

**Questionnaire**

Visited place: St. Martin's Church, 58 Grodzka St., Cracow  
- Lutheran Congregation

Location:	Poland	Gimnazjum nr 7 Kraków	PL - 3
	Country	School	Serial number

Photos



Front



Rear



The inscription above the entrance to the church says:

*"Frustra vivit qui nemini prodest"*

( meaning: *he lives in vain who does no good to others*).

**Description**

St. Martin's Church is located in 58 Grodzka Street, Krakow. It was founded for Carmelite nuns. It was constructed in the early baroque style according to the design made by John Trevano.

In October 1786, when the Carmelite nuns were transferred to a convent at Wesola Street (now: Copernicus Street), the church was closed and put out of sale. Thanks to professor Jerzy Samuel Bandtkie in 1816 the Senate of Cracovian Republic decided to give St. Martin's church to the Protestant community. The community renovated the church, filled it with interior, built some additional buildings and organised a school which was open for Protestants, Catholics and Jews. In 1902 there was a shelter for poor and disabled people provided by the society of women. This was supposed to redress a wrong done in the past- the building of the Protestant church at St. John Street had been destroyed three times.

**Position of the object:**



Position West- East /zumi.pl/

The position of the church is aberrated from the street direction, what means that the original building was older than the location of the town.

**Size:**

This church is 25 metres long, 10,5 metres wide and 16 metres heigh.

**Materials:**

The original church was wooden, but it was destroyed in 17<sup>th</sup> century. A new temple is made of brick and stone.

**Date of building/  
epoch:**

St. Martin's Church was built in the years 1637-1640 – in baroque. The building was erected on the foundations of another church which goes back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

**Architect/**

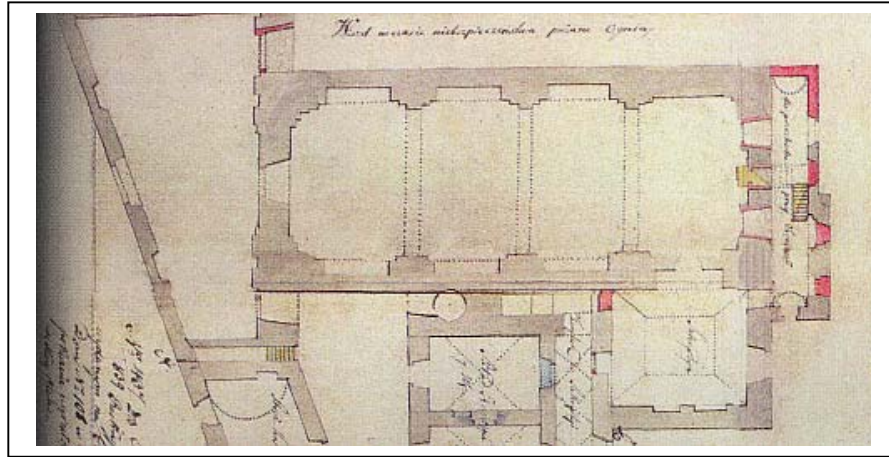
The building was designed in an early baroque style;  
 Architect: *John Trevano* who wanted to create a minimalized version of the facade of St. Peter and Paul's Church standing nearby. St. Martin's Church was also intended as a copy of Carmelitan S. Maria della Scala Church in Rome.

**Renovation,  
restoration:**

The first complex restoration was made after the Swedish invasion in 1686. Years 1980-1987- it's a period of the second complex restoration.

Sketch plan:

Front →



**Interior**

Picture	Name	Function
	<p>The classicist <b>altar</b> from 1870</p>	<p>In Protestant church it functions only as the Communion table; The painting placed in the retable is presenting <b>“Calming the Storm at Sea”</b> by <b>Henryk Siemiradzki</b> (1882). During the service there is a crucifix on the Communion table; in front of it there is the Bible and beside it the Communion vessels are placed.</p>

	<p><b>A crucifix</b></p>	<p>This crucifix comes from 1380 and is probably the oldest wooden crucifix in Cracow</p>
	<p><b>The Bible</b> from 1854</p>	<p>The Bible is considered to be the Holy Book for each Christian denomination. For Evangelics the Bible is the foundation of faith.</p>
	<p><b>A classicistic pulpit</b></p>	<p>It is set on the left wall from the altar, behind the font. This pulpit is richly decorated with golden ornaments. On the top you can see two angels and a triangle with The Eye which is thought as a symbol of God.</p>



**A font**

It's an item with holy water used to baptize worshippers. It is placed in front of the Communion table.  
 This font is crowned with figure of Jesus Christ being baptized by John Baptist.



**A board**

There are boards on the outside walls of the altar; there are numbers of songs sung during the service on each of them.  
 The number on the top indicates the number of "introit" - words of Psalms appropriate for a given Sunday.



**Epitaph** (in the middle) - destroyed by the Germans during the II World War

Two **plaques** (outside the epitaph) - put on the left wall, close to the entrance

**Mikołaj Rej**, one of the first Polish Protestants; an early Renaissance poet.

The plaques- are commemorating two pastors: *Prof. Wiktor Niemczyk* (on the left) and *Karol Kubisz* (on the right)



**The organ**

A typical instrument used to play during the church service



A symbolic monument:  
**The Pole of Peace**

This pole with the inscription in four languages is standing in front of the church and is commemorating the World Day of Prayers for Peace (3 April 1993)



A group of students who visited and examined the Evangelical church and faith -  
- class I B



A group of students who visited and examined the Evangelical church and faith –  
- class II A