

Restoration of the Basilica of Pilgrimage Maria Radna



Building history:

After two previous constructions in 1520 and 1651 today's church was built from 1756 to 1767 in late baroque style. In 1686 the miracle-working image, which had been created at North Italian printers about 1650, was donated to Radna. The monastery was built in three stages: as of 1727 the western wing was built, the southern wing followed in 1743 and in 1823 finally the eastern wing, which connects to the main façade of the church, completed the monastery. In 1911 to each of the two towers 30 meters in height were added. In 1923 a fire destroyed the roof timbering of the church and the monastery. During the last restoration of the church as of 1971 the outer plaster was renewed and the interior including the ceiling fresco remounted in colours by the bothers Millthaler from Arad.

Outline of the damage:

The base of the church is damaged by humidity and shows several cracks. The plaster, which was renewed in the 1970ies, crumbles and comes partly off the walls, the colouring of the façade flakes off. The wooden resonance shutters in front of the church bells lack most of their slats. The clocks are corroded and thus no longer working. The concrete structures from the year 1911 are heavily damaged by the corrosion of the steel elements and already show holes. The metal protections of the ornaments of the façade are largely deformed or even missing.



The restoration:

First of all a chart of all damages is made, which exactly notes place, kind and extent of the damages on the façade. Then the plaster is restored with material that fits the churches base and building period. Destroyed stucco elements have to be rebuilt with the help of templates. The load-bearing of the top additions to the towers has to be restored with a competent professional restoration technique. The metal protections above the mouldings and stucco elements will be partly renewed. The largely corroded dial and hands of the tower clock have to be restored and the clockwork started again.



Appeal for funds:

For the expensive and lasting restoration of the church Maria Radna we depend on your contributions. We very much appreciate donations in any currency. The "**Verein Kinder-, Alten- und Krankenhilfe für Rumaenien e.V.**" in Fuerstenfeldbruck (association for helping children, aged and ill people in Romania) makes available a German account for donations. Donations to the **account number 2200715, Sparkasse Fuerstenfeldbruck, BLZ 70053070** with the **intended purpose "Maria Radna"** go exclusively to the restoration of the church and are tax deductible.

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