

Pilgrims in the Bavarian Town of Altötting (1930)

Abstract

These scenes from the 1930 documentary *Bruder Konrads Glorie* [Brother Konrad's Glory], produced by a film company (Leo Film) closely associated with the Catholic Church, show the ceremonies and festivities that accompanied Konrad von Parzham's beatification in summer 1930. Born Johann Birndorfer in 1818 to a farming family in the Bavarian village of Parzham, Brother Konrad entered the Capuchin friary of St. Anna in Altötting, Bavaria, in 1849, where he served as a porter until his death in 1894. Over the course of his 45 years of service, he attended to countless pilgrims and distributed food to the poor. Revered by his contemporaries and successors for his wisdom and devotion, the Church beatified him as Konrad von Parzham on June 15, 1930, which the town Altötting later celebrated over the course of two weeks, from August 23 to September 6, 1930. Not only did Catholic officials, such as Cardinal Michael Faulhaber from Munich and the Papal Nuncio Eugenius Pacelli (the future Pope Pius XII) attend, but so did hundreds of pilgrims who made the journey specifically for this occasion. The clips show scenes of prayer and devotion, as well as celebration, and they underscore the deep faith that many Germans continued to express in the Weimar Republic, even as others had turned away from organized religion. The Church canonized Konrad in 1934, and numerous churches, schools, choirs, pharmacies, and streets have subsequently named themselves after him, including the friary in Altötting.

Source

Intertitles:

A.D. 1894, a Capuchin friar named Conrad died in the Convent of St. Anne.

A.D. 1912 consecration of the pilgrimage basilica of St. Anne

A.D. 1930

On June 15, in the glory of St. Peter's in Rome, the image of a simple Capuchin shimmered in the candlelight...

Brother Konrad was raised to the altar 36 years after his death.

Pilgrims at the Chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, which was also Brother Konrad's refuge.

[images of plaques thanking Mary for her help]

Pilgrims in the churches -

Pilgrims everywhere -

It was a special day of rejoicing, because the youth carried their hearts to Brother Konrad.

[footage of procession]

Where Brother Konrad so often knelt during his days on earth, there will always be a refuge for the faithful...

...in the sanctuary of the Mother of God in Altötting.

Ave Maria - gratia plena -

O death, where is thy sting?

O grave, where is thy victory? [1 Corinthians 15, 55]

Thus ends the document of Brother Konrad of Parzham

Source: *Bruder Konrads Glorie*, dir. Luitpold Nusser, Leo-Film AG, 1930. Bundesarchiv Filmarchiv
Filmwerk ID: 304 [BArch 38528_1_Bruder_Konrads - Digitaler Lesesaal](#)

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