



Born in Brno (Czech Republic) on 3.05.1950.

Dominican: in Germany from 1969 and in Bologna from 1972 to 1989.

Ordained Priest in Rome on 29.06.1975.

Died, Neckargemünd (Germany), 01.01.1990.

Cause for Beatification opened in Bologna on 25.2.2006.

**Priest,
Rome,
29.06.1975.**

“Haec est autem vita aeterna: Ut cognoscant te, solum Deum verum, et quem misisti Jesum Christum...”
Jo. 17,

Letter from the Postulator

Dear Friends,

this edition is particularly important because we shall remember the ordination to the Priesthood of Fr. Tomas.

In addition to the importance of this event, we shall see how significant was the fact that, when His Holiness imposed his hands, Fr. Thomas put into effect his intention to offer his life for the Church in his mother country.

The six photographs we have published, as you can see, are extremely significant because they show the path followed by the Servant of God. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Felici Studio for them, as well as my Confrere, Vice Postulator Fr. Efrek Jindracek O.P., who has done everything possible to let me have these valuable images.

Fr. Giovanni Cavalcoli O.P.

From a homily given by His Holiness Pope Paul VI on 29.6.1975.

“...There are three words We must say, which bring together the intrinsic truth of the mystery of ordination to the priesthood, and which We are merely calling to mind as chapters which you yourselves, throughout the rest of your lives, will have to remember and meditate upon frequently.

The first word, as you know well, is "vocation." You have been called. Called by God, called by Christ, called by the Church. ...

The second word is full of divinity. What are We to call it? Canon law calls it ordination to the priesthood. ... Everyone must be careful! For this is the focal point, not just of this ceremony, but of the whole mystery of the Church. ...

Now let us examine the third word, which sums up this celebration: the word is mission! ...

The priesthood is service, mediation between God and His people. Priesthood is for the Church, for the community, for our brethren; it is for the whole world.

cf. Allocution by His Holiness on the Anniversary of his Coronation.

Cf. http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/homilies/1975/documents/hf_p-vi_hom_19750629_it.html



Several views from the ceremony of ordination to the priesthood at St Peter's on 29.06.1975.

THE SOUL OF SACRIFICE AT HOLY MASS

A lecture on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the Dominican Third Order, Lent 1985.

Original words
typed by Fr. Tomas Tyn, OP.

From Fr. Garrigou-Lagrange's book, *L'amour de Dieu et la croix de Jesus*, (Cerf) 1929, Vol. II, chapter IX, pp. 847 et seq.

Selected passages, translated from the French with personal considerations by Fr. Tomas Tyn.



The Holy Father solemnly imposes his hands upon the head of Fr. Tomas.

At the most solemn moment, during the consecration, we must allow ourselves to be offered by Jesus and to offer ourselves with all our present and future adversities and sufferings, so that Mary Most Holy – to whom victory over the serpent was promised – may obtain our oblation to Her Son, and so that He may unite our sacrifice with His and offer them both to His Father. Blessed Nicholas of Flue used to say, “My Lord and God, take from me everything that distances me from Thee.”

The consecrated Host is elevated, not just for veneration by the faithful but also so that "the person offering and the thing offered cannot be refused, and the people for whom it is offered cannot be refused because they are of the same nature as the thing offered and the person offering, and the blood of Christ has washed out from them the reason for which they might be refused" (St. Albert the Great). This is also the meaning of the end of the Canon, through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ; everything we do must be for the greater glory of God, to offer Him all our consolations and all our sufferings as we unite ourselves to the joyful and sorrowful mysteries of His earthly life as we wait for the glorious mysteries of the life which is to come. This is the "Eucharistic" sense of praying the Holy Rosary.

