's society and helping people in difficult situations.

> **Regnum Christi** / [regnumchristi.org](http://regnumchristi.org)

This is an international Catholic movement whose spirituality emphasizes love of Christ, Our Lady, the Church and the Pope.

> **Sant'Egidio Community** / [santegidio.cz](http://santegidio.cz)

The Community's mission is to serve and bring Christ to poor people on the edge of society.

> **The Apostolic Movement of Schoenstatt** / [schoenstatt.cz](http://schoenstatt.cz)

The spirituality and structure of the Schoenstatt movement helps people who are seeking the harmonious development of their entire being, their natural abilities and their relationship with God.

> **Light-Life** / [oaza.info/novyweb](http://oaza.info/novyweb)

The aim of the movement is expressed in brief by its name, which denotes the unity of life or behaviour with light, which is a gift of God. Its members' spirituality is manifested in the continuous deepening of their personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

> **Faith and Light** / [viraasvetlo.evangelnet.cz](http://viraasvetlo.evangelnet.cz)

Faith and Light is a movement based on a community. At the heart of this community there are people with varying degrees of mental disability.



## Personal Prelatures

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Unlike dioceses, personal prelatures are not defined geographically, but rather by the type of person who belongs to the prelature. Their unifying element can be language, nationality or vocation.

They can be established by the Apostolic See after consultation with the relevant bishops' conferences to support an appropriate distribution of priests or the discharge of special pastoral or missionary tasks in different regions or in different social groups.

In the Catholic Church there is the personal prelature of the Holy Cross and **Opus Dei** (abbreviated as Opus Dei), which is also active in the Czech Republic. Opus Dei was established by Pope St. John Paul II as a personal prelature with international standing through the apostolic constitution *Ut Sit* on 28 November 1982. This specific pastoral task consists in **spreading the ideal of holiness through the world**, at work, under the specific conditions of each individual person of faith of the prelature.

The personal prelature is governed by the statutes issued by the Apostolic See, headed by the **prelate** as its own ordinary.

The statutes also determine the relationship between the personal prelature and the local ordinaries, in whose local churches the personal prelature conducts or plans on conducting his pastoral or missionary activities with the prior consent of the diocesan bishop. CIC 294–297.











**Published by CBC in 2025**

Text and editing: CBC

Photographs:

Člověk a Víra:

Zdeněk Poruba, Veronika Skalická, Roman Albrecht, Tomáš Feco, Petr Samsa, Vojta Pospíšil, Lucie Horníková, Martina Řehořová, Tomáš Ježek, Stanislav Pospíšil, Michal Havel, Dominik Novák, Miroslav Krystek, Ivana Bužková, Václav Vlach, Klára Kalinová, Vojtěch Duda, Michael Bujnovský, Vojtěch Hlávka, Tomáš Vlasatý, Dominik Polanský, Krystof Wanek, František Ingr, Petr Nedoma, Jan Hudáč, Markéta Zelenková, Jana Havlová, Jakub Šerých, Iva Horálková, Zbyněk Šišpera, Jaroslav Tupý, Lena Labajova, Miroslav Novotný, Dominik David, Petr Polansky, Josef Polehňa, Petr Hrabovský, Ágnes Katalin Süle, Viktorie Šupolová, Matěj Okleštěk, Ondřej Soukup, Viktor Steingart, Grafik Art: Zerkán Jiří (front cover)

Other authors and sources:

Fr. Stanislav Příbyl, Daniel Ibáñez/CNA, Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk, L'Osservatore Romano, Hillary Senour/CNA, archive of the Apostolic Nunciature in the Czech Republic, Archive of CBC, Monika Klimentová/CBC, Radek Štěpán, archive of the Střední odborné školy sv. Jana Boska v Kroměříži and the Křesťanské pedagogicko-psychologické poradny in Plzeň, archive of the Spiritual Services of AČR, archive of the Sedlec parish, Pixabay, archives of the dioceses, archive of the Opus Dei prelature. Kateřina Odvodyová/CBC, Kamila Skalinová/CBC, Magdaléna Machulová/CBC

Graphic design and typesetting: KLEINWÄCHTER holding s.r.o.

Printed by: KLEINWÄCHTER holding s.r.o.