



Vytautas Magnus University
Research Cluster "Church Relations with State and Society in Lithuania"
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Catholic Theology
Vytautas Kavolis Transdisciplinary Research Institute

International Scientific Conference

MONASTIC LIFE IN LITHUANIA: HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVES

DEDICATED TO THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDATION OF THE BENEDICTINE MONASTERY
IN KAUNAS

Programme

May 30–31, 2024

VMU Aula Magna, Gimnazijos Str. 7, Kaunas, Lithuania

Thursday, May 30

9.00–9.50 Registration

9.50–10.00 Opening Ceremony

THE BENEDICTINE WORLD OF THE POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH

10.00–12.00 Moderator Anna Sylwia Czyż

Gabrielė Aušra Vasiliauskaitė OSB
(Vytautas Magnus University)

The Benedictine sisters of Kaunas in the time
of bishop Teofilius Matulionis (1936–1943)

Kotryna Indrė Šurkutė OSB
(Vilnius St Joseph's Theological Institute)

The procession of Twelve Apostles in St Nicholas' Church of
Kaunas: iconography and the context of the paintings



Tomasz Kempa (Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun)

The client and his patron – Andrzej Skorulski and Mikołaj Krzysztof Radziwiłł “the Orphan” – two founders of Benedictine monasteries

Jolanta Gwioździk (University of Silesia in Katowice)

A constant fighter. Formation and patterns of holiness in the Benedictine convents of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the times of Abbess Krystyna Eufemia Radziwiłłówna

Jarosław Pietrzak

(University of the National Educational Commission, Krakow)

Justyna (Eufemia) Szaniawska and her reforms of the Nesvizh Benedictine monastery in the 18th century

12.00-13.00 Lunch break

13.00-15.00 Moderator Aušra Vasiliauskienė

Anna Penkała-Jastrzębska

(University of the National Educational Commission, Krakow)

“Loué soit le très-saint Sacrement” – monastic life in the eighteenth-century Benedictine Monastery in Warsaw in the light of correspondence of Maria Augustyna Radziwiłłówna

Vaida Kamuntavičienė (Vytautas Magnus University)

Kaunas Benedictine chaplains in the 17th and 19th centuries (Jesuits, Dominicans, Bernardines, etc.)

Domininkas Burba (Vytautas Magnus University)

Cases of property and violence: the trials of Vilnius St Benedict nuns in the 18th century / Sprawy o własność i przemoc: procesy benedyktynek wileńskich w XVIII wieku

Karolina Koroliova-Barkova (Church Heritage Museum, Vilnius)

The fate of Vilnius heritage: the treasures of Vilnius Benedictine Convent in the turbulent 20th century

Viktorija Vaitkevičiūtė

(Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania)

“A monastery without books is like an army without weapons:” Vilnius Benedictine book collection at the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania

15.00-15.30 Coffee break

15.30-18.00 Moderator Tomasz Kempa

Iwona Pietrzekiewicz

(University of the National Educational Commission, Krakow)

Benedictine monks in Old Trakai and their social environment

Ričardas Jaramičius (Vytautas Magnus University)

The monastery of Kaunas Barefoot Carmelites from 1772 to 1845

Milda Kvizikevičiūtė

(Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, National Museum of Lithuania)

Observant Franciscans of Tytuvėnai books at the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania

Kseniya Liubaya (University of Warsaw)

Minsk Catholic monasteries in Zavisha family funeral projects of the 17th–18th centuries

Andrei Liuby, Kseniya Liubaya (University of Warsaw)

Church correspondence of Zavisha family representatives in Rome archives

Aušra Vasiliauskienė (Vytautas Magnus University)

Changes of the interior decor and iconographic program of the former Kaunas Bernardine nuns' church of the Holy Trinity in the 20th century



18.00 Discussion

Friday, May 31

MONKS AND NUNS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH SOCIETY

9.00-11.00 Moderator Ričardas Jaramičius

Witali Michalczuk (University of Warsaw)

Reform of the typikon in Orthodox monasteries in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 15th and 16th centuries: a new experience of liturgy and art

Natalia Bilous

(Institute of History of Ukraine, National Preserve “Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”)

The Archimandrite of the Kyiv Cave Monastery, Yelisey Pletenetsky, a prominent Ukrainian religious, cultural, and educational figure. On the 400th anniversary of his death / Archimandryta Ławry Kijowsko-Peczerskiej Jełysej Pletenecki jako wybitny ukraiński duchowny, kulturalny działacz i edukator. W 400. rocznicę jego śmierci

Wioletta Zielecka-Mikołajczyk

(Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun)

