

Feričanci, Holy Ghost Parish Church Conservation of wall paintings

The parish church of the Holy Ghost is located in the centre of Feričanci. It was first mentioned in 1801 when the construction of the church began. Before the church was built, service was held in the one-nave wooden chapel of St. Bartholomew from the 17th century, located in the present-day parish courtyard. Since the parish in Feričanci was founded without a proper sacral building, a church was built in 1803 on the initiative of Maksimilijan Vrhovac, bishop of Zagreb, and under the patronage of Ivan Karlo pl. Mihalović.

The parish church in Feričanci is a one-nave structure with a somewhat narrow, polygonally enclosed sanctuary with a rectangular sacristy on the west side. The narthex, with a dome, is highlighted by two massive pillars that support the structure of the choir. The nave is divided by three pairs of twin pilasters with high pedestals, bases, capitals and a cornice. The nave has a compressed trough vault and it is divided into bays with flanges. The sanctuary, that has a domed vault, is separated from the nave with a triumphal arch. The nave and sanctuary are illuminated by pairs of segmentally closed windows. The bell tower rises above the main façade, which is highlighted by a portal, pair of Tuscan pilasters, gable and attic with decorative vases. Lateral façades have a simple design with symmetrically shaped panels that alternate with pairs of windows.

Over the course of two centuries, the church survived several earthquakes, and the damage caused by the earthquakes was repaired after each one. The last renovation was carried out between 1907 and 1909 when the prerequisites for painting the church were created. In 1908, pastor Nikola Mikić personally selected and hired Rikard Rojnik, an accomplished painter, who painted the entire interior of the church with figurative depictions and lavish ornamentation. The composition of the wall paintings, made with a combination of glue and oil techniques, is adapted to the formats of architectural elements, wall surfaces and vaulted fields.

The walls of the nave and sanctuary of the church are filled with various Christian symbols of flowers and

leaves (lily, forget-me-not, edelweiss, passion flower, oak and laurel leaves, etc.). The vault of the nave is divided with gilded and ornamented flanges into three bays. The first and third bays have two smaller paintings with themes from the New Testament: *Jesus and the children*, *Three Marys at the Tomb*, *Jesus and the Samaritan Woman*, and *Escape to Egypt*. The painting of Jesus preaching from a boat to people on the shore dominates the central bay. The vault also features *Agnus Dei* and a pelican, as well as coats of arms of Croatia, Dalmatia, Slavonia and Bosnia, and symbols of the Passion of Christ in separate fields. The walls of the sanctuary are filled with painted draperies, while the vault is painted blue with rows of gold stars. There is a symbolic representation of the Holy Spirit in the centre, and medallions depicting the four evangelists on a gilded mosaic-like surface in the corners with four crosses with trefoiled ends between them. All the walls of the apse are painted with fringed ornate draperies and rectangular fields with passion flowers (*Passiflora incarnata*) above them, symbol of the Passion of Christ. The starry sky with the monogram of Christ with golden rays and a series of stars and flowers is painted in the apse dome. The Heart of Jesus and the Heart of Mary are depicted in the lower part.

Conservation of all wall paintings in the interior of the church was carried out from 2001 to 2019. The work was preceded by a thorough study of archival and historical documents, as well as laboratory testing and choosing the appropriate work methodology. The probes confirmed older painted layers on the vault of the sanctuary and the remains of the choir wall with corresponding pillars. Wall paintings in the sanctuary and the nave were cleaned and consolidated, cracks were repaired, and reconstruction, retouching and gilding were carried out.

When the conservation in the parish church of the Holy Ghost was finished, the renovation was finally complete and extremely lavish wall paintings were presented restoring the splendour from the beginning of the 20th century.



Feričanci, župna crkva Svetoga Duha Konzervatorsko-restauratorski radovi na zidnom osliku

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Feričanci, župna crkva Svetoga Duha / Konzervatorsko-restauratorski radovi na zidnom osliku

Župna crkva Svetoga Duha nalazi se u središtu mješta Feričanci, a prvi put se spominje 1801. godine, kad je počela njezina gradnja. Dotad se bogoslužje održavalo u jednobrodnoj drvenoj kapeli sv. Bartola iz 17. stoljeća, koja se nalazila na prostoru današnjega župnog dvorišta. Župa u Feričancima osnovana je bez odgovarajućeg sakralnog objekta pa je pod utjecajem zagrebačkog biskupa Maksimilijana Vrhovca i pod patronatom Ivana Karla pl. Mihalovića sagrađena crkva 1803. godine.

