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THEMATIC FOCUS OF THIS ISSUE:

SELECTED DISCUSSED TOPICS IN THE SPECIFICATIONS: PALLI-ATIVE CARE, ISLAMIC STUDIES, CHRISTIAN RELIGION, THE IM-PACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE CURRENT PERIOD, AND THE REFUGEE CRISIS IN UKRAINE.

THE HEART IN A HEARTLESS WORLD. STRUGGLES FOR WHAT IS CENTRAL TO HUMAN LIFE.

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PERCEPTION OF THE PERSONALITY OF JESUS CHRIST AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE STROEUROPEAN MAN OF THE 21ST CENTURY. COMPARATIVE STUDIES BETWEEN THE POPULATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA

Patrik Maturkanic, Ivana Tomanova Cergetova, Peter Majda, Vladimír Thurzo, Peter Kondrla

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Our mission is to create an international platform for experts engaged in the field of Christian mission and missiology, charity, social and humanitarian development work at the theoretical, research and application levels. The journal has been creating room within this international platform for further specificities covering the aforementioned fields that will produce new relevant findings and interconnections in order to promote the journal more to the widest possible professional community and stimulate a greater interest within it. One such field is international public law with its unique scientific and relevant, direct and close link to international missionary work, and several other relevant aspects from other fields on which the journal focuses. The journal publishes a wide spectrum of articles relevant for education with special focus on assisting professions in the aforementioned areas. This area includes all educational, health. social, legal (especially international humanitarian law, international human rights law, diplomatic law and international treaty law), international organization and spiritual topics connected to the missionary context.

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EDITORIAL

Dear Colleagues and Readers of Acta Missiologica,

An empathic way of being with another person means to enter the other's private sentient world and to settle in it. It involves being sensitive, moment by moment, to the change in perceived meanings that take place in the other person, without any fear, confusion, or whatever he/she is and what he/she experiences. It also means living temporarily in that person's life and moving around it gently without any judgments. This requires sensitivity at both human and professional level. To achieve this, it is necessary to realize how important it is to be an authentic and congruent human being in the first place. Moment after moment. To tune into meanings or changes that take place in another person. Anything can happen. but that person's integrity must be kept under all circumstances. With the objective view of a professional and the skills that the assistants and the accompanying clergyman have, this person can achieve the desired change or just meet himself/herself. A deeper awareness of these aspects leads to a reflection on the need for sensitive accompaniment. During this period especially among people who come to us as refugees from Ukraine. They have a lot of traumatic experiences, sadness, and loss of self-determination. Some of them had higher socioeconomic status in their home country, but fleeing meant a loss of home, community, family, and status. They escaped for their safety, with no choice and often no time to prepare. This loss of self-determination continues in the host countries. They left the property or were forced to sell it to pay for coming to our countries. As a result, they are also forced to face many other problems, including physical and mental health. Among them, women, children, and the elderly are particularly vulnerable, for example due to gender-based violence, lack of job or education opportunities and lack of adequate health care. When accompanied, they need to experience that they are perceived as valuable by the majority society. They also need to experience that someone is also working to have the necessary support and access to fully meet their basic living and economic needs, even when coping with the transition to host countries.

The articles in the latest issue of Acta Missiologica also support the building of peace, dialogue in the world and the values of every human being, the protection of their precious life to the point of natural death. Each article in its own unique and valuable way.

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OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC*

ATTITUDES TOWARDS DEATH AMONG GERIATRIC CARE WORKERS IN THE CONTEXT

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Abstract

Background: Older or geriatric patients were among the people most at risk from COVID-19. Their mortality rate increased alarmingly during the pandemic, and this undoubtedly presented an emotionally challenging situation for their caregivers.

Methods: The aim of our research was to analyse the professional's current attitudes towards death among the professional caregivers of older people in the health and social care settings and to identify specific aspects of their coping strategies in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The standardized Death Attitude Profile-Revised (DAP-R) questionnaire was used to collect data. The research respondents consisted of direct care workers in social service institutions, nursing homes, and non-medical health care workers in facilities providing health care primarily to geriatric patients (n=180). **Results and conclusion**: A statistically significant difference was found between the attitudes of health and social workers. Social workers declare more reconciliation and less fear of death. They avoid death less, perceive it less as an escape and are more neutral than health workers. This result was influenced by the factor of faith.

