

Days of the People of Goodwill 2005

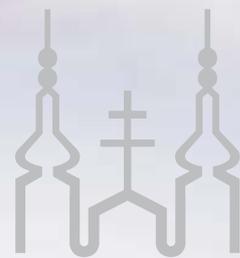


This is the sixth year already that celebrations of the Czech national holiday are held at Velehrad. Their aim is to build a bridge that would connect all people of goodwill without distinction as to nationality, political persuasion or religion. This project, with a state-forming, historical, charitable and social dimension, refers to the values of Jewish-Christian culture, the origin of learning and statehood, and also to products of the activity of Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius in our geographical space.

The aim of the project, which takes place in connection with celebrations of the Czech national holiday, is to create a space for meeting of all people of goodwill and organizations who help others and create a fundamental part of civil society. Velehrad festivities emphasize the importance of a face-to-face mutual contact among the public, individual citizens, enterprisers, eminent personages and delegates of political representation, academic background, non-profit organizations and churches. It is one of a few projects in the Czech Republic, which tries to contribute to the improvement of relations within society. This aim is for sure a demanding one. But those who take part in the Days of the People of

Goodwill in person leave the event with a great hope and encouragement. Within the project are introduced not only the most significant charitable activities, by means of which we want to call attention to things, which came off well and which succeed on various levels of our society. We want to inspire also other citizens to their own engagement for others in society. We are persuaded that afterwards also the media can inform more about positive things and projects.

Because it really is a unique project in the Czech Republic we take the liberty of recalling the outstanding atmosphere of this event once again in this way.



VELEHRAD





On Sunday 3rd July 2005 the international conference on the theme of **Social Responsibility of Enterprises in Contemporary Europe** was opened, in which participated not only our but also foreign experts,



significant representatives of the entrepreneurial sphere, non-profit sector and the media. The conference consisted of a theoretical part (here the speakers were i.a. Professor Michael Novak from the USA, professor Heinrich Pompey from Germany, His Excellency William Cabaniss Jr., the ambassador of the USA), a historical part (cardinal Miloslav Vlk, Ján Čarnogurský), a political-social part and a practical part. Based on what the participants said, the conference was of fundamental importance in the given field. This was confirmed also by the output, which was later bestowed to the media. It is called the „Velehrad challenge“.

HAND TRANSCRIBING OF THE BIBLE

On 4th of July 2005 at 1 p.m., accompanied by a considerable interest of the media, a project called „*Hand transcribing of the Bible*“ was inaugurated, in which individual visitors participate



in the creation of a „Velehrad manuscript“. The project is unique also due to the fact that children are involved in the transcribing of the Bible as well. They illustrate the manuscript in their own hand.

PRIVATE VIEW OF AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

In the afternoon of the same day there was a private view of an exhibition of photographs of five young authors opened in the baroque cellarge. The topic of the exhibition was „*There is no present without past*“.



Other exhibitions were opened in the building of the grammar school Stojanovo gymnázium. To the most frequented expositions belonged the presentation of the Mission work, which introduced a project



of African nursery schools, and presentation of various movements and communities in the Czech Republic, or the exhibition of historical photographs capturing Velehrad in 1985 and 1990. A well-known photographer, Jindřich Štreit, introduced a series of his photographs on the theme of „Forgiveness“.

Also the display called the „*Exhibition of works of the imprisoned*“ was opened with a private view. It is a project, in which participate Prison Chaplains and the Ministry of Justice. The space for the exhibition of their works was given to those convicts who contact priests in prisons and want to change their lives. Exhibited works contain either personal stories, which led the imprisoned to conviction, or motives, which transcend human existence and which led them to a reflection on their previous life.

A great attention was aroused by the exhibition of photographs called „*John Paul II., the Pilgrim*“, which contained almost forty large-format photographs from the life of the pope John Paul II.