Feričanačka župna crkva je jednobrodna građevina s nešto užim, poligonalno zaključanim svetištem uz koje se sa zapadne strane nalazi sakristija pravokutnog tlocrta. Narteks svoden češkim kapama ističu dva masivna stuba koja nose konstrukciju pjevališta. Prostor broda raščlanjuju tri para udvojenih pilastara s visoko postavljenim postamentima, bazama, kapitelima i vijencem. Brod je svoden stiješnjenim koristim svodom te je pojasnicama podijeljen na traveje. Svetište je od broda odvojeno trijumfalnim lukom te je presvođeno češkim svodom. Brod i svetište osvjetljeni su parovima segmentno zaključanih prozora. Zvonik se uzdiže iznad glavnog pročelja koje je istaknuto portalom, parom toskanskih pilastara, zabatom i atikom s ukrasnim vazama. Bočna pročelja jednostavnije su obrade sa simetrično oblikovanim ukkladama koje se izmjenjuju s parovima prozorskih otvora.

Tijekom dva stoljeća crkva je preživjela nekoliko potresa, nakon čega su sanirana nastala oštećenja. Posljednji radovi izvedeni su između 1907. i 1909. godine, kad su stvoreni preduvjeti za oslikavanje crkve. Godine 1908. župnik Nikola Mikić osobno je odabrao i angažirao vrsnog slikara Rikarda Rojnika koji je oslikao cijelu unutrašnjost crkve figurativnim prikazima i raskošnom ornamentikom. Zidni oslik, izveden kombinacijom tutkalne i uljane tehnike, kompozicijski je prilagođen formatima arhitektonskih elemenata, zidnih ploha i svodnih polja.

Zidne plohe broda i svetišta crkve ispunjene su raznolikim cvijećem i lišćem kršćanske simbolike

(ljiljan, potočnica, runolist, pasiflora, hrastovo i lovorovo lišće i dr.). Svod broda podijeljen je pozlaćenim i ornamentiranim pojasnicama na tri traveje. U prvom i trećem travaju nalaze se po dvije slike manjih dimenzija s temama iz Novog zavjeta: *Isus i djeca*, *Tri žene na Kristovu grobu*, *Isus i Samaritanka* te *Bijeg u Egipat*. Središnjim travajem dominira slika Krista koji iz lađe propovijeda narodu na obali. Na svodu su također prikazani *Agnus Dei* i pelikan, a u zasebnim poljima grbovi Hrvatske, Dalmacije, Slavonije i Bosne te simboli Kristove muke. Židovi svetišta ispunjeni su oslikanim draperijama, dok je svod obojen modrom bojom s nizovima zlatnih zvjezdica. U središtu je simbolički prikaz Duha Svetoga, u kutovima medaljoni s prikazom četvorice evanđelista na pozlaćenju podlozi koja oponaša mozaik, a između njih su četiri križa s trolisnim završetkom. Židovi apsida u cijelosti su oslikani bogato ornamentiranim draperijama s resicama, iznad kojih se nalaze pravokutna polja s cvjetovima pasiflore (*Passiflora incarnata*), simbolom Kristove muke. Na kaloti apsida prikazano je zvjezdano nebo u čijem se središtu ističe Kristov monogram sa zlatnim zrakama te nizom zvjezdica i cvjetova. U njezinim donjim dijelovima prikazani su Srce Isusovo i Srce Marijino.

Konzervatorsko-restauratorskim radovima provedenim od 2001. do 2019. godine obuhvaćen je kompletan zidni oslik u unutrašnjosti crkve. Radovima je prethodilo detaljno proučavanje arhivske i povijesne dokumentacije te laboratorijsko ispitivanje i određivanje metodologije rada. Sondiranjem su potvrđeni stariji slikani slojevi na svodu svetišta i ostaci zidane ograde pjevališta s pripadajućim stubovima. Zatečeni zidni oslik svetišta i broda je očišćen i konsolidiran, sanirane su pukotine, te su izvedeni rekonstrukcija, retuš i pozlata.

Dovršetak konzervatorsko-restauratorskih radova u župnoj crkvi Svetoga Duha završena je cjelovita obnova te je prezentiran izuzetno raskošan zidni oslik kojim je crkvi vraćen stari sjaj s početka 20. stoljeća.