Keywords: Death – Attitude to death – Geriatric care – COVID-19 pandemic – Coping.

Introduction

Attitudes can be defined as a tendency to react in a fixed way to objects, people, or situations, or to oneself², virtually as a predisposition to act, perceive, think and feel in a certain way towards an object (object, person or situation)3. Attitudes always have an evaluative aspect, so we can also define an attitude, as an individual's tendency to evaluate an object, whatever it may be. Although evaluative tendencies cannot be directly observed, they do interfere with the process between attitude objects and various reactions. In our case, this object is death, Atti-

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LITURGICAL MUSIC AND ITS MISSION: LITURGICAL PARTICIPATION AND MUSIC



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Abstract

Background: The aim of this study is to develop the basic role and "mission" of liturgical music. The liturgical celebration is above all the celebration of the paschal mystery of Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension. Since liturgical music forms an integral part of liturgical celebration, its mission is to deepen the participation of believers in the paschal mystery through those forms inherent in liturgical music.

This study is divided into three parts: (1) In the first part we clarify the relationship between the subject of liturgical celebration, active participation in liturgical celebration, and music. Very important steps forward in this area were taken at the Second Vatican Council. (2) The second significant shift after the Second Vatican Council is the understanding of the value of liturgical music, which derives from the connection with the liturgical celebration (not from the connection with the Gregorian chant). (3) Finally, the article 30 of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Sacrosanctum concilium, points out that "the spirit of the liturgical action" is related to active participation: "To promote active participation, the people should be encouraged to take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons, and songs ... "

Conclusion: In the third part of the study, we briefly approach these musical forms as tools for the active participation of people in the liturgical celebration of the paschal mystery.

Active listening of God's word, of the language of liturgy and of all the gathered Church is therefore the most important condition for our own active participation.

Keywords: Liturgy – Music – Participation – Mission – Forms [of music].

Introduction

Music is an integral part of a person's daily life. It reflects the cultural peculiarities of a nation, and also of individual people. One listens to music at concerts, at work and even when shopping. Music is heard at all important celebrations of various groups of people as well as individuals. Its role can be different: when listening to classical music at concerts, one admires the beauty of music, reflects and opens up to the horizons of another world... Music thus shapes a person's emotional life. Music is often a means of entertainment or relaxation.

What mission and role does music play in the liturgy? Its role is certainly not just a means of filling time; it is not intended to entertain people. Its mission and meaning are based on the liturgy of which it is a part. But what is the liturgy? Foremost, liturgy is the work of God, only secondarily is it people's work: "Liturgy is the work of God drawing us to union with the divine Self

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through the person of Christ in the power of the Spirit. Liturgy is the action of God transforming us more perfectly into being the Body of Christ."² There is only one theme of worship, one event at the heart of every liturgy: the paschal mystery. Liturgical music supports the *kind* of "prayer which expresses surrender as Body of Christ to the ritual enactment of the paschal mystery."³ As the *Milwaukee Symposia for Church Composers* points out, "the core of that mystery is the life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the sending of the Spirit upon the church."⁴

Understanding liturgy as ritual enactment of the paschal mystery has implication for the ministry of liturgical music. The most important mission and role of liturgical music is to help believers surrender to the paschal mystery as it unfolds within the rite. We sing "not just because we enjoy this particular hymn or this particular setting of the Mass, but because we want to enter with the assembled Church into this dying and rising mystery which marks our identity." Liturgical music enables one to participate more deeply in the paschal mystery celebrated in the liturgy.

This study is divided into three parts. First, we point to the relationship between the subject of the liturgical celebration – the whole Church – and liturgical participation as well as music. Then, we indicate important shifts in the understanding of liturgical music after Vatican II. Finally, we specify some forms of liturgical music and their relationship to the participation of the assembly.

