

**AN ICONOGRAPHIC
PILGRIMAGE IN
SLOVAKIA, THE MARIAN
REPRESENTATIONS
IN SLOVAK CATHOLIC
CHURCHES, STARTING
FROM THE PATRON
SAINT PANNA MÁRIA
SEDEMBOLESTNÁ TO
OUR LADY OF THE
ROSARY OF FÁTIMA”**

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PILGRIMS WITH MARY

We will begin by recognizing the smallness of our knowledge regarding such an important topic. Our Mother Mary is too important and complex to be contained in a few lines. Therefore, we will assume the position of pilgrims and talk about Our Mother being next to Mary, who is always walking with her pilgrim children¹.

In a broad sense, the image representations of the Mother of God are present in different physiognomic or gestural compositions, the centuries, as well as the most diverse geographical spaces, have witnessed and continue to witness the Marian presence as a mediating path that leads us to the Father².

Our intention is to identify, observe and analyze some of the image representations³, Marianas in Slovakia, in an attempt to relate the importance of material culture and its

influence on Pietist visual culture⁴. Our theme is connected Mariaofanias⁵ and, to the different titles and iconographic representations⁶ Mariana, which can be observed in religious and public spaces in Slovakia⁷.

The pre-evangelizing Slavic cultural heritage has incredible strength in everyday life⁸ of Slavic descendants. However, with the evangelizing process, a dialectic between *Heritage* and the New way of Living, Being and Feeling came together and shaped the axis of identity creation, where liturgical celebrations are accompanied by elements of the material culture of this small country, located to the center of Europe.

In the photos below, we can see the pilgrims, walking with Sedembolestnej Panne Márii, in the city of Sastin, the devotees' clothes are part of their Heritage⁹ each city has a tradition regarding the color and style of embroidery,

1. Cf. "... His mission will be to lead us to the Son. In: Ravasi, Gianfranco. *The Faces of Mary in the Bible*. P. 16.

2. Cf. "I desire that your Icon, Mother of God, be continually reflected in the mirror of the soul and keep it pure until the end of the ages. Raise up those who are bowed to the earth and give hope to those who consider and imitate the eternal model of beauty". Prayer of Pseudo-Dionisius Areopagite. In: Ravasi, Gianfranco. *The Faces of Mary in the Bible*. P. 15.

3. Cf - three unrelated research operations merge into the same organic and indivisible process: Primary or natural theme - Pre-iconographic definition; Secondary or conventional theme - Iconographic Analysis; Intrinsic meaning - Iconological interpretation. In: Panofsky, Erwin. *Meaning in the Visual Arts*. P. 62-65.

4. Cf. The Study of the material cultures of religions is one powerful way of taking that elusive dimension of human experience much more seriously because this approach deploys a set of tools that are able to recognize the nuances of felt-life and to discern its importance for people. The use of things, the sensation of things, the cultivation of feelings that objects, spaces, and performances induce and are in turn colored by- this is felt-life or aesthetic dimension of human behavior... In: Morgan, David. *Religion and Material Culture - The matter of Belief*. P. 3.

5. Cf. It is also important to observe how the Church seeks to translate the multiple relationships that unite it to Mary, in many other diverse and effective cultural attitudes: in deep veneration, when reflecting on the singular dignity of the Holy Virgin, who, through the work of the Holy Spirit, became Mother of the Incarnate Word; in ardent love, when considering Mary's spiritual motherhood towards all the members of the Mystical Body; in confident invocation, when you experience the need for intercession from your Advocate and Helper; in loving service, when he discovers in the humble Servant of the Lord the Queen of mercy and the mother of grace; in active imitation, when she contemplates the holiness and virtues of "full of grace" (Lk 1:28); in moved admiration, when he sees in her, "as in a most pure image, what she, all of her, desires and hopes with joy to be"; in attentive study, when she glimpses the Redeemer's cooperators... In: Church Documents and Studies. *The Virgin Mary in the Church's Liturgy*. National Liturgy Secretariat. P. 35-36.

