

RÉSUMÉ

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Zsuzsa Takács: The Scent of the Poor

Georg Braulik: How Should We Like the Stranger?

Gergely András Nacsinák: Metropolitan Icon (Saint John the Almsgiver)

The inherent dilemma of Christian existence (living in two realities at the same time, experiencing both the present world and the Kingdom to come) is much more painful on the scale of the social field. When proclaimed institutionally, the truths of the Gospel, accepted and lived on personal level, are easily turned into ideologies and means of power: the living Spirit becomes dead letter. Only a saint, such as Saint John the Almsgiver, free from institutional expectations, has a chance to overcome this dilemma and build a bridge between these two modes of existence; only he or she might turn the desolate landscape of a metropolis (in his case Alexandria) into an icon of the City.

Péter Szőke: Christmas for All

Re-reading Genesis and Exodus, Jonathan Sacks has proposed the outline of a Jewish theology of role reversal: the only way for the chosen to learn how to be compassionate is to experience what it is like to feel rejected. He also argues that at Christmas God himself chooses the last place among men, that of a homeless and refugee child – quite a controversial, if not provocative image today. The pandemic has revealed that we cannot pretend to stay healthy in a sick world (Pope Francis) and shed light on the many injustices of the global political and economic system. Even if world of yesterday no longer exists and a return to the status quo ante is not possible, crises can serve as starting points for improvement. As Pope Francis suggests in *Fratelli tutti*: let a better world emerge; let us rediscover the ‘sacrament of the brother’ so that we may live all as brothers and sisters in humanity. The essay portrays the Community of Sant’Egidio as such a starting point, whose members live in personal friendships with the poor, celebrating Christmas together.

Asztrik Várszegi: Archabbot András Szennay (A Personal Reflection)

Archabbot András Szennay served as the 85th abbot of Pannonhalma. The essay is an homage to the late prelate by his successor, the 86th abbot of the Saint Martin Monastery. Archabbot András became leader of the monastic community at the time of communist suppression. His tenure saw the first overly cautious, but later on rather vivacious attempts of the church in Hungary to regain its freedom.

Mihály Kránitz: The First Post-Conciliar Years of Theological Renewal in Hungary (András Szennay as Redactor of the Quaterly Teológia)

In the years after the Second Vatican Council, the renewal of theology in Hungary was largely due to the journal *Teológia*, founded in 1967. From 1971, the Benedictine monk András Szennay (1921–2012) – born exactly one hundred years ago – became the editor-in-chief of the paper with the aim to present and methodically explore the changes in the church. The selection of topics, authors and books to be reviewed in the journal, as well as the questionnaires sent to the readers confirm András Szennay’s exceptional editorial readiness, which shaped greatly the post-conciliar landscape of Hungarian theology.

Marcell Mártonffy: The Sobriety of the Ecclesiological Imagination (In Memory of Ghislain Lafont OSB)

The oeuvre of the distinguished French theologian and Benedictine monk Fr. Ghislain Lafont, who died in 2021 at the age of 93, touches upon numerous main topics of Catholic theology, starting with the analysis of Aquinas’ *Summa* up to the retracing of a “theological history” of the Church and the deconstruction—i.e. the constructive reconstruction—of the actually existing Catholicism. Even in the

last years of his life, Lafont published several books in which he reconsidered, partly under the influence of Pope Francis' gestures, the innovative ecclesiological suggestions of Vatican II. The present appreciation points out some aspects of the quiet radicalism of Ghislain Lafont imagining the specific features of a future Catholic Church based entirely on "the love in abundance" and the mercy of God.

Tamás Németh: *Mesias Has Already Left (Suggestions for Reading of The Dispossessed)*

Szilárd Borbély's *The Dispossessed* seems to be one of the most important Hungarian novels of the last decade. The essay examines the main propositions of the reception concerning the underlying dynamics of autobiography and fiction; sociology and novel; language and perspective; otherness and identity. It argues that *The Dispossessed* can (and should) be read as a work of fiction, whose narrative tools and methods (such as the disguised adult narrator) create „experimental conditions” to seek answers to one principal question: What does it mean to be human in the state of complete material-spiritual-cultural poverty?

Benedek Péter Tóta: *Ernst Barlach and the Aspects of Poverty*

Following the survey of the first half of Ernst Barlach's life presented by himself, one can trace his steps of fiascos and frustrations outlining his sense of personal poverty in art and life. In 1906, with the hope for a dramatic change, he went on a trip to Russia where he met poverty embracing and permeating human life in general. Thanks to this experience, symbolized poverty became the genuine form of existence in Barlach's art. Probing some examples of his sculptures and statues (*Russian Beggar Woman; Blind Beggar*), drawings or lithographs and woodcuts (*Sorrow; The Divine Beggar*), letters and plays (*The Poor Cousin*), one can come close to the perception: poverty is an authentic and venerable (almost hallowed, abundantly enriching) state of being human and human being – an apprehension appreciated even by Samuel Beckett.