Every time we go to Holy Communion, it should be more fervent than the previous time. It should help us to participate ever more deeply in the sentiments which Our Lord had when He instituted the Holy Eucharist and when He offered the Sacrifice of the Cross on Calvary. I Peter 2, 4-5: "Coming, as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen and made honourable by God, be you also as living stones built up, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." The Fathers of the Church tell us that the best way to participate in Holy Mass is to live the words Our Lord gave us: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

The Priest, minister of the Lord (together with all the baptised who are part of the priesthood of the faithful), participates not only in the Priesthood of Our Lord, but is also a sacrificial victim like Him and in his apostolate uses the same means that He did and every day offers up his sufferings with those which Our Lord offered for us. Col. 1, 24: "I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up those things that are wanting of the sufferings of Christ, in my flesh, for his body, which is the Church."

*(Father Tomas Tyn O.P.)
(Third Part - END)*

Cfr.: http://www.arpato.org/testi/lezioni_dattiloscritte/Sacrificio-SMessa.pdf e
http://www.studiodomenicano.com/testi/lezioni_dattiloscritte/Sacrificio-SMessa.pdf



These images show the culmination of the ceremony, when the Pope imposes his hands upon the candidate for ordination.

Witness.

The visit by the Holy Father to Czechoslovakia on 22 April of this year seemed an ideal opportunity to tell you something about the wonders of God and to say that the sacrifice of Fr. Tomas was found pleasing by the Lord (Dan. 3, 10).

It all began on 29 June 1975, Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul, Apostles. On that day, Fr. Tomas received the grace – along with many other candidates – of being ordained to the Priesthood, in Rome, by H.H. Paul VI. When the Pope placed his hands upon his head Fr. Tomas, a refugee with his family in West Germany, offered his life to Our Lord to obtain freedom for the Church in Czechoslovakia.

16 October 1978: Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, Archbishop of Krakow, was elected Pope and took the name John Paul II. Fr. Tomas, then Deputy Master of Novices at St. Dominic's in Bologna, was watching the event on the television and said out loud and very intensely: *now it will be impossible for things to go on as before*. I was standing beside him, and will never forget the words he said.

Fr. Tomas understood better than anyone else that the election of a Slav to the Papacy held a completely different religious meaning for Catholics in Eastern Europe, and it would affect them all. Indeed, that Pope was about to say, *Open wide the doors for Christ*, and express the desire of his entire Pontificate.

Fr. Tomas confided this secret of his to a young Confrere shortly before his final illness, and after the death of Fr. Tomas he passed it on to Fr. Prior and Fr. Provincial.

It was only on 22 April of that year that the sacrifice of Fr. Tomas and its meaning were made public. On that Sunday, the Holy Father bore witness with his presence in Prague to the return of religious freedom to Czechoslovakia. Cardinal Tomášek, Archbishop of Prague, told the Pope and the faithful that this day and this Papal Mass would enter into the history books as a feast of spiritual liberty.

It cannot be a coincidence: at the first signs of popular revolt in Czechoslovakia (summer 1989), Fr. Tomas felt the first pains of his terrible illness. When Czechoslovakia began its return to democracy, and the Church was given back her freedom (winter 1989), Fr. Tomas completed his immolation after many long sufferings (1 January 1990).

Naturally, the first to be informed by telephone were members of Fr. Tomas' family. They believed that nobody had listened to their prayers, but now here was an unusual, unprecedented, almost disturbing answer. The explanation was given by one of their children: that painful death had been an act of love, of great love, just like the love we read about in the Gospel: *Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friends* (John 15, 13). Clearly it was very difficult for Fr. Tomas' parents to understand things, given their commotion and sadness.

Everyone else, everyone who had Fr. Tomas as their enlightened Master and spiritual director, found unmeasurable courage in this revelation. The pain of losing him becomes a longing, which becomes the reassurance that we are still loved.