6. Cf. In many religions, images play a crucial role in creating the experience of the sacred. They express and form (and thus also document) the different views of the supernatural, assumed in different cultures and times; visions of gods and demons, saints and sinners, heavens and hells. In: Burker, Peter. *Eyewitness - The Use of Images as Historical Evidence*. P. 73.

7. Cf. Images are silent witnesses, and it is difficult to translate their testimony into words. Burker, Peter. *Eyewitness - The Use of Images as Historical Evidence*. P. 26.

8. <http://www.slovakiasite.com/holidays-customs2.php>

9. Cf. These unique patterns inspired the embroidery in the region, and have come to represent the country as a whole. Slovak Olympic teams of recent years have included such patterns on their official uniforms. In: Citajte viac: <https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20057719/slovak-folklore-and-traditional-architecture.html>

so the clothes in advance say, without words, the origins of the devotees.



Slovakia a brief introduction

Since moving from São Paulo to Slovakia, there have been many differences, however, we came across presences that were familiar to us. We observed that the vast majority of Slovak Catholic temples have representations of Saint Anthony and Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima.

In addition to the temple space, we find, both Saint Anthony and Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, sculptures, some solitary on a cement pillar or, in small chapels, welcoming us at the entrances of towns or villages in the interior of the country, serving as a geographic and belonging indicator.

We must say, however, that, as far as we have been able to observe and analyze, we do not consider there to be a dialogue between

the two representations. As for the images of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, we consider that they were largely added after the end of communism.

We witnessed the presence of textual and visual support, relating to the celebrations of the One Hundred Years of the Apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, aiming to rescue the memory of such an important fact, among the various materials distributed, we pay attention to the fact that, a large part of the support text comes from Portugal¹⁰, where the material was prepared, produced, translated into Slovak and sent to Slovakia.

When we come across these constants (Saint Anthony and Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima), we begin to scrutinize the image representations, with the aim of indicating which Marian iconographic representations are to be observed in sacred spaces, allowing, connecting them or not, with the history of the country.

Slovakia has a predominantly Christian-Catholic population¹¹ the country's evangelizing process has been recorded since the 8th century¹², however, only in the 13th century, with the arrival of Franciscan missionaries and the support of Queen Saint Elizabeth of Hungary and her husband King Ludwig I¹³, this intention came true.

From then on, a process of Christianization began to take place in the geographical space designated in post-modernity as Slovakia. Cathedrals, basilicas and churches were elevated, city buildings received temples with high towers that became the epicenter of medieval daily life. The protection of the country's main city, Bratislava, was handed over to Saint Michael or Michalská brána¹⁴ in a

10. Which seems significant to us, indicating how Slovaks understand the strong relationship/connection and legitimacy, between the phenomenon of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima with the delimited space, A Cova da Iria, Fátima in Portugal.

11. <https://mreferaty.aktuality.sk/religion-in-slovakia/referat-18225>

12. <http://www.slovakiasite.com/religion.php>

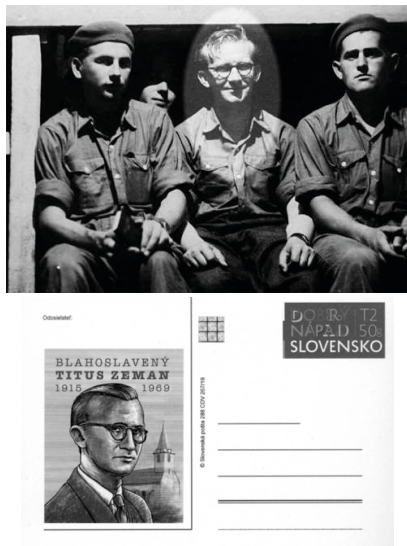
13. Cf, Lori Pieper. *The Voice of a Medieval Woman: St. Elizabeth of Hungary as a Franciscan Penitent in the Early Sources for her Life*. Livro Eletrónico. Posição 199.

14. <https://www.visitbratislava.com/places/michaels-gate/>

delimiting portal, which in an arch, currently delimits the staré Mesto (old city) and the nové Mesto (new city).

