of the process of restitution, the Catholic and the Reformed Churches have got new buildings, later on Franciscan Sisters settled down in the town, and NGO-s – like Scout movement and the Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta – started their activities bound to some of the Churches. This paper presents the process of a new ecclesial inculturation on the basis of the relevant documents preserved in the archives of the local religious communities.

The Catholic Church as depicted in the cinema newsreels of Communist Hungary

Gianone, András

The present article explores how the Hungarian Catholic Church was depicted in the newsreels shown in the cinemas during the period of Communist dictatorship. From the end of World War II to the change of regime in 1989, only 27 pieces of news specifically about the Catholic Church were presented to the Hungarian cinema-goers. Based on these as well as parts of other reports containing information about ecclesiastical matters the article analyses how the Communist state wished to depict the Catholic Church in Hungary.

Fight for freedom of conscience and religion

"Everything of our beautiful establishment, of our Order was blown away by the political, economic and wartime storm." From the diaries of a Cistercian religious, Konstantin Horváth

Cúthné Gyóni, Eszter

Hungarian Church history after World War II contains a great deal of documents from the state authorities, especially from the State Security Authority, but possesses fewer ecclesiastical sources, so we may say: there is irregularity in the distribution of the historical sources. It is especially true relative to the case of a religious order suppressed in 1950, because the years of the dissolution did not pay attention to the issue or to preserve the documents. We know that the leadership of the Hungarian Cistercians had been prepared for the subsequent dissolution by the government; in anticipation and they had destroyed or hidden documents that could have contained compromised data about the members of the order. Even so we still have sufficient historical sources about the functioning of the dissolved order, and we have some fragmented printed remains produced by the members of the order. The latter group also contains the so called "ego-documents", i.e.

letters and memories, but we have only one complete diary (which is rather a diary-series containing 22 volumes) preserved in the National Archives of Hungary of Veszprém County. That's why the diaries of Konstantin Horváth, the former prior the Cistercian Abbey of Zirc, are not only valuable, but also provide very unique sources of his biography, of the order's history and of the Hungarian Church history in the XXth century. This paper attempts to present this source material briefly, and – as far as possible – comprehensively.

Efforts of the Egervári movement in the first half of 1977 to achieve a settlement

Holló, Péter

This study is concerned with a turbulent phase of the history of the Hungarian Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1975/76 there developed a protest movement within the church against the leadership in office that had spread to the whole of Hungary. The protesters accused the leaders of abusing fundamental Adventist faith priciples and they soon found themselves disfellowshipped from the community as a consequence. There were many, too, who left voluntarily to make their stand manifest. The number of the movement's supporters had soon increased to a thousand, which, taken the total church membership of about five thousand, is quite significant. Having been pushed out of the church and forced to go underground, the protesters made several attempts to settle their case. One such step was that in 1977 they turned to Adventist leader Gáspár Lovas in Czechoslovakia so that they could join the Slovakian Union. The Hungarian Union leaders took action immediately to prevent this, so the group had their request for admission rejected. As a next step they appealed to party chief János Kádár against repeated harassment by the authorities. They quoted the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), in force from 1976, and argued that the Hungarian Nazarenes of Hungary ultimately gained state recognion as a denomination in 1977.

Nevertheless the case of the Egervári group had not been settled during the Kádár regime.