

Following in the footsteps of St. John Sarkander



Bronze model of the city

The model of the historical city centre in the Upper Square (Horní náměstí) was erected on the 27th March 2002. It was created and cast in bronze and placed on a terrazzo pedestal. Its construction was part of the project of Prague architects – the designers of the reconstruction of the Upper Square. The model was cast according to the foundry “moulding” in the first half of 2001.

This model of the Olomouc urban monument reservation is the first such city model in the Czech Republic and is part of the guiding and information system of the historic core.

Its longest dimension is 3.2 m, it is designed to the scale of 1:400. The inscription on the side of the model reads: “In the midst rises the hill named by the Ancient Julmons by which name the city was also formerly known. Under this mound planes fertile with cereals stretch out, alternating with colourful meadows.”



St. Michael's Church

The most visible landmarks of the Olomouc panorama include the three distinctive domes of the octagonal tambours of St. Michael's Church, standing on the elevation of Olomouc Hill. After destruction caused by the Thirty Years' War, the reconstruction of the originally Gothic Dominican Church and Monastery was commissioned to the Imperial architect, Giovanni Pietro Tencalla. The project was completed after him by Domenico Martinelli. This very first monumental Moravian domed architectural structure was constructed between 1673 and 1699. One of the arched walls in the Sacristy and Cloister with the adjacent bell tower and St. Alexei Chapel has been preserved from the original Gothic structure. The single-nave interior of the Church was extended with side chapels and a rectangular Presbytery. In the 19th century, the building of the Monastery was reconstructed for the purposes of the Archbishop's Priests' Seminary.



Above this, he developed the cambered mass of the new building, crowned with a dome with lantern opening. Light from the lantern opening effectively penetrates through a circular hole in the floor down to the basement, where an exhibition commemorating Sarkander's martyrdom is situated.

John Sarkander, born on 20th December 1576 in Skoczów, Poland, worked from 1616 as a clerical supervisor in Holleschau, where he became the Confessor to the manor owner, Ladislav III Popel of Lobkowicz. After the outbreak of the Estates Uprising, a Cossack cavalry from Catholic Poland invaded Moravia during the battle campaign. The plundering army was stopped outside Holleschau by a procession of believers, who sang the prayer, *Salve Regina*. John Sarkander marched at the head of the demonstrators. The Polish Cossacks joined the singing and Holleschau was thus spared from pillage. However, Moravian Protestant administrators believed that this was part of a Catholic conspiracy. Therefore, they

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Ministry: Roman Catholic Parish
of St. Michael in Olomouc

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E-mail: svatymichal@volny.cz

Worship: Sunday 7:30, 9:00, Monday–Friday 16:00
Saturday 9:00

Access: Daily 8:00–18:00 (Church, Cloister, Paradise Garden with Children's Corner, vault with an underground lake and Hermitage, Gothic Tower with the Parish Museum and Observation Tower)

Chapel of St. John Sarkander

The neo-Baroque chapel of St. John Sarkander is one of the newest church buildings in the territory of Olomouc. This work of Eduard Sochor in the years 1908–1912 was inspired by the Czech Dientzenhofer tradition. In the past, the city prison where John Sarkander was interrogated and tortured in 1620 was located on the site of the Chapel. In the first half of the 18th century, an older Chapel of All Saint Martyrs was built on the foundations of the prison, of which Sochor used the underground apse.





captured John Sarkander and tortured him in Olomouc, with the purpose of forcing him to reveal everything Lobkowicz reputedly had disclosed to him during Confession. John Sarkander did not violate the Seal of Confession and on 17th March 1620 died as a result of the torture.

His remains were interred in the Virgin Mary Church on Olomouc Outskirts and today are preserved in St. Wenceslas Cathedral in Olomouc. During the visit of Pope John Paul II to Olomouc in 1995, John Sarkander was declared a Saint. He is depicted by a statue, wearing a cassock with a halo above his head. In his hand, in addition to a book and crucifix, he is also holding keys, as a reminder of the Seal of Confession. An annual pilgrimage commemorating John Sarkander is held on the first Sunday after the 6th May, i.e. the ecclesiastically determined memorial day of St. John Sarkander, priest and martyr.