With the bipolarization that occurred in the second half of the 20th century, from 1948 onwards, the country was under Soviet rule¹⁵, everyday life marched with the imposition of Soviet ideals, for which religion must be suppressed from the social body. Resulting in the control of and in churches, material assets, movable and immovable, were taken, their files confiscated, priests and devotees were persecuted, temples were not demolished and believers were not killed, **were silenced**¹⁶

We wish to highlight that, professing the Catholic faith, during the period of communist rule, meant; receiving the worst jobs, in places with the greatest difficulty and access, as well as a smaller amount of food combined with the impossibility of entering and attending universities.



Titus Zeman- Martyr of Vocations. 01/4/1915
- 01/08/1969

15. <http://www.slovakiasite.com/history.php>

16. Cf. In August 1968 representatives of Czechoslovakia signed an agreement called The Moscow Treaty. The Kremlin's dictate began an era of "normalization" of Slovak and Czech societies and renewed the rules of neostalinism. The renewal of neostalinism, called "normalization" by its pursuers, meant re-installation of central directive planning in economic domain, secured the leading role of the communist party in all domains of social life, suppressed any possibilities for autonomy and selfgovernance and strictly demanded monopoly of Marx-Leninist ideology in cultural life. In; Jozef Zatkuliak, Josef. Slovakia in the Period of "Normalization" and Expectation of Changes (1969 -1989).

The Institute of History, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava

17. <https://tituszeman.sk/en/>

Given this information, it is natural to assume that the training spaces for young men and women, who chose to live priestly consecration and religious life, were closed. A possible alternative would be to cross the mountains on foot, aiming to reach Austria and begin your training there.

This path was designed and followed dozens of times by Father Titus Zeman¹⁷, bringing together young people eager to offer their lives to the service of the priesthood, often accompanied by Salesian priests, they crossed the mountains and, upon entering Austrian territory, headed to spaces for priestly formation. However, Father Titus Zeman resumed, as there was always another group in Slovakia waiting for him.

On one of his trips, he was discovered, along with his group of pilgrims of faith. They were arrested and convicted, identified as traitors to the country. Sentenced to 25 years in prison, his imprisonment lasted from 1952 to 1964, when he was released by the communist regime, and died in 1969, as a result of the suffering imposed during his period of imprisonment. In 2017 he was beatified, he is the Martyr of Vocations.

However, faith, that element that abounds in the human heart, did not cease, the sacraments did not cease to be performed, an entire world in silent, religious and sacramental action was maintained.

When the Berlin Wall was torn down in 1989, the reflex in Slovakia was not long in coming. Among the various requests made by the crowds who took to the streets, both in the capital and in the interior, calling for the

separation of Church and State¹⁸, it was the first request.

The popular outcry was answered and in practice it meant that the state would no longer have the right to “observe” homilies, prevent the formation of a group with religious intentions, confiscate the assets of religious spaces, among other procedures carried out previously and which They were not Christians at all.

That entire structure that remained silent and hidden came to light and thus, breathing freely, religion became part of people’s public lives without fear of now professing ***I am catholic***. Among the first visible changes was the display of religious symbols, such as medals and crucifixes, by devotees.

A second request was made by the people, for Pope John Paul II to visit the then Czechoslovakia¹⁹, four months after the end of communism, where he was the most famous devotee of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima. It would resume twice, in 1993, with the separation of Slovakia and the Czech Republic and finally in 1995.



Pray the Rosary every day

As for the numerous image presences of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, we credit this fact to the influence of Karol Voita, and the devotion of our late Saint Pope John Paul II is common, and his constant request to intercede with Her for the end of communism.

The Slovaks understood that the end of communism was a work created by divine hands, without major aesthetic revolutions or great aspirations artistic, they opened spaces for Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima to be present in the churches.

Christian communities brought together magazines, books, devotional supports, everything to know and live the faith without the shadow of repression.



Casopis pre podporu spirituality Mariánskeho kňazského hnutia. Spirituality Magazine of the Marian Priestly Movement.

18. After the 1989 Revolution toppled the Communist regime, democracy became a possibility. It became inevitable that a new basis would emerge for property relations between the state and Roman Catholic Church and its religious orders as well as other churches and religious institutions in Czechoslovakia.

