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SANCTUARIES IN LVIV ARCHDIOCESE: CURRENT STATE AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

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Abstract

This article provides a geographical and functional analysis of the biggest Roman Catholic sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese. It also explains the definition of the word “sanctuary”, its connection with Catholic canons. Based on the survey, the amount of pilgrims of 15 sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese is calculated. Some of them are more than three hundred years in action, and some are quite new. The part of the sanctuaries is located in little villages with poorly developed infrastructure, and this is a problematic issue. The image of spatial layout the sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese and differentiation amount of pilgrims in 2017 are show. It is interesting to dwell on some of the most popular sanctuaries in more details. Characteristics of Sanctuary of St Anthony in Lviv and others sacred place are exposed. Problems and perspectives of sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese are identified.

Key words

sanctuary, amount of pilgrims; canon; location of the sanctuaries

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1. Introduction

The topicality of this article lies in the lack of research of the highlighted topic. Here in Ukraine the topic of sanctuaries are not researched enough in comparison with other countries, where the information about them can be found easily. Moreover, the pathway of Saint Jacob ‘Via Regia’ (Бордун, Шуманська, 2014), which goes through Ukraine as well, has been recently explored. This topic needs more attention, because it is necessary to make pilgrimage more

popular, and the sacred legacy must be saved as it is in a bad condition now.

The object of this article is sanctuaries of Lviv archdiocese. In 1375 the Ukrainian Roman Catholic Metropolia was founded in Halych (later it was moved to Lviv) together with Lviv Archdiocese and dioceses of Przemyśl (with its center in the city of Przemyśl), Volodymyr (in the city of Volodymyr, later – Lutsk) and Chelm (in the city of Chelm, later – Hrubieszow and Krasnostaw). The modern Lviv Archdiocese includes four oblasts of Ukraine: Lviv, Ternopil,

Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi oblasts. But the sanctuaries function only in two of them (Lviv and Ternopil oblasts) (Kopij, 2011).

In order to gain this lack of scientific research, such objectives must be fulfilled in the article:

- to research the notion of 'sanctuaries';
- to learn what place sanctuaries hold in the world of pilgrimage;
- to analyze the current condition of sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese;
- to identify problems and offer different ways of development of sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese.

2. Analysis

Lviv archdiocese is one of those regions, characterized by a high percentage of religious people. Here, during many centuries almost all Christianity denominations have been coexisting and developing side by side (the Eastern Rite Church, Latin