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Access: Daily except Monday 10:00–12:00

13:00–15:00 including guide service

Worship: Sunday 15:00

Pilgrimage: First Sunday after 6th May

Saints Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology

After the abolition of Jesuit education, in 1783 the Theology Faculty acquired the building of Francis Xavier's Seminary, in which it has been housed to the present day, with the exception of the periods during two totalitarian regimes when the Faculty was shut down. This is a three-wing corner building, constructed in 1675 on the site of four 18th-century patrician houses, significantly reconstructed by Wolfgang Reich. The construction of a regular interior design with barrel vaulted rooms has a central facade decorated with shells in the window pediments.

Between 1936 and 1937 the building underwent extensive renovations under the direction of architect František Macharáček, for complete adaptation to the operations of the Faculty. At the time of usage of the building by the Pozemní stavby construction company in the 1960s, the architecture of the oval corner Francis Xavier's Chapel was damaged and further insensitive modifications and extensions were carried out. The building was renovated again in the 1990s to meet the requirements of the Faculty.

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Access: upon arrangement



Jesuit Convent

Hostel buildings serving as shared student accommodation were established at the largest Jesuit colleges and thus were bound with a university education. During the last third of the 16th century, the Olomouc Jesuits built a Renaissance hostel on the site of five townhouses, which also included the Gothic Corpus Christi Chapel. The second phase of construction, this time in Baroque style, was begun in 1661. Olomouc architect, Peter Schüller, designed the oldest parts of the Old Boarding School to which further wings were connected. Although construction took place over two time periods, the entire structure gives a consistent impression of its architectural concept, because it was implemented according to plans approved in advance by the Jesuits. The monumental facade is structured by a high pilaster line on the massive stone pedestal and is completed with a plastic stucco decoration (perhaps created with the direct participation of the Italian plasterers), decorative bars and stone architectural

elements and symbolism of the Marian Order. The three-winged building of the new Monastery was also adjusted to this style and it, including the new Corpus Christi Chapel, was built around a rectangular courtyard in the years 1721–1724. The corridors of the North Wing were opened to the courtyard through arcades and, in the east, led to the prismatic fortification tower. The building became part of the city walls.

After the Jesuit Order was abolished in 1773, a Priests' Seminary was established in the Convent, but later the Court Decree of 1778 transferred the Monastery buildings into the ownership of the army, which operated military barracks and warehouses there until 1994. Recently the buildings have undergone extensive reconstruction, with the object of renovation and restoration. At the present time, the original school building serves as the depositories and administrative base of the Olomouc Regional Museum, normally closed to the public. There are five Art departments of Palacky University in the reconstructed complex of the Old and New Convents, containing lecture rooms, ateliers, theatre and cinema halls.

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Manager of PU AC
Univerzitní 3, 771 80 Olomouc
Tel.: +420 585 633 099
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Access: Daily 8:00–22:00





Church of the Virgin Mary of the Snow

This Church, built between 1712 and 1719, dominates the large complex of the former Jesuit University. It is a variation of the prototype Jesuit church, based on Vignola's Il Gesu Church in Rome. The wide main nave is surrounded by a circle of side chapels. An important element of the dynamic Baroque architecture is the front of the Church, particularly the monumental portal with twisted columns, the balcony and balustrade. Designer Michael Josef Klein of Silesia, local builder Lukáš Kleckel and stonemason Václav Renda participated in the construction of the Church, while the Viennese painter, Josef Karl Haringer, and a local, Jan Christoph Handke, were in charge of the interior decoration.

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Ministry: The Roman Catholic Academic Parish in Olomouc

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Access: Monday–Saturday 9:00–18:00

Sunday 12:00–18:00

Worship: Sunday 19:00, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 13:00

Wednesday 19:00 (students)

Archbishop's Palace

The Archbishop's residence has been located on the current site since the mid-16th century. Bishop Stanislav Thurzo began the construction of the third Bishop's Palace in sequence, this time in Renaissance style. The structure of the Palace, completed only during the time of his successors, deteriorated considerably during the Thirty Years War. Therefore, Bishop Karl von Lichtenstein-Castelcorn decided on serious renovation of the residence in the early Baroque style. The project of the Imperial architect, Filiberto Luchese, was executed by Olomouc builder, Peter Schüller, in 1664–1666. The interiors were decorated by Italian plasterers and the painter, Carpofero Tencalla. In the subsequent second stage of reconstruction, architect Giovanni Pietro Tencallo enriched the street facade with an ornately structured facade of three monumental portals. The layout of the Palace consists of seven two-storey wings, surrounding two inner rectangular courtyards.