In; Winter, Sidonie F. The Roman Catholic Church and the State in the Czech Republic: Property Relations and Legislative Policies. P. 9.

19. Cf. Accogliete il mio saluto deferente e cordiale! Le sono sinceramente grato, Signor Presidente, per l’invito a visitare questo nobile Paese e per le parole di benvenuto che mi ha ora rivolto. Sono parole ponderate. Elia come uomo di Stato e come letterato, come pensatore e come difensore non violento dei diritti dell’uomo e della libertà dei cittadino, conosce il peso delle parole. Saluto in Lei un uomo che arricchisce la cultura politica contemporanea dell’Europa, ponendo l’accento su valori che sono così vicini a noi cristiani. In: Viaggio pastorale nella repubblica federativa Ceca e Slovacca. Cerimonia di benvenuto. Discorso di Giovanni Paolo II. Aeroporto internazionale di Praga (Repubblica Federativa Ceca e Slovacca) Sabato, 21 aprile 1990.

https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/it/speeches/1990/apri1/19900421_arrivo-praga.html



In this simple reproduction²⁰ we can see, Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, right side of the altar, the image was installed after the end of communism; on the altar we find it inserted in a small canopy

Now being able to gather freely, without the obligation to present justification for such to the police, meetings for the reading of the Holy Scripture or for the prayer of the Holy Rosary became habitual

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, original composition of the set with the Tabernacle; Below we have a devotional magazine, where on the cover we see the iconographic representation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and on the right side of the magazine, we identify a book that is also devotional, again presenting the image of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima.

Such representations indicate to us that Marian devotion occurs in polysemy, where in social capillaries Mary, in her various acculturations is known and understood in her peculiarities, as an example the composition of the space destined to the image of the Virgin of Fátima, we can read there the imagery narration, the Marian icons presented on the candles/lamps, the lilies laid down in a vase in front of the image, the chosen flower (lily) is

20. Zdruzenie Máriiina magazine doba, back cover.

traditionally associated with chastity, revealing elements of a devotion where the devotee understands the iconographic representation and also understands his role as a devotee, which is to establish memory, using symbolic elements that designate the icon identity.

Among the various magazines, leaflets and newspapers with a Catholic Christian pietist nature, there is Máriina doba (Marian Era), produced by Zdruzenie Máriiina Doba (Association of Mary), in Bratislava.



On the feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2020, Cardinal António Marto, Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima...

We were astonished when in the Marian magazine mentioned above, we observed the graphic division on the back cover and there, we found, seeking the reader's attention, D. Antonio Marto in prayer. The composition of the page was prepared in three parts, in two

of them, we note the Holy Father²¹ a from the Holy See, granting the “Urbi et Orbi” blessing in the midst of the Coronavirus crisis and, in Fátima, at the feet of Our Lady of Fátima, Cardinal D. António Marto performing the act²² of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of the Virgin Mary, where the cardinal and bishops joined in prayer asking Mary for help in a global moment of such great danger.

What caught our attention was the magnitude of devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima expressed in an image, where the reference poles of contemporary Catholicism emerge from these two geographical spaces.

“ I will never leave you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge²³”

Among the new possibilities after communism, traveling was one of the greatest desires. Thus, Marian pilgrimages became a constant in Slovakia. The Bishops have encouraged and continue to encourage visits to Marian shrines. This way, Slovak pilgrims are aware of the diversity, including geographical diversity, of the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church.



Pozrite na túto materskú tvár!

Among the various magazines, leaflets and newspapers with a Catholic Christian pietist nature, there is *Máriina* (Marian Era), produced by the *Zdruzenie Máriina* (Association of Mary), in Bratislava. The reproduction of the Fátima devotional leaflet distributed in parishes with the help of the magazine.

THE FÁTIMA

In 2017, the year of the centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima, an intense movement took place, several groups of pilgrims destined to arrive in The magazine was a message of information to pilgrims and, in the following years, in the most critical period of the Covid-19 Epidemic Crisis, it reported on pastoral, parish and communal actions in response to such a difficult time.