1. The liturgical-theological starting point: the relationship between the understanding of the subject of liturgical celebration, liturgical participation, and music.

A very important shift in the post-counciliar liturgy is related to the understanding of the subject of the liturgy. Scholastic theology defines an ordained minister as the one who represents the Church and is the active subject of the liturgy. The task of the laity was to attend to praying in a devotional manner so as to participate in the celebration conducted by the ordained minister. Ceremoniale episcoporum from the year 1600, Chapter XXVIII called "De organo, organista, et musicis, seu cantoribus, et norma per eos servanda in divinis" indicates the role of sacred music; its aim is to deepen the people's devotion and to contemplate God's truths. However, it is evident that active participation in singing and in celebration alone was very limited.

Sacrosanctum concilium considers the entire liturgical community, the whole Church – Head and members – as the subject of the liturgical celebration. We can see this indication in SC number 26. Since the liturgy is the act of the whole community, assembly singing is important in every celebration. Harmon underscores that "the most important ministers of music are the members of the assembly, for it is they who, as Body of Christ, enact the rite." The importance

2 Kathleen Harmon, *The ministry of music. Singing the Paschal Mystery* (Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 2004) 1.

of collective singing by the whole assembly is also emphasized in the document issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops entitled *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship*. For instance, in relation to the introductory rites it states the following: "So that the people might come together as one, it is appropriate that they always sing at least one piece as a congregation in the introductory rites – Entrance song or chant, Kyrie, or Gloria – apart from the sung dialogues of the Liturgy."¹⁰

2. From Gregorian chant to liturgical action and active participation in liturgy

Another important shift in the understanding of liturgical music is expressed in article 112 of the Constitution on liturgy: "sacred music is to be considered the more holy in proportion as it is *more closely connected with the liturgical action.*" Edward Foley says that "liturgical music can be defined as that music which weds itself to the liturgical action, serves to reveal the full significance of the rite and, in turn, derives its full meaning from the liturgy." Foley's explanation seems to be quite clear for us now, but at the beginning of the twentieth century the understanding of liturgical music was different (and for some groups of people it is different until now...).

The *Motu proprio* of the Pope Pius X, *Tra le sollecitudini*, ¹³ published in 1903 is considered one of the most important documents related to the legislation of sacred music. Which music is "more holy" or "more liturgical" according to the *Motu proprio*? An answer is indicated in the third article of this document: "Gregorian Chant has always been regarded as the supreme model for sacred music, so that it is fully legitimate to lay down the following rule: the more closely a composition for Church approaches in its movement, inspiration and savor the Gregorian form, the more sacred and liturgical it becomes; and the more out of harmony it is with that supreme model, the less worthy it is of the temple." Comparing these two articles, *Sacrosanctum concilium* 112 and the *Motu proprio* 3, we can easily recognize a very important shift in the understanding of liturgical music: Gregorian chant is the supreme model of sacred music according to the *Motu proprio* and on the other hand according to the constitution *Sacrosanctum concilium* the most essential connection is with liturgical action.

The Constitution on liturgy recognizes an important role of Gregorian chant in article 116: "The Church acknowledges Gregorian chant as specially suited to the Roman liturgy." However, in the same article 116, the Constitution emphasizes that "other kinds of sacred music, especially polyphony, are by no means excluded from liturgical celebrations, so long as they accord with the spirit of the liturgical action, as laid down in Art. 30." And how does the Constitution understand the "spirit of the liturgical action" according to article 30? The "spirit of the liturgical action" is related to active participation: "To promote active participation, the people should be encouraged to take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons, and songs, as well as by actions, gestures, and bodily attitudes. And at the proper times all should observe a reverent silence."

³ Harmon, *The ministry of music*, 8.

⁴ The Milwaukee Symposia for Church Composers: A Ten-Year Report. (Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 1992), §28.

⁵ Harmon, *The ministry of* music, 5.

⁶ Cf. Caeremoniale episcoporum. Editio Princeps (1600). Ed. Achille M. Triacca-Manlio Sodi (Città del Vaticano: Libreria Editrice Vaticana. 2000) 119-121.

