

## Tours of the Church and Convent

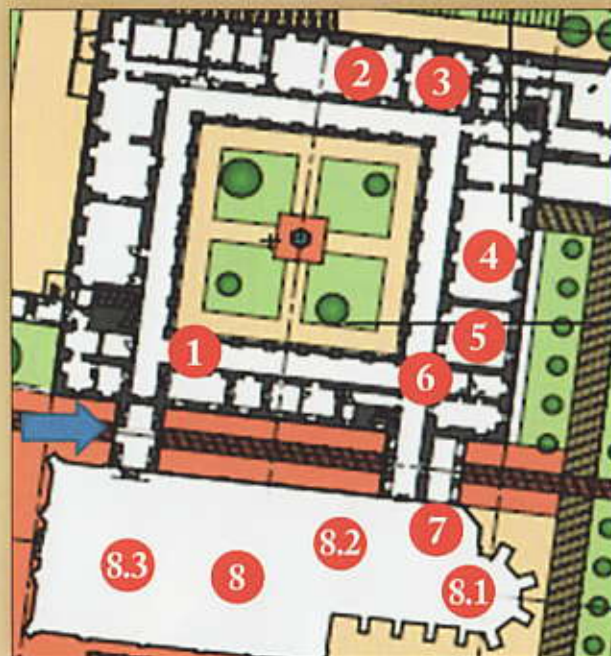


8.2. The Vaulted Hall



8.1. Presbytery (Gothic Chancel)

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### Tours of the Monastery

Monday – Saturday in the season, i.e. from 1st June to 30th September: 10:00, 14:00, 16:00  
(except for the first Saturday in the month)  
Sunday: 14:00, 16:00

A visit takes place if there are at least 5 visitors.  
Off-season tours are done by appointment.

### Contact

Canonry of Premonstratensians in Zeliv  
klaster@zeliv.eu  
www.zeliv.eu



*Tours of the Church  
and Convent*



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# Tours of the Church and Convent

## 1. Bohumil Vit Tajovsky

Bohumil Vit Tajovsky was elected Abbot on the 2nd of February, 1948. In 1950, he was unjustly sentenced to 20 years in prison, but was released due to very bad health in 1960. After his release, the Abbot worked in Havlickuv Brod as a stoker and archivist, then returned to Zeliv with his monks in 1991.

## 2. The Painted Refectory

The refectory, or dining room, is decorated with original frescoes by premonstratian Nosecky and Kalina, from nearby Sedlice.



## 3. The Liturgical Robes

Some of the liturgical vestments in this room are over 200 years old. The Zeliv crib originates from the 1950s.



## 4. The White Refectory (Winterly)

Before 1950, the White Refectory served as a winter dining room simply because it had heating. When the psychiatric hospital was in operation, it was used as a laundry room.

## 5. The Chapter Hall

The Chapter Hall was used for the election of new abbots, and was where the monks made their first and last renowned vows. After their death, their remains would remain exposed until the funeral. The room is not preserved in its original condition, but has been completely restored.



## 6. The Monument Wall

Between 1950 and 1956, 464 priests from former Czechoslovakia were interned at the monastery. Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek and archbishop Karel Otcenasek were among those interred here. The Archbishop of Prague and the Czech Primate Mons. Dominik Duka, OP, blessed the monumental wall on August 13, 2011.



## 7. The Abbot's Vestry

The furniture in the sacristy abbey is original from 1722, and is richly decorated with woodcuts and inlays. A crypt of the Members of Order lies under the vestry.



## 8. Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary

The gothic basilica of the monastery church in Zeliv was rebuilt from the original Romanesque building in the late 14th century, and was reinstated after the Hussites destroyed it. After a devastating fire in 1712, the church was modified in the Baroque Gothic style by Santini.

### 8.1 Presbytery (Gothic Chancel)

The presbytery is done in the Gothic style. On the sides of the presbytery, there are choir pews dating from the middle of the 18th century, and atop the small choir there is a Baroque organ. The Baroque alter dates from 1730. The center image is a painting showing the birth of the Virgin Mary, painted by Nosecky from Jihlava. In front of the main alter is the abbey crypt.

### 8.2 The Vaulted Hall

Santini originally designed the interior of the church and divided it into three rooms similar in appearance to the hull of a ship. The rooms are separated by a hanging overhead keystone, which looks incredibly fragile due to its weight. The pictures on the altars in the side aisles are painted by the Viennese painter Maulbertsch, and the view from the large side windows on the top floor is spectacular.

### 8.3 The Gallery

The organ was made in 1719 by the Prague organist Dvorsky. There are also frescoes in the choir which were painted by Kalina, showing figures of four religious teachers and four evangelists.