The interior premises of the residence were altered by the Archbishop's architect, Anton Arch, in the first half of the 19th century. The last major reconstruction of the Palace was implemented after a fire in 1904, according to the plans of Brno architect, Vladimír Fischer. The representative halls on the first floor of the Palace recall the rich history and activities of the Olomouc Bishops and Archbishops. They can be reached via the main monumental staircase, which is dominated by statues of the co-patrons of Europe, Saints Cyril and Methodius. The Throne Hall is worthy of mention, as this is where the Austrian Emperor Ferdinand V the Good, abdicated in 1848 and where his nephew, Francis Joseph I, assumed the reign. The Imperial Hall in which Austrian Emperor Francis II debated with Russian Tsar Alexander I before the Battle of Austerlitz is also worthy of mention.

The Archbishop's Palace in Olomouc is not only a historical and cultural monument, but a living centre of the Olomouc Archdiocese and the site of the Acting Metropolitan Archbishop of Moravia, Mons. Jan Graubner.

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Access: According to the present agreement, guided tours of the ceremonial halls for general access to the public are being prepared within the project of the European Regional Development Fund – ROP Central Moravia



St. Wenceslas Cathedral

The construction of the Cathedral by the Premyslid Prince Svato-pluk, dedicated to the regional patron Saint Wenceslas, commenced prior to 1107. His son, Appanage Prince Wenceslas, handed over the unfinished construction to Olomouc Bishop Jindřich Zdík, who consecrated it in 1131 and relocated his Office and the Seat of the Chapter here. The Cathedral was built as a three-nave basilica with two front towers and a semicircular apse at the end, under which the crypt was situated. Details in the decoration of the windows and portals were probably similar to those of neighbouring new Episcopal constructions. The two western towers are now hidden behind a neo-Gothic cloak, and the crypt has remained inaccessible from the time of the original basilica until the present day.

After a fire in 1204, the basilica was first vaulted and in this connection also equipped with the first line of external prismatic buttresses. After a fire in 1265 in the Cathedral, extensive Early Gothic reconstruction took place under Bishop Bruno of Schauenburg. The Bishop added a new Gothic three-aisled hall to the two-tower facade, enclosed by a moderate rectangular Presbytery. The perimeter walls of three-aisled, high cathedral windows with post-classic traceries, a new system of supporting pillars in a trapezoidal shape and internal bundle shafts emerge from this stage. The Cathedral's cross vaults of naves were constructed, together with the adjacent Cloister, in the first half of the 14th century under Bishop Jan Volk.

The appearance of the Olomouc Cathedral was enriched during the Renaissance period by the annexe of St. Stanislaus Chapel,





containing the family tomb of Bishop Stanislav Pavlovský, at the southern facade and the now non-existent superstructure of the Romanesque facade with a central tower. In 1618–1636, Cardinal Francis of Dietrichstein added a generously designed barrel vaulted Presbytery with three-aisled crypt, probably designed by the Italian, Andrea Spezza. The appearance of the

Cathedral did not change significantly until the early 19th century, when a fire caused by lightning destroyed the upper floors of the three-aisled front. Architect Jan Sarkander Thalherr therefore equipped these floors with a new façade, complemented with a classical balustrade crowned by the superstructure of a new central clock tower.

At the end of the 19th century, the stylistic disparity of the individual parts of the Cathedral incited Cardinal Friedrich von Fürstenberg to an extensive unifying reconstruction in Gothic style. The final appearance with a tall slender southern tower, its symmetrical counterpart in the form of the Choir Chapel of Cyril and Methodius and the two-tower facade, inspired by the Parisian Church of St. Clotilde, was conferred on the Cathedral by architects Richard Völkel and Gustav Meretta according to strict Fürstenberg guidelines. At that time, in connection with the beatification process of Saint John Sarkander, his skull was deposited in the Cathedral into a new feretory where it has remained up to this time.