21. On Friday, May 27, 2020, Pope Francis granted an extraordinary blessing “Urbi et Orbi” to the world and the city of Rome in the time of trial by the coronavirus pandemic. Last year. Association of Mary’s Time. Year XXX, number 2/2020.

22. Cf. On the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2020, Cardinal Antonio Marta, Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima, consecrated 24 countries in Fatima together with the bishops of Portugal to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary as a response to the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to Portugal and Spain, these are the following countries: Albania, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Hungary, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Timor-Leste and Zimbabwe, who requested it. In. Association *Mária doba*. Yearbook XXX, number 2/2020.

23. In *Memórias da Ir. Lúcia* p 175.

100 rokov fatimských zjavení (1917-2017)

Pozrite sa na túto materskú tvár!
 Pozrite sa na údo materskej tváre! Tieto oči Vás už poznajú ... tak, ako oči matky, sú plné porozumenia. Je v nich láska, láska a predovšetkým nádej. Vidíme v nich liek na každú našu ranu, ponoc vo všetkých ťažkostiach a útechu v každom trápení.



Kto je tá Matka?
 Je to Mária, Matka Božia a naša, veľmi dobre zobrazená v tejto anjelskej Matky Božej Fatimskej. Ona nás pozýva, aby sme sa otvorili jej materskej láske a milosrdenstvu a zoznámili sa s neobyčejným poslanstvom, ktoré odovzdala svetu v roku 1917 vo Fatime. Popis týchto zjavení najdôležitejšie v knižke „Fatima - poslanstvo tragédie či nádeje?“, Autori Antonia A. Borillo, veľkého odborníka v tejto oblasti, známeho po celom svete.

Čítanie tejto knihy je prístupné každému čitateľovi a zároveň pútavé. Obsahuje kompletný popis fatimského poslania, aktualizovaný po zverejnení tretej časti tajomstva.

Knihu má 96 strán, obsahuje veľa ilustrácií a stojí iba 4 €. Jej kvalitné spracovanie riskuje povesť oškvárdených kardinálov a biskupov. Bola preložená do 18 jazykov, jej náklad prekročil 4,7 milióna exemplárov.

V tomto roku oslavíme práve 100 rokov od udalosti, ktorá prekvapila svet a preslávila Fatimu ako najpoduhodnejší nadprirodzený ťižak 20. storočia.

Ak vás ničto trápi, pozrite na materskú tvár Najsvätejšej Panny a prečítajte si jej poslanstvo z Fatime!

Neopremeškajte túto príležitosť! Objednajte si knihu *Fatima - poslanstvo tragédie či nádeje?* jej čítanie Vám umožní dobre porozumieť posolstvu Matky Božej, ktoré je aj dnes mimoriadne aktuálne. Spolu s knižkou získate aj špeciálny darček - **pekný jubilejný ruženc**, pripravený špeciálne k 100. výročiu zjavení vo Fatime.

Odtŕhnite a odošlite vyplnený kupón s objednávkou a ako darček dostanete pekný ruženc!
 Nič je potrebné nakupovať poštovo zväzku, stačí vložiť kupón do poštovej schránky.

* alebo objednať na tel. 02 777 00 068
 * alebo na internete: www.slovakiachristiana.sk



*“Toto poslanstvo je ešte viac naliehavé a aktuálne, ako v roku 1917.”
 Sv. Ján Pavol II.
 (Fatima, 13. mája 1982)*

Kardinal Silvio Oddi (Rím):

Po zoznamení sa s projektom - *Svetlo na Východ* - sa radujem z tejto akcie rozširovania fatimského poslania v Rusku. Prosím Najsvätejšiu Matku, aby pomohla dokončiť túto veľmi potrebnú iniciatívu. Prajem jej veľký úspech.

Kardinal Bernardino Echeverria Ruiz (Ekvádor):

Po zoznamení sa s knižkou na tému Matky Božej Fatimskej, vydanú združením TFP, potvrdzujeme, že jej obsah je zhodný s učením Cirkvi. Vydanie tohto diela by prinieslo veľa dobrého Božiemu ľudu a z tohto dôvodu ju plne aprobujeme.

