

Church of the Holiest Heart of the Lord, so called "Red"

Object no. 32 | crossing of U Červeného kostela and Masarykova street, Trnovany

The history of so called Red Church is inherently linked with the history of Trnovany. It became a centre of tourism and a lot of inhabitants started to move in because of jobs at the end of the nineteenth century. The number of inhabitants exceeded 12 000 in 1900, there were regular markets in the municipality which was connected to Dubí and Teplice by a tramway line. The municipality had a Lutheran Church of Christ, the so called Green Church, from 1905. But Trnovany needed a Catholic Church so that it could be promoted to a town.

An association supporting the building of the church was founded in 1895. Thanks to the donations of believers the construction could finally be launched in 1907 and it necessitated the relaying of the Bystřice stream; it flows under the surface of today's surrounding park. The three aisle basilica with its 47 metres high tower designed by Teplice master builder Jirsch in neo-Gothic style was predominantly built by the hands of local craftsmen. The completed church was consecrated on 24th October 1909.

The interior of the church survived the turmoil of history and survives as a memorial of the Trnovany inhabitants of those days. The furnishings are predominately neo-Gothic, but there are also two altars brought from previous sanctuaries that had served Trnovany inhabitants before the building of this church. The right side altar was brought to the church from the Chapel of Saint Roch which used to be in the adjacent park. The Chapel of the Holy Cross contains the original altar from the girls' school. The left aisle contains an altar with the picture of St. Mary as a patron of Trnovany painted in the style Beuron Art School. The mural paintings in the interior were painted by Alfred Böhm according to his own design. The five bells were casted in nearby Chomutov in 1911, one of them calls the believers to prayers and one serves as a passing bell.

Although the real name of the church is "the holiest heart of the Lord", it has the nickname of "red church" thanks to the colour of the ceramic tiles facade. Despite the fact that area surrounding the church has changed a lot in the past hundred years and Trnovany was joined with Teplice, the church has kept its position as a dominant aspect of Masaryk avenue.