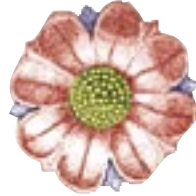


## Centre of Monastic Studies

The initiative to establish the Centre of Monastic Studies or CMS was the result of previous activities developed by the Kláštorisko non-profit organization ([www.klastorisko.sk](http://www.klastorisko.sk)). For over twenty years, its founders have carried out archaeological and historical research at the destroyed Carthusian monastery at the *Lapis Refugii* – laying within the cadastre of the village of Letanovce – followed by the reconstruction and revitalisation of the site. The CMS represents the fulfilment of the symbolic comeback of a generation of young activists from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Romania to search for their ancestral heritage and for the roots of the values that monastic communities have contributed with to shaping the European culture, education and economy up to the present time.



The CMS has been established within the Kláštorisko non-profit organization, to which it is closely linked through common ideas and the people involved. The CMS focuses on researching the heritage of medieval and modern monastic communities in the territory of present-day Slovakia and the whole East-Central Europe. Its activities aim at a broader European context, regardless of religious confession, following the line of the oldest and most functional ecumenical tradition of European monasticism represented by Saint Benedict, Saints Konstantin-Cyril and Methodius – patrons of Europe, Saint Vojtech-Adalbert – patron of Central Europe and European integration, and Saint Bruno, founder of the Carthusian Order.

### Objective

To open a way of access to the heritage of the monastic communities in East-Central Europe, which suffered severe damage over two generations of communist rule in this part of Europe.

### Scientific Guidance in Slovakia

Besides extensive research activity at the ruined Carthusian monastery of Lapis Refugii, the founders of the centre have laid down their professional legacy in numerous scientific monographs and studies. Their recent achievements are represented by international project: the Polish-Slovak synthesis of the history of the Scepusian (Spiš) region ([www.scepus.org](http://www.scepus.org)), whose first phase culminated in a monumental one-thousand-page publication entitled *Terra Scepusiensis : Stav bádania o dejinách Spiša* [Terra Scepusiensis : Current State of Research on the History of Scepusia]. The second part, entitled *Historia Scepusii*, is being published in 2008. All CMS members are engaged in the research and teaching activities of the Department of Slovak History at the Faculty of Arts at Comenius University in Bratislava.

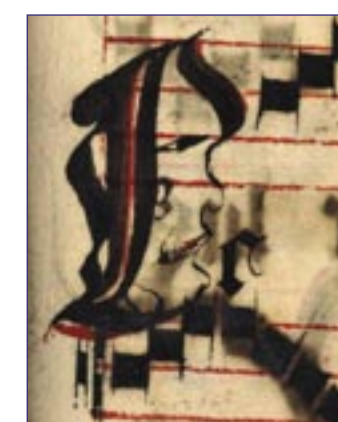
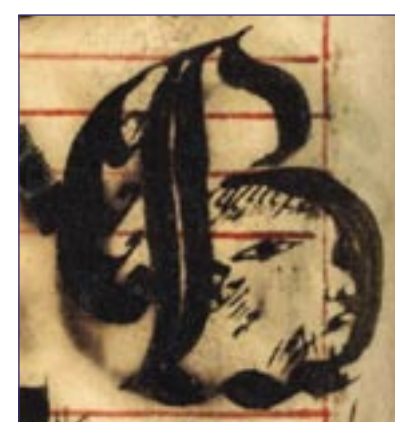
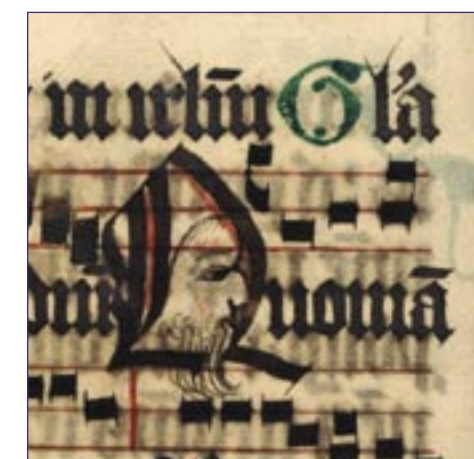


## CENTRAL EUROPEAN CHARTERHOUSES IN THE FAMILY OF THE CARTHUSIAN ORDER

Buchumschlag

Die Kachel aus dem Kartäuserkloster auf *Lapis Refugii* – Christus als Löwe mit dem Baum des Lebens (arbor vitae): aus der archäologischen Forschung von Michal Slivka.

Die Inschrift, sowie die Darstellungen der Mönche aus einem Kartäusergraduale (das Graduale entstammt dem Kloster auf *Lapis Refugii*): Slovenská národná knižnica v Martine (Slowakische Nationalbibliothek in Martin), Archív literatúry a umenia (Archiv der Literatur und Kunst), sign. J 538.



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