Tento leták bol vydaný z iniciatívy Nadácie Slovakia Christiana, Palackého 4, 811 02 Bratislava, www.slovakiachristiana.sk

V rámci tejto kampane milujeme poslať iba jedno knihu v každom prípade jednému záujemcovi. Děkujeme za pochopenie! Reprodukujte túto príležitosť! Objednajte si knihu "Fatima - poslanstvo tragédie či nádeje?" jej čítanie Vám umožní dobre porozumieť posolstvu Matky Božej, ktoré je aj dnes mimoriadne aktuálne.

Postcards celebrating the cultural assets of the Church in Slovakia

The Cultural and Material Assets of the Church began to be protected, restored and preserved, many are included among the select group of UNESCO World Heritage Sites²⁴. Traveling and getting to know your cultural heritage is also part of Slovak daily life.

24. <https://whc.unesco.org/en/statesparties/sk>



On the postage stamp, the celebration of the elevation to the Minor Basilica of Sant'Egidio in Levoca



Stamp commemorating Pope Francis' visit to Slovakia.



Study for the composition of the seal commemorating the elevation to the Minor Basilica of Sant'Egidio in Levoca.

Drawing closer to Mary, the Church finds itself again: it finds its center, it finds its unity. Pope Francis.

Along with the travels, came popular

and Marian devotions, so not only Fátima, but Guadalupe, Lourdes, Immaculate of the Miraculous Medal, Immaculate Conception, received spaces in Slovak churches. The desire to participate in a world of Christian faith and tradition has established its feet in the country.



Our Lady of Conceição Aparecida, the image enthroned by Cardinal Raimundo Damasceno of Assisi, together with Metropolitan Archbishop Stanislav Zvolensky and Monsignor Mário Giordano in the Church of Sedembolestnej Panny Márie in Bratislava, on January 21, 2012.

SANCTUARY OF OUR LADY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS



The high point of religious devotion in Slovakia was the visit of Pope Francis in September 2021, where in record time the country organized itself to receive such an illustrious guest, in the midst of the Covid-19 crisis, nothing prevented the arrival of Peter's

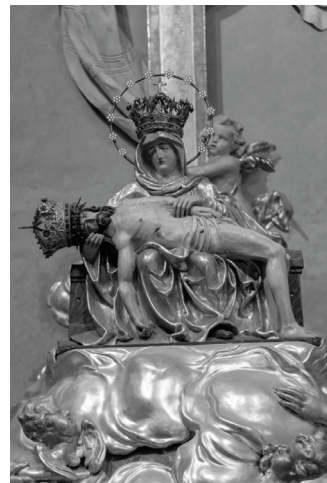
Successor.

“Your country is poetry.” Pope Francis says about Slovakia in meeting with priests at Basilica of the Sorrowful Virgin Mary in Sastín-Strážy.



There were three days of intense contact between the people and Pope Francis. I can say that I was proud of my adopted country, it was a visit full of symbolism, traditions and empathy. Like Fernão Lopes in his work on D. João I, master of Avis, confessed and apologized for his affection²⁵, I do it here too.

In his last official activity, Pope Francis celebrated an open mass in the city of Sastin, where the image of Sedembolestná Panna Mária v Sastíne, Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows is located in Sastin, at her feet the Pope placed the golden rose. The first in the country.



The sculptural image of Sedembolestná Parma Mária presents great complexity, not only compositional but also devotional, dated

25. Blackmore, Josiah. Affection and History-Writing: The Prologue of the “Chronicle of D. João I”. In; Luso Brazilian Review, 1997, Vol. 34, No. 2, pp. 15-24

1564, the Pietá by Sastín-Stráze, has some peculiarities, designed in polychrome wood, it presents us with Mary in double coronation, the first crown appears on her head, which can be understood as the coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth²⁶ The crown external to the sculptural body, in a circle allows us to relate it to the Book of Revelations²⁷