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Access: *Daily 8.00–18.00*

Worship: *Sunday 8:00 and 10:00, Thursday 18:00*

Romanesque Bishop's Palace and Chapter House

This building complex, consisting of the storey Bishop's Palace, rectangular Cloister and Chapter House, was connected to the Romanesque Basilica by Bishop Jindřich Zdík in the second third of the 12th century. After a fire, the representative floor of the Bishop's Palace, with windows decorated with antique ornaments, was given to the Cathedral School under Bishop Robert (1202–1240). The new Gothic Bishop's Palace was built further to the east. In the second third of the 14th century, the Romanesque Palace as well as the Cloister were demolished, the remnants becoming part of the newly created Gothic Cloister. The murals depict the Last Judgement, the Annunciation, the Ado-

Church of the Virgin Mary on Olomouc Outskirts

On Republic (formerly Marian) Square, a church (no longer in existence) was located on the present site of the Library of Olomouc City, which ranked among the significant urban parish churches. According to legend, a Gothic three-aisled church with square tower was founded by the fictional Jaroslav of Sternberg after winning a battle against the Tatars. However, this Church is merely documented in writing of the 1350s. During the 14th century, focus was on the reconstruction of the Church, when a bigger Presbytery and three-aisled hall were built. The Church was completed in the 1580s, with the western prismatic bell tower and high pyramid top.

The Church underwent a Baroque reconstruction, which involved numerous Olomouc artists, including the sculptors, Ondřej Zahner and Jan Michael Scherhauf, and painters, Antonín Lublinský and Josef Sadler. It was decorated with very valuable (at that time) Baroque frescoes by John Christopher Handke. The Church became the final resting place of St. John Sarkander, whose remains had already been deposited in the local St. Lawrence Chapel in 1620. Sarkander's brothers requested a tombstone with the relief of John's torture and an inscription commemorating the course and cause of John's death and his innocence. The tombstone was only acquired in 1703. In 1784, after closure of the Church, which from then on served as a warehouse, Sarkander's remains were moved



ration of the Magi, the Adoration of the Shepherds, the Crucifixion, the Lamentation, the Resurrection and the Suffering of Christ. They were created in sequence between the last third of the 15th century and the first third of the 16th century, mostly at the expense of Members of the Olomouc Chapter. The late-Gothic Chapel of St. John the Baptist, in which the Chapter Library was temporarily housed, was built on to the northern wing of the Cloister between 1435 and 1441.



to St. Michael's Church from where, in the context of the beatification process, they were exhumed in 1859. A portion of the remains was sent to Rome, while skull and remaining relics were placed in the St. Wenceslas Cathedral in Olomouc.

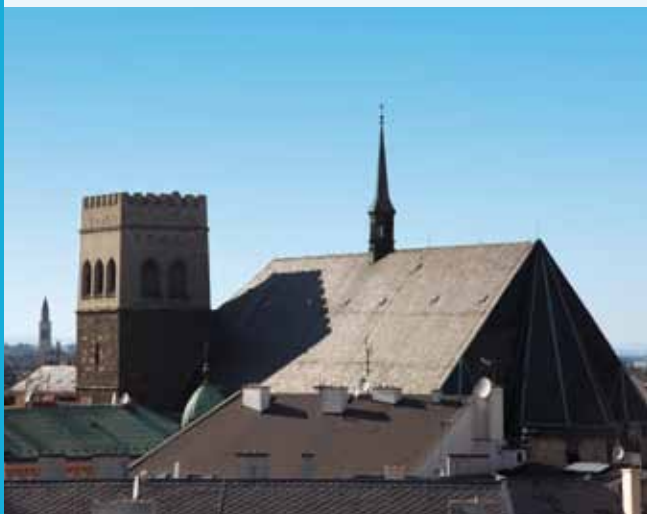
The former Church was finally demolished in 1839 and the building in historic neo-Classic style of the District Office of the Hetman was constructed on the site, according to the design of Josef Seifert. Some parts of the original fixtures of the Church were moved to churches in Olomouc and surrounding areas, where we may see them to this day – such as the late-Gothic relief of the Virgin Mary Protector in St. Wenceslas Cathedral and Zahner's statues of Christ and the Virgin Mary in the front of St. Michael's Church.