Balázs Vácz: *The „Immense Freedom of the Cosmos” (Aspects of the Sacred in the Works of László Krasznahorkai)*

This study delves into similarities between *The Melancholy of Resistance* and *Spade-work for a Palace* by Laszlo Krasznahorkai with the approach of the sacred. Without claiming to be comprehensive, it attempts at adding an occasional outlook on the topic-related aspects of *Satantango* and at shedding some light on the spatial poetic objects and representational operations that may be related to the topic of sacredness. The essay also explores the various perspectives of the ontological problem of freedom. The tiers of connotation in the texts are composed of elements of the sacred constructed in a position of isolation and solitude. Various aspects of the ritual locomotion, such as Valuska and Melvill's "walk", are the manifestations of the "universal" or cosmic bond, eliminating secular validities while exploiting space constructions, such as cities, buildings, and indoor spaces.

György Ruzsa: *Icons, Flat-Surface Compositions (Comments on a Nil Stolobensky Icon)*

First, the study examines the important aspect of the so-called 'flat-surface' composition of the pictorial tradition in the icon painting. Next, it discusses the hagiography of Saint Nil Stolobensky. The essay, then, explores an unusual iconographic depiction of Saint Nil from the middle of the 19th century. The icon in question depicts Saint Nil together with various other saints, raising the figure of Saint Nil out of the surface of the icon, almost constructing a three-dimensional form. There are also many carved and painted wooden statues of Saint Nil. These were rather uncommon features in the art of the Russian Eastern Church. Lastly, the essay compares an icon of Saint Nil, which represents the saint with the monastery founded by him, with a Theotokos icon from Seliger.

Anzelm Vásárhelyi: *In Community of Goods*

Poems by Barnabás Dukay, Nándor Takács, Zsolt Szalai, Heinrich Heine, and Rainer Maria Rilke

Az evangélium szabadságában éljete!

Ferenc pápa beszédei budapesti és szlovákiai látogatásán

Új Ember – Pannonhalmi Főapátság Bencés Kiadó, 2021, 126 oldal,
ára: 3400 Ft

„A kötet a 34. apostoli út során a Szentatya részéről elmondott valamennyi beszédet tartalmazza. Hisszük, hogy a kötet hozzásegíthet mindannyiunkat a megtérés útján ahhoz, hogy közelebb tudjunk lépni Istenhez. Hogy ennek gyümölcseként testvérként közelebb tudjunk egymáshoz lépni, akár a határ egyik, akár a másik oldalán élünk.” (Kuzmányi István, a Magyar Kurír főszerkesztője)



Napközi imaóra

Pannonhalmi Főapátság Bencés Kiadó, 2021, 154 oldal, ára: 3200 Ft

Ósi hagyomány, hogy a szerzetesek a nap közepén, munkájukat megszakítva, egy negyedórás imádságra összegyűlnek a templomba. Ennek az imaórának a célja, hogy amikor „Az ég delén a napkorong” megjelenik, az időt megteremtő Istent dicsőítsük. A zsoltárok szavaival Isten elé visszük napunk gondjait és örömeit. Isten ígéjére figyelünk, hogy útmutatást kapjunk napunk hátralévő részére.

A napközi imaórák kötet kiadásával szeretnénk lehetővé tenni, hogy a hívek is be tudjanak kapcsolódni a szerzetesek ősi imádságába. A kötet a közösen imádkozott részeket tartalmazza. Az olvasmány, a könyörgések és a zárókönyörgés a www.pannonhalmizsolozsma.hu internetes oldalon érhető el.



SZERK. HARDI TITUSZ OSB ÉS DEJCSICS KONRÁD OSB

Énekelj az Úrnak!

Pannonhalmi Főapátság Bencés Kiadó, 2021, 558 oldal, ára: 4700 Ft

Az *Énekelj az Úrnak!* énekeskönyv, a „kék könyv” a mi saját allelujánk. Dalai a hatvanas évek óta születnek plébániákon, ifjúsági közösségekben, különböző szerzőknél. A rendszerváltás idején, 1993-ban jelentek meg először a bencés zsolozsmáskönyv fekvő formátumában, majd 1999-ben nagyalakú könyvként a Bencés Kiadó gondozásában. Csaknem harminc évvel az első kiadás után a Pannonhalmi Főapátság Bencés Kiadó kortársá tette a kiadást, amikor modernebb kottaképet és új technikai megoldásokat kínál. Milyen csodálatos az Isten, hogy a „kék könyvben” szereplő daloknak már ilyen történetük van! Nemzedék nemzedéknek hirdeti az Úr hatalmas tetteit, s az új generációknak halló fülük van: elfogadják és befogadják szüleik, sőt nagyszüleik allelujáját!

(Hortobágyi T. Cirill OSB pannonhalmi főapát előszavából)

