

The objective of this work is to describe the situation and course of events in the field of Catholic liturgical music in Bohemia and, in particular, in Prague in the 1870s and 1880s. These twenty years are only a part of a larger timeframe, often called the Caecilian Movement, in connection with a church music reform which touched all of Central Europe. Especially in the 1870s, the Czech lands had a close connection with Bavarian Regensburg, being the centre and model of reform efforts for the whole of Central Europe. In addition to collaborations of Prague and Regensburg reformers, vivid correspondence connections were established between them. And namely the letters of the Prague so-called "Cyrillists" addressed to the leading mover of the reform in Regensburg - Franz Xaver Witt - are the main source for this work. These letters, which had been unknown in our country until now, can be found in the Central Bishop Library in Regensburg, together with a twin volume catalogue containing a detailed list of the letters.

Based on these letters, this work shows and comments in more detail the already known data about the respective time period. This work also contains a full wording of the letters from selected correspondence partners of F. X. Witt, together with an index of persons, mentioned herein.