Church of St. Maurice

Between 1412 and 1540, the construction of this urban parish Church, ranking among the most important monuments of the late Gothic period in Moravia, was implemented on the site of an older church. It started at the northern tower with the Trinity Chapel on the ground floor, whose star and cross vaults still follow the parler tradition. Several other builders were involved in the construction, one of whom was Jakub Kettenreiter who roofed the triple-nave, which parler Klaus of Aachen vaulted with a cross vault. Construction Articles of the triple-nave and Chancel, particularly the window traceries, vaulting capitals and relief bolts reveal the continuity of the creation of the Viennese glassworks of St. Stephen's Cathedral. While the central nave of the



Presbytery is vaulted according to the cross pattern, both its side aisles bear a unique jumping vault. Another Master Architect, Nicholas, added an organ loft with one circular arch to the construction. A cylindrical bartizan with unique double spiral staircase was built on the western facade between the pair of older asymmetric prismatic towers. The Church was spared more drastic alterations and, with the exception of the construction of the Renaissance Edelmann tomb, was touched only by Baroque-style additions to the interior after several fires. The organ of Master Michael Engler, the eighth largest organ in Europe, is situated in the organ loft.



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Worship: Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, Monday–Saturday 8:00

Access: Daily 8:00–17:00

St. Moritz Tower: May–October, Monday–Saturday 9:00–17:00

Sunday 12:00–17:00

Chapel of the Holy Trinity Column

The Chapel, built into the body of a Trinitarian column, was completed prior to 1733, during the lifetime of the initiator and designer of the project, Wenzl Rener. The Chapel is vaulted with a dome containing a lantern opening. Six windows allow daylight in. The interior consists of six reliefs with motifs from the Old Testament, i.e. the adumbrate of the highest sacrifice – Christ's Crucifixion. This scene is located directly opposite the entrance to the Chapel, where it was consecrated together with the column after its completion in 1754, in the presence of Empress Maria Theresa.

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Access: Only in exceptional occasions





Legend to the Map "Following in the footsteps of St. John Sarkander"

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Bronze model of the city | 8. St. Wenceslas Cathedral |
| 2. St. Michael's Church | 9. Romanesque Bishop's Palace and Chapter House |
| 3. Chapel of St. John Sarkander | 10. Church of the Virgin Mary on Olomouc Outskirts |
| 4. Saints Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology | 11. Church of St. Maurice |
| 5. Jesuit Convent | 12. Chapel of the Holy Trinity Column |
| 6. Church of the Virgin Mary of the Snow | |
| 7. Archbishop's Palace | |

Other significant monuments

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Town Hall with astronomical clock | 9. Church of St. Gorazd |
| 2. Caesar Fountain | 10. Theresian Gate |
| 3. Hercules Fountain | 11. Theresian Armoury |
| 4. Mercury Fountain | 12. Capuchin Church |
| 5. Neptune Fountain | |
| 6. Jupiter Fountain | |
| 7. Triton Fountain | |
| 8. Arion Fountain | |

Itinerary: "Following in the footsteps of St. John Sarkander"

Tram lines

Fortifications

City Park

Health service

Public toilets

Police

Parking

Upper Square (Horní náměstí) – Town Hall

Opening hours: daily: 9:00– 19:00

infocentrum@olomouc.eu

Tel.: +420 585 513 385, 585 513 392, Fax: +420 585 220 843

<http://tourism.olomouc.eu>, www.olomouc.eu



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 - Search for traffic connections
 - Tour Guide services
 - Ascent to the Town Hall Tower daily at 11:00 and 15:00
 - Reservation of tours of the Town Hall with ascent to the Tower
2. Cultural, Social and Sports Information
 - Pre-sale of tickets for cultural events held in Olomouc
3. Sale of souvenirs and maps
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5. **EUROPE DIRECT** – European Information Centre



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