However, the great strangeness in the composition is the double coronation in the sculptural representation of Christ, featuring a split beard, traditional in Byzantine iconographic art²⁸, In a traditional stance in pietist compositions, we see in Jesus' sculptural body representations of the suffering imposed on Via Crucis, however, the great highlight is when we observe that, the crown of thorns²⁹ this being the basis for the royal crown. Perhaps with an intention to relate the two natures of Jesus?³⁰

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

For us, the observation between material tradition combined with Marian devotion is present in all its representations, we understand the strength of Marian devotion in the phenomenon of Fátima, the understanding between the end of communism and the Virgin of Fátima is undoubtedly felt in everyday life of the country, because crossing borders, choosing the supermarket, being able to receive visitors at your home, all these simple and unnoticed actions, became possible, in the eyes of devotees, through the intervention of Mother Mary. Such a great gift demands retribution, popular devotions fit in there.

It is important to observe the Marian phenomenon as a Christological reach, highlighting the case of Fátima in Slovakia, there is a geographical, cultural and linguistic distance to be crossed, but the phenomenon is fully understood in the country. We are pilgrims and to follow the Lord's path we also need the Spirit³¹ to guide us.

My Immaculate Heart will finally win!

26. Finally, the Immaculate Virgin, preserved and immune from all the stain of original guilt, after completing the course of her earthly life, was elevated to heaven in body and soul and exalted by God as queen, in order to conform more fully with her Son, Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death» {CIC, 966}. In; https://www.vatican.va/special/rosary/documents/popup/popup0S_glo_po.htm

27. Then a great sign appeared in the sky: A Woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet and on her head a crown of twelve stars», (Ap 12, 1). In; https://www.vatican.va/specia I/rosary/ documents/popup/popup0S_glo_po.htm1

28. See: Gharib, Georges. The icons of Christ - History and Cult. The Pantocrator of Araku, p. 158.

29. Crowning of Thorns; «The governor's soldiers took Jesus to the praetorium and surrounded him with the entire squad. They tore off his clothes and put a scarlet cloak on him. Then they braided a crown of thorns, placed it on his head, and put a stick in his hand. Bowing their knees before him, they said mockingly: "Hail, King of the Jews!"» {Mt 27, 27-29).

https://www.vatican.va/specia I/rosary/ documents/popup/popup03_dol_po.htm1

30. Cf; "this Gospel God had promised before through his prophets in the Holy Scripture, 3. about his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, descended from David in the flesh, * 4. who, according to the Spirit of holiness, was established Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead;" Rom. 1.1-4. Catholic Bible Online. <https://www.bibliacatolica.com.br/biblia-ave-maria/romanos/1/>

31. Cf; ... E todos os presentes ficaram cheios do Espírito Santo, começando a falar línguas que desconheciam, conforme o poder que o Espírito Santo lhes dava. Atos 2-8. <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Atos%202-8&version=OL>

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IMAGES

- 1 (page 2): <https://www.teraz.sk/slovensko/sastin-put-sedembolestna-panna-maria/217758-clanok.html>
- 2 (page 2): <https://www.bystricoviny.sk/spravy/cele-slovensko-slavi-sviatok-sedembolestnej-panny-mariei>
- 3 and 4 (page 4): Postcard commemorating the recognition of Sainthood.
- 5 (page 6): Devotional sticker distributed in parish communities.
- 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 (page 7): Authorized images, belonging to Revista Zdrúenie Máriina dobam.
- 12 (page 8): Reproductions of the cover of the Magazine Zdrúenie Máriina dobam.
- 13 (page 9): Back cover of Zdrúenie Máriina dobam Magazine.
- 14 (page 9): Clipping from the back cover of Zdrúenie Marina sobam Magazine.
- 15, 16 e 17 (pages 10 and 11): Devotional leaflet distributed in parish communities.
- 18, 19 e 20 (pages 11 and 12): Celebratory postcards to the Cultural Assets of the Slovak Church.
- 21 (page 13): Photo by the author
- 22 and 23 (page 14): <https://www.acidigital.com/noticias/detalhes-da-visita-do-papa-francisco-a-eslovaquia-53385>
- 24 (page 16): <https://www.nazahori.sk/2022/04/22/sastin-sedembolestna-panna-maria-je-patronkou-slovenska-95-rokov/>