[&]quot;Liturgical services are not private functions, but are celebrations of the Church, which is the 'sacrament of unity', namely, the holy people united and ordered under their bishops. Therefore, liturgical services pertain to the whole body of the Church; they manifest it and have effects upon it; but they concern the individual members of the Church in different ways, according to their differing rank, office, and actual participation." (Sacrosanctum Concilium. Constitution on the sacred liturgy (SC) § 26. accessed 15 January 2022 https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19631204_sacrosanctum-concilium en.html

⁸ Cf. Michel Veuthey, Il coro cuore dell'assemblea (Milano: Ancora, 1998), 24.

⁹ Harmon, The ministry of music, 14.

¹⁰ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Sing to the Lord : Music in Divine Worship* (Washington D.C.: USCCB Publishing, 2007) §140.

¹¹ Sacrosanctum concilium, § 112.

¹² Edward Foley, "Music, Liturgical." in *The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship*, edited by Peter E. Fink, Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1990, 855.

¹³ Pius X, Tra le sollecitudini. In Acta Sanctae Sedis 36, 1904, 329-339.

¹⁴ Pius X, *Tra le sollecitudini*, § 3. accessed 15 January 2022 http://www.adoremus.org/MotuProprio.html

¹⁵ SC § 116.

¹⁶ SC § 116.

¹⁷ SC § 30.

3. Forms of liturgical music and their relationship to the participation of the assembly

According to the Constitution on the liturgy, active participation in the liturgy is the main tool for comprehension of the "spirit of the liturgical action," which is expressed, inter alia, through forms of liturgical music: acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons and songs. In this third part of the study, we specify some forms of liturgical music and their connection with the active participation of the assembly.

3.1 Acclamations

Acclamations are the most important musical form in the liturgy, because they constitute the rite and are to be sung by the assembly as a whole. The acclamations are the liturgy; in singing them the assembly enact the rite. Acclamations are of the highest importance both because of where they occur in the liturgy and because of who sings them. According to Gelineau, acclamations, proclamations and dialogues are, or should be, intense moments of participation by the assembly, manifesting and realizing its role as the first subject of liturgical action. Each acclamation should be musically accessible to the assembly.

An acclamation is a collective vocal act that, in its short form, expresses confirmation of the faith or a wish, petition or an invocation. In celebration of the Eucharist, the most common acclamations are: Amen; Alleluia; Glory to you, Lord!; Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ; Memorial acclamations; For the Kingdom, the Power... etc.

The shortest acclamation is *Amen*. It concludes significant moments in the Eucharistic celebration: the end of the opening prayer, the general intercessions, the Eucharistic prayer and the prayer after communion. With this acclamation people "make the prayer their own."²¹

The response *Thanks be to God* after the first and second reading²² and the responses before and after the proclamation of the Gospel are also called acclamations,²³ as well as the response after the embolism.²⁴ Through the acclamations surrounding the Gospel, the faithful "acknowledge and confess Christ present and speaking to them."²⁵

The principal acclamations of the Mass are those belonging to the Eucharistic prayer. The meaning of the Eucharistic prayer is "that the entire congregation of the faithful should join itself with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in the offering of Sacrifice."²⁶ Acclamations,

- 18 Cf. Harmon, The ministry of music, 13.
- 19 Harmon, The ministry of music, 12.
- 20 Joseph Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass. In Joseph Gelineau, Liturgical assembly Liturgical song (Portland Oregon: Pastoral Press, 2002), 117. Original title: Joseph Gelineau, Les chants de la Mess dans leur enracinement rituel (Paris: Les Éditions du CERF, 2001).
- 21 General Instruction of the Roman Missal (London: Catholic Truth Society and Colloquium, 2005), § 54, § 89.
- "At the end [of the first and second reading], the lector sings or says the acclamation: Verbum Domini (The word of the Lord), and all respond: Deo gratias (Thanks be to God)." (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 128, cf. § 130.)
- 23 "Then he [priest] says: Lectio sancti Evangelii (A reading from the holy Gospel), making the Sign of the Cross with his thumb on the book and on his forehead, mouth, and breast, which everyone else does as well. The people say the acclamation: Gloria tibi, Domine (Glory to you, Lord)." (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 134).
- 24 "After the Lord's Prayer is concluded, the priest alone, with hands extended, says the embolism *Libera nos* (Deliver us). At the end, the people make the acclamation, Quia tuum est regnum (For the kingdom)." (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 153).
- 25 General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 60.
- 26 General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 78.

