

## **Content from Monasteries in Lithuania Presented in Digital Space**

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Lithuania is the youngest Christian country in Europe. The Baltic lands were not Christianized by the efforts of monks missionaries; military congregations have conquered Prussians and the Northern neighbours of Lithuania but they were not able to conquer Lithuania either to Christianize it some hundred years. After the official baptism of Lithuania, **1387**, the founding of contemplative congregations started. The monasteries and convents became art, science, and culture centres with rich collections of manuscripts, music. During brutal Soviet regime monasteries were closed, their archives disappeared completely, spread in private collections, libraries. The access to fragile and perishable manuscripts that survived is rather restricted: they are hardly accessible for scholars' research, almost inaccessible for general public. Digital copies can solve a problem. Several efforts to digitize heritage from monasteries are discussed in this article. Special CD-ROM presenting **75** monasteries in Lithuania: their history, their impact on culture and art was issued in 2000. Architectural art and monastic music were presented here by texts of outstanding Lithuanian researchers, pictures and audio/video music records. Several collections of old parchments safeguarded in libraries have been digitized and are accessible online nowadays. Examples of such digitization with related audio/video records are demonstrated in this contribution.