Fr. Tomas adopts the words of St. Catherine of Siena on her deathbed: *Beloved sons, you ought not to be afflicted at my death; you should rather rejoice with me and congratulate me, because I am about to quit this land of exile, and repose in the unending peace of God. I give you the positive assurance that I shall be more useful to you after my decease, than I would, or could have been by remaining with you in this life so obscured by grief and so tilled with miseries. But if it be agreeable to Him that I depart, be certain, dear children, that I have given my life for the Church: I have certain knowledge that God has permitted it by a peculiar grace* (Bl. Raymond of Capua, Life of St. Catherine of Siena).

Fr. Patrizio Pilastro, O.P.

From *St. Dominic's Bulletin*, July-August 1990, pp. 109-110

http://www.studiodomenicano.com/testi/testimonianze/bollettino_luglio_ago90.pdf

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Shrine of Our Lady of Vranov,
near Brno.

Memory corner.

The newly-ordained Priests meet
the Holy Father for a few moments
in St. Peter's.



Witness.

I remember a Religious in Bologna telling me that when he was ordained by the Pope in St Peter's he offered his life to Our Lord so that his country would become free from the yoke of Communist domination. I heard about this Dominican Friar again after he died, or perhaps when he was diagnosed as having the terminal cancer which would tear him away so early from his life on earth.

Fr. Francesco M. Pierbon, O.P., Ancona (Italy), 3 April 2011.

In our Province, we have 'another' Fr. Tomas. Our Postulator for the Beatification of Saints, Fr. Patrizio Pilastro at Ss. John and Paul in Venice, is looking into the story of Fr. Tomas.

Something he talks about a great deal is the fact that Fr. Tomas, on the day of his ordination to the priesthood, offered his life so that his country would be free.

Fr. Angelico Menetti, Bologna, 21 January 1998

The evening before the Servant of God Fr. Tomas Tyn was ordained to the priesthood, I went with him to St Peter's. After he kissed the foot of the statue of St Peter, he asked me to go and pray on my own in the chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, which is on the right inside the Vatican. I cannot remember how long I prayed. It must have been somewhere between half an hour and an hour. Afterwards I saw him again and we spoke about the ceremony to be held the following day. Then he went off to the place where he was staying and I went to mine.

After the death of the Servant of God, I heard that he had offered his life for the freedom of the Church in his country.

Fr. Walter Senner, O.P., Bologna, 2 April 2011.

Considering what Fr. Pilastro has said about Fr. Tomas offering his life for the freedom of his country, I think I was one of the first people he told about it. Actually, he spoke about it several times. I told him I was not surprised because Fr. Tomas really loved Czechoslovakia, and he suffered because he could not go back there.

Fr. Mario Marini, O.P., Bergamo, 17 April 2011.

One morning in summer 2005 my husband asked me, "do you know Heiligenkreuz?" "No, I don't."

He told us about a dream, a very powerful dream: he was driving with some friends and several times along the road they saw the sign for Heiligenkreuz. He really wanted to go there. So they turned off and went there, and then my husband saw Fr. Tomas on the steps in front of a church, smiling at him and then going up the steps and disappearing, surrounded by light.

We searched for some information on the internet. It is a famous monastery just outside Vienna.

Later I went with Arnim, my son, to Heiligenkreuz, because I felt drawn there.

Fr. Pirmin Holzschuh, the Guest Master, asked everyone why they had come. I said I had dreamt about the place. He smiled, but later he spoke to the Community about me.

The morning after, during breakfast, Fr. Pirmin told us that Fr. Bernhard, a confrere of his, had actually met Fr. Tomas and wanted to talk to us. So we met and Fr. Bernhard told us that he had been on Fr. Tomas' left (or perhaps right) when he was ordained priest in Rome by Paul VI.

When Fr. Bernhard spoke to us about my brother, he said that he had heard about Tomas offering his life for the freedom of the Czech Republic from the scourge of communism. Arnim was there. I am absolutely convinced that Tomas wanted us to know that he offered his life.

Helena Wünschmann (née Tyn), Kirchheimbolanden 19.04.2008.