by their very nature, are meant to be sung.²⁷ The most important acclamation is the *Holy, Holy,*²⁸ in which the whole congregation joins with the heavenly power.²⁹

A Hebrew word *alleluia*, which means *praise God*, *is a commonly* used acclamation in Christian worship. It is the shout *par excellence* of Easter victory. *Alleluia* is incorporated into certain verses of hymns, or as a refrain, or it is also found at the end of some antiphons, particularly those of the Easter season. *Alleluia* during the gospel procession strongly unites the liturgical assembly and supports its participation. *Alleluia* is often integrated into an actual song.

3.2 Dialogues and responses

Each important part of the Mass³⁰ opens with a *dialogue* between the presider and the assembly. "It gets the ritual action going, or starts it up again, and facilitates the free, conscious and active participation of the entire assembly."³¹

The traditional formula of dialogue, *Dominus vobiscum – Et cum spiritu tuo* goes back to the origins of Christian worship. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says that "the acclamations and the responses of the faithful to the priest's greetings and prayers constitute that level of active participation that the gathered faithful are to contribute in every form of the Mass, so that the action of the entire community may be clearly expressed and fostered."³²

Chanting gives the dialogues between the priest and the assembly more meaning and fullness as simple pronounced words. From a musical point of view, dialogues between the presider and the assembly are usually unaccompanied. Gelineau notes that "these exchanges awaken our consciousness of truly being the church formed in serving the Lord in the liturgy."³³ In liturgy we can also experience other types of dialogue: several dialogues among cantor, choir, and assembly, which also significantly foster the participation of the assembly.

3.3 Litanies

Liturgical celebrations use various litany-forms which allow easy participation of believers. Their content is usually intercessory. The form includes short variable petitions or invocations followed by a short, invariable response. The petitions are usually sung by a small group, choir, or a single person and the response is made by the entire community.

There are three ordinary sung parts of the Eucharist built on the litany-form: the *Lord have mercy* (*Kyrie eleison*), the *Prayers of the Faithful* and the *Lamb of God*. None of these is a processional, but "the extended litany was a privileged form for accompanying a more solemn and festive entrance. This same form can be adapted and used in certain communion processionals."³⁴

A litanic prayer, that was probably inspired by Latin texts used in northern Italy or other regions of the West, was introduced into the Roman liturgy by Pope Gelasius (492-496). The intercessions of Gelasius³⁵ called for the response "Lord, hear and have mercy" ("Domine, ex-

- 27 Cf. Introduction to the Order of Mass: A Pastoral Resource. Washington: USCCB, 2003, no. 117.
- 28 Cf. Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass, 119.
- 29 Cf. General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 79.
- 30 The opening, the Gospel, the Eucharistic Prayer, the exchange of peace and the dismissal.
- 31 Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass, 120.
- 32 General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 35.
- 33 Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass, 121.
- 34 Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass, 136.
- 35 Intercession of Gelasius is known as Deprecatio Gelasii.

audi et miserere") in Milan, however, the response used was *Kyrie eleison*.³⁶ The intercessions were located after the liturgy of word, in the place of today's restored General Intercessions. In the sixth century these intercessions were suppressed.³⁷ However, before 529 the petitions with *Kyrie eleison* appeared at the entrance rite of the Mass.³⁸ In order to shorten the Mass, Pope Gregory the Great (590-604) allowed the intention of the litany to be omitted on certain days with only the response being sung. This abbreviated form of litany finally became the rule.³⁹ Subsequently, "by the eighth century the petitions had disappeared and only the acclamatory response remained in the ninefold format of *Kyrie* three times, *Christe* three times, and again *Kyrie* three times – the format which eventually became fixed as the first element of the sung ordinary of the Mass."⁴⁰ This number then gave rise to the Trinitarian interpretation, which is evidently not primitive. Tropes were added to these litanic acclamations in the Middle Ages.⁴¹ Even though the Council of Trent had eliminated all tropes, some of them were restored by the Second Vatican Council and re-introduced as a part of the third formula of penitential rite. The effectiveness of *Kyrie* litany is very limited because of its brevity.

