

GREETINGS

It is a great pleasure for me that I may welcome again the scholars taking part in the sixth International Gregorian Festival in Vác. As a bishop and pastor but also a lover of music I consider the Festival much more as prayer-meeting rather than a choral presentation.

The melodies of Gregorian chant represent the beauty of the dialogue between God and man to us. The melodies represent the merciful love of the self-revealing God towards man and the human desire for heavenly delight and beauty as well.

Gregorian chant (as our whole liturgy) bears a motivation for mission and message. The monks, who assembled daily for the divine office and the holy Mass by drawing strength and peace out of these, cultivated Europe to a wonderful garden - a garden of Paradise. They also carried the spirituality of the psalms they prayed in Gregorian chant into their work. I believe that the prayer of Gregorian chant remains a spirituality creating heavenly peace even in our age which - according to the words of pope Francis - can be described by individualistic sorrow, casual and greedy heart, unhealthy pursuit of superficial pleasure, and isolated conscience.

I am confident that Gregorian chant is capable of creating the joy of community and awakening our attention to each other, and also that Gregorian chant service performed with endurance steadies the soul and makes us able to carry each other's burdens..

I hope that the letter of pope Honorius III to the Hungarian pontiffs will not remain only a document of the past but it will foreshow the future: *"The Wisdom who proceeds from the mouth of the Almighty, and whose joy is to be with the sons of men planted the Paradise garden of beauty to dwell among them."*

I wish this joy to all participants of the Festival so that we may sing together: *„Laetatus sum in his quae dicta sunt mihi: in domum Domini ibimus“*.

Dr. Miklós Beer
bishop of Vác

„Laetatus sum in his, quae dicta sunt mihi: in domum Domini ibimus“. Through Gregorian chant a joyful encounter takes place with the Lord. The Bible passages sung in the liturgy resound in the spiritual voice between God and man. God's infinite beauty and simplicity are revealed in the melodies that originated more than a thousand years ago, yet they are forever fresh, new and full of surprises. Gregorian chant can express the most beautifully the constant, however always renewing love of God towards us.

Gregorian melodies are able to interpret the text always the same way, yet every time they disclose something from the mystery of the revelation we have not realized before.

Throughout the eighty-seven years of my life there was not a single moment, when I could not discover something totally new and joyful in Gregorian chant. It is not really about academic research, but much more how God inconceivably beautifully sings his love in a very human but very heavenly way. *"Our home is in heaven"* - Gregorian chant is the resonance of the song of divine love of our heavenly home in this world. Whenever we sing or hear Gregorian chant, our soul is delighted at the beauty of the heavenly home.

With these thoughts I welcome the participants of the sixth International Gregorian Festival, and I wish them the heavenly joy flowing from Gregorian chant.

György Béres
artistic director of the Festival

VI. International Gregorian-Festival Vác

3. – 6. July 2014

Program

Thursday, 3. Juli

- 18⁰⁰ Cathedral** Solemn Opening Ceremony, Pontifical Mass
Dr. István Seregély, emeritus archbishop of Eger
- 19⁰⁰ Cathedral** Audition: Gregorian Chants **I**
Voces Gregorianaes Cassovienses (Kosice)
Schola Resupina (Vienna)
Schola Gregoriana del Pontificio Istituto di Musica Sacra (Rome)

Friday, 4. Juli

- Lectures at **Althann-Haus** (Budapesti főút 5-7)
9⁰⁰ Prof. Stephan Zippe (Munich)
10³⁰ KMD Prof. Dr. Stefan Klöckner (Essen-Werden)
- 16⁰⁰ Dominican Church „Fehérek temploma”** Audition: Gregorian Chants **II**
Gloria Dei - Homo Vivens et Verbum Domini (Bratislava)
Schola Gregoriana Maynooth (Ireland)
Schola Gregoriana Budapestinensis
- 18⁰⁰ Franciscan Church „Barátok temploma”** Vesper
Schola Gregoriana del Pontificio Istituto di Musica Sacra (Rome)
- 19⁰⁰ Franciscan Church „Barátok temploma”** Audition: Gregorian Chants **III**
Schola Gregoriana del Pontificio Istituto di Musica Sacra (Rome)
Schola Cantorum (Munich)
Schola Cantate et Iubilate (Budapest)

Saturday, 5. Juli

- 9⁰⁰ Piarist Church** Tertia
Exsultate Cantores (Budapest)
- 9¹⁵ Piarist Church** Open day for invited scholas
Gloria Dei – Homo Vivens et Verbum Domini (Pressburg)
Schola Gregoriana Avenspud Fontes (Vác)
Damenkammerchor (Diósd)
Schola Veritas (Szolnok)
Gaudium Carminis (Isaszeg)
- 11⁰⁰ Cathedral** Pontifical Mass
Dr. Nándor Takács, bishop em. of Székesfehérvár

11⁰⁰ - 18⁰⁰ Handicraft workshops: mint and badge making
in front of the bishop's palace;
afternoon: codex copying workshop
inside the hall of the bishop's palace

12⁰⁰ Cathedral Audition: Gregorian Chants **IV**
Exultate Cantores (Budapest)
Schola Resupina (Vienna)
Capella Gregoriana –Chorus Instituti St. Gregorius (Tokio)

18⁰⁰ Franciscan Church „Barátok temploma” Vesper
Schola Cantate et Iubilate

19³⁰ Cathedral Concert **V**
„Gregorian Chants in polyphony from the 10th century until today”
- Schola Academica (Budapest)
- Vox Werdensis (Essen-Werden)
- Schola Cantate et Iubilate et Exsultate (Budapest)

Sunday, 6. Juli

8³⁰ Piarist Church Laudes
Schola Cantate et Iubilate

10⁰⁰ Cathedral Pontifical Mass and Te Deum
Dr. Miklós Beer, Bishop of Vác

Concerts in Budapest

Friday, 4. Juli

18⁴⁵ St. Anna Church (Budapest I., Batthyány tér 7)
Vox Werdensis (Essen-Werden)
Capella Gregoriana - Chorus Instituti St. Gregorius (Tokio)
Voces Gregorianaes Cassovienses (Kosice)

Saturday, 5. Juli

18⁰⁰ St. Michael Church (Budapest V., Váci u. 47)
Schola Gregoriana del Pontificio Istituto di Musica Sacra (Rome)
Schola Gregoriana Maynooth (Ireland)
Schola Cantorum (Munich)