VELEHRAD TO CHILDREN

In the afternoon, next to the Velehrad basilica a program called „*Velehrad to children*“ was held, in which appeared e.g. Klaun Kája, the theatre Víti Marčička or MIMO theatre with



their rebuses and brainteasers. Various competitions took place there as well, e.g. „*Velehrad nightingale*“ or a magic show „*Perhaps a magician comes*“.



ECOLOGICAL AFTERNOON

A professional seminar was held with the minister of environment Libor Ambrozek, after which followed a private view of an exhibition of photographs called „National Parks and Protected Landscape Areas“ in the church of St. John the Baptist at Modrá. A festive opening of a nontraditional exhibition of large-format photographs „National

Park and Switzerland“ was accompanied by Jan Potměšil and Patricie Anzari with their rendering of musical poems.

BOWER AT STOJANOV

The wonderful story of Abraham performed by Jan Potměšil and Patricie Anzari – the reading of Old Testament stories accompanied by live music – took place in the intimate atmosphere of the pilgrimage house Stojanov.



COMPETITION IN FOOTBALL SKILLS

In the competition, the organization of which was taken charge of by the Christian sports organization OREL (Eagle), partook about 700 boys, including boys from boarding houses, SOS villages and Romany communities. The best sixty young football players qualified for the Velehrad finals, which took place under the auspices of Antonín Panenka.



MEETING OF WHEELCHAIR INVALID PERSONS

In attendance of prince Karel Paar, the great prior of the Czech great priory of the Sovereign Order of the Knights of Malta, and other important guests, the biggest meeting of wheelchair invalid persons in Central Europe took place at Velehrad, the moderators of which were Martina Poulíčková and Pavel Poulíček.



DECLARATION OF MARSHALS

On the initiative of the marshal of the Zlín region, Libor Lukáš, a meeting of marshals was organized at Velehrad, which was concluded by a so-called Declaration of Marshals.



EVENING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOODWILL

The evening of the people of goodwill really was a meeting of all people of goodwill and it had two basic lines – in the first one three charitable projects were introduced – the hospice movement, first family children's home in the Czech Republic and the project



of wheelchair invalid persons. In the live transmission, a public fund-raising drive for the hospice at Svätý Kopeček was carried out via DMS.

The second important part of the evening was the presentation of the project called Hero of an ordinary day, which was held under the patronage of the archbishop of Olomouc, Jan Graubner. By means of this project the organizers want to inspire people to write personal stories, in which they will share with others the joy, which was aroused in them through a selfless and possibly even unexpected help to a neighbor. That is to say, a hero is not only a famous sportsman, musician or politician but a Hero of an ordinary day can be anyone of us if he or she does well and faithfully his or her work, lives for his or her family and for others, lives by civil and political culture, helps where it is needed. This year's award winners were: Marie Svatošová, the founder of the hospice movement in the Czech Republic (the award was





delivered by Radovan Lukavský), Jan Tomiga, the founder of the first family children's home (the award was delivered by Antonín Pannenka), and Josef Fučík,

the founder of the citizen-action public Life without barriers (the award was delivered by Jan Potměšil).

The evening concert was broadcast in live transmission by the Czech Television and Czech Radio 1 – Radiožurnál. And the viewers and listeners, both those present at Velehrad, who gathered there in large numbers of more than thirty thou-

sands, and those by television and radio receivers, confirmed that they really had the goodwill. Because they sent **32.950 DMS**, which for the hospice at Svatý Kopeček meant **890.368,50 CZK**. And together with **250.000 CZK**, which **donated an endowment fund called the Bridge of Hope**, the hospice obtained a considerable sum of **1,148.368,50 CZK**.

At the concert performed Hana Hegerová, Spirituál kvintet, No Name, Věra Martinová, Vašo Patejdl and Jiří Pavlica with Hradišťan.

The anchormen of the evening were Lucie Výborná and the prior of Břevnov Benedictine monastery Prokop Siostrzonek.

PRESIDENT VÁCLAV KLAUS AT VELEHRAD

The closing day passed off in token of the personal attendance of President Václav Klaus and his wife.



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