Problems of Latin and Greek rite monasteries in the wills of the Oshmyanya town registers of the 17th-18th centuries

Dorota Wereda (University of Siedlce)

Foundations of Basilian monasteries in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 17th-18th centuries

Oleh Dukh (Ivan Franko National University of Lviv)

Uniate convents in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the early modern period / Unickie monastery żeńskie na terenach Wielkiego Księstwa Litewskiego w okresie nowożytnym

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.30 Moderator Vaida Kamuntavičienė

Valiantsina Zakharych (University of Warsaw)

Women founders of the Dominican order in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 17th-18th centuries

Rimvydas Laužikas (Vilnius University)

Food donation to the monastery: offering and communication

Anna Sylwia Czyż (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University)

Unknown frontispiece of the visitation of monasteries of the Lithuanian Dominican province from 1756

Rima Valinčiūtė-Varnė (Vytautas Magnus University)

Altar ensemble of the Dominican Corpus Dei Church in Kaunas, 2nd half of the 18th - 1st half of the 19th century



Marek Miławicki OP (Dominican Historical Institute in Krakow)

Priorities of the Lithuanian Province of the Order of Preachers and the religious policy of the Russian authorities in the 19th century

13.30-14.30 Lunch break

14.30-16.00 Moderator Rima Valinčiūtė-Varnė

Aliona Liubaya (University of Warsaw)

The missions of the Jesuit Order reports as a source for the local history of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the 17th-18th centuries (case of the Babruysk mission, local society, and town)

Raisa Zianiuk (independent researcher)

“Beer consumption seems to be a necessity for them”: the role of alcohol in the life of Catholic religious communities in Lithuanian and Belarusian lands at the end of the 18th and 19th centuries / “Употребление пива кажется для них необходимостью”: rola alkoholu w życiu katolickich wspólnot zakonnych na ziemiach litewskich i białoruskich w końcu XVIII i XIX wieku

Gabija Surdokaitė-Vitienė (Lithuanian Culture Research Institute)

Embroidery in women’s monasteries: regula and practices from the seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries

Daiva Vaišnorienė (Vytautas Magnus University)

The significance of monasteries in the spread of St Barbara’s cult in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the Post-Trident period

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-19.00 Moderator Inga Puidokienė

Viktor Bilotas (Vytautas Magnus University)

Catholic monks and nuns in Siberia, 1863-1917

Vilma Žaltauskaitė (Lithuanian Institute of History)

Brotherhoods and other Catholic laymen associations in 19th century Lithuania. The position of Church and imperial authorities

Nerijus Pipiras (St Ignatius of Loyola College)

Spiritual fellowship of the Sisters of the Poor of the Immaculate Conception of the Holy Virgin Mary and archbishop Mečislaus Reinis

Ignas Stanevičius (Vilnius University)

The Jesuit Fathers beyond the Iron Curtain: missionary and pastoral activities of the Jesuits in the Lithuanian Diaspora 1948–1990

Monika Rogers (Vytautas Magnus University)

Nuns against the evil empire: Lithuanian religious female communities and anti-Soviet activities

Margit Eckholt (Osnabrück University)

Between disempowerment and empowerment. Religious and missionary practices of women in the tension between mysticism and politics

19.00 Discussion

Saturday, June 1

8.00-9.00 Holy Mass at Kaunas St Nicholas Church

9.00-12.00 Reception and excursion at Kaunas Benedictine Monastery

12.00-13.00 Lunch break

13.00-15.00 Excursion at Kaunas St George Church and Monastery, Kaunas Sacral Art Museum

Scientific Committee

- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gabrielė Aušra Vasiliauskaitė OSB (Vytautas Magnus University) – chair
- Rev. Prof. Dr. Stefan M. Attard (University of Malta)
- Prof. Dr. Hab. Anna Sylwia Czyż (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University)
- Prof. Dr. Margit Eckholt (Osnabrück University)
- Rev. Prof. Dr. Josef Jančovič (Comenius University Bratislava)
- Prof. Dr. Vaida Kamuntavičienė (Vytautas Magnus University)
- Rev. Prof. Dr. Miloš Lichner SJ (Trnava University)
- Prof. Dr. Birutė Obelenienė (Vytautas Magnus University)
- Prof. Dr. Hab. Elżbieta Osewska (Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow)
- Rev. Prof. Dr. Hab. Józef Stala (Pontifical University of John Paul II in Krakow)
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aušra Vasiliauskienė (Vytautas Magnus University)

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- Dr. Vitalija Kasperavičiūtė
- Dr. Teresė Ringailienė
- Dr. Monika Rogers
- Dr. Rima Valinčiūtė-Varnė

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