The introduction of the *Lamb of God* is attributed to Pope Sergius I in the seventh century. However, most other liturgies, in Spain, Gaul, and Milan, already had special chants for the rites of sharing the bread.⁴² The invocation uses John the Baptist's words to point out the Messiah: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the word."⁴³ Its supplication is the most common: "Have mercy on us." The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* indicates that "the supplication *Agnus Dei*, is, as a rule, sung by the choir or cantor with the congregation responding; or it is, at least, recited aloud. This invocation accompanies the fraction and, for this reason, may be repeated as many times as necessary until the rite has reached its conclusion, the last time ending with the words *dona nobis pacem (grant us peace)*."⁴⁴

3.4 Responsorial form

The responsorial form is frequently used during the celebration of the Eucharist. This form breaks up the flow of the lyrics and, by the repetition of the refrain, it is usually accented and fosters the central theme of the text. The most common instances of this form are responsorial psalms. "The importance of this form lies in the dialogical relationship of the psalm to the readings, and of the assembly to the Word of God, a relationship which the interaction between cantor and assembly embodies and deepens." Through the singing of the antiphon, the assembly

- 36 Cf. Robert Cabié, The Eucharist. In The Church at prayer. An Introduction to the Liturgy, ed. Aimé Georges Martimort, vol. II. (Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press, 1986), 72.
- 37 There is no trace of the General Intercessions in the Leonine Sacramentary from the middle of the sixth century.
- 38 Cf. Cabié, The Eucharist, 73.
- 39 Cf. Lawrence J. Johnson, The Mystery of Faith. A Study of the Structural Elements of the Order of the Mass (Washington: Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, 20115), 20.
- 40 Harmon, The ministry of music, 60-61.
- 41 Text of tropes became the tags for titling groups of Mass ordinaries, for example *Missa cuntipotens genitor Deus*.
- 42 Cf. Gelineau, Ritual roots of the sung parts of the mass, 140.
- 43 John 1:29
- 44 General Instruction of the Roman Missal, § 83.
- 45 Harmon, The ministry of music, 13.

actively participates and responds to the proclamation of God's word. The responsorial form is also often used for processional songs.⁴⁶

3.5 Hymns

Saint Paul in his Letter to the Colossians exhorts the Christians of that community: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God."⁴⁷ The Church was born singing and by the fourth century the production of Christian hymns was already widespread. The introduction of the metrical hymn into the West is attributed to St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, who was imitating the practice of St. Ephrem of Syria.⁴⁸

At the time of the Reformation, Luther and his followers created a popular hymnody for worship. However, in the Roman liturgy - generally - it was forbidden to use songs in the vernacular, especially after the Council of Trent (1545-1563). In some dioceses, for example in the territory of today's Czech and Slovak Republics, hymns in the vernacular language were used also in the Catholic liturgy as is well documented in the Slovak hymnal *Cantus Catholici* from 1655,⁴⁹ which contains Latin and Slovak hymns and chants.

3.6 Canons and repetitive forms of music (ostinato, etc.)

Undoubtedly, songs and *canons* from Taizé are already part of music used in Catholic liturgy. The main characteristic of this type of music is the repetition of one sentence and musical theme, which allows the easy participation of the assembly: "using just a few words they [songs of Taizé] express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting for God, without having to fix the length of time too exactly." 50

The songs and canons of Taizé are especially suitable for international assemblies, because they can be easily learned. In addition, the singing of solos in different languages helps to deepen the understanding of the text of a chant and increase the participation and attention of those present. Instrumental solos also bring variety and freshness to music.

