

TRADITION AND HERITAGE OF THE CULT OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS
IN THE DIOCESE OF KOŠICE

(Summary)

There were three ancient churches in the diocese of Košice that were dedicated to the martyred pope Clement – in Brehov, Sarisske Sokolovce and Cicava castle. The patronage of this saint dates back to the time of Great Moravia. In the 18th century the dedication to St. Clement at Čičava castle was moved to the church in Vranov nad Toplou which should therefore according to the traditions of the Catholic church become a basilica minor. From 1826 to 1906 the diocese of Košice had its own particular calendar. In this calendar an important place was given to the cult of Ss. Cyril and Methodius. This cult was mainly restricted to Slovak ethnic regions. At the beginning of the 19th century Slovaks were the dominating ethnic group in the Šariš, Abov and Zemplin region. Since the cult of Ss. Cyril and Methodius could not be removed from the diocesan calendar, it outlived the greatest Hungarian repression. The archdiocese of Košice has thus a serious and ancient Cyrillo-Methodian heritage.

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