The songs from Taizé also influenced the development of liturgical music in many countries around the world. Composers began to use similar forms for processional songs for the celebration of the Eucharist. This musical form is especially suitable for singing during communion, when believers approach holy communion and do not carry a songbook with strophic songs,⁵¹ as well as during other parts of celebration.⁵²

- 50 Prayer for Each Day (London/Chicago: Cassell/GIA Publications, 1998) 8.
- 51 Cf. Bub Hurd, Dining in the kingdom. Songs for Communion and Gathering (Portland: OCP, 2009).
- 52 Cfr. Vlastimil Dufka, *Nech nás žehná Pán (May the Lord bless us)*, accessed 15 January 2022 https://liturgia-hud-ba.sk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Nech-n%c3%a1s-%c5%beehn%c3%a1-P%c3%a1n_VD.pdf

⁴⁶ Processional songs or chants accompany the procession at the beginning of the celebration (*introit*), the procession with the gifts (*cantus ad offertorium*) and the communion procession (*communio*). More about processional chants: Vlastimil Dufka, *Historicko-liturgické aspekty procesiových spevov Eucharistie* (Historical-liturgical aspects of the processional chants of the Eucharist). *Teologický časopis*, roč. XVII, 1 (2019) 21-39.

⁴⁷ Colossians 3:16.

⁴⁸ More about hymns of St. Ambrose: Vlastimil Dufka, *Canto e fede. Il canto come strumento per promuovere l'ortodossia della fede* (México, D. F.: Buena Prensa, 2013).

⁴⁹ Cfr. Vlastimil Dufka, *Il canto sacro del XVII secolo e il Cantus Catholici (1655)* (Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe Collegium Bobolanum, 2019).

Conclusion

The aim of this study was to develop the basic role and "mission" of liturgical music. The liturgical celebration is above all the celebration of the paschal mystery of Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension. Since liturgical music is an integral part of liturgical celebration, its mission is to deepen the participation of believers in the paschal mystery through those forms inherent in liturgical music. The starting point for understanding liturgical music was an understanding of the relationship between the subject of liturgical celebration, active participation in liturgical celebration, and music. It is clear that a very important step forward in this area was taken at the Second Vatican Council. The subject of the celebration is the whole Church, the Head with its members. The whole assembly should therefore actively participate in the liturgy, not just the choir or the soloists. The second significant shift after the Second Vatican Council is the understanding of the value of liturgical music, which is derived from the intensity of the link to the liturgical celebration (not from the link to the Gregorian chant). Finally, Article 30 of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Sacrosanctum concilium, points out that "the spirit of the liturgical action" is related to active participation: "To promote active participation, the people should be encouraged to take part by means of acclamations, responses, psalmody, antiphons, and songs ... "53 In the third part of the study, we briefly approached these musical forms. Article 30 ends with a simple mention of silence: "And at the proper times all should observe a reverent silence." 54

In the context of liturgical silence, in conclusion, we would like to refer to one paragraph from the second document of *Universa Laus* entitled *Music in Christian Liturgies*. This document understands the participation in liturgy as our response to God who creates through the Word and if we want to express our response, first, we have to listen. For this reason, the document says that "listening is the primary form of participation. To participate consciously, with devotion, and actively in the liturgical action therefore goes beyond the simple execution of the prescribed rites. It is in listening that we are led to respond through prayer, song and actions, in such a way as to take part together in the mystery of Christ."55 *Active listening* of God's word, of the language of liturgy and of all the gathered Church is therefore the most important condition for our own active participation.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The author hereby declares to be the sole author of this work and has approved its publication.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declares that the research involved in the article and the publication of the article were carried out without having any business, financial or other relations and/or circumstances that could be considered as a potential conflict of interest. At the same time, all the authors declare that there is no conflict of interest related to this article or its review.

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⁵³ SC § 30.

⁵⁴ SC § 30.

⁵⁵ Universa Laus, Document II: Music in Christian liturgies, 1.5. accessed 15 January 2022 https://universalaus.org/ wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/2-document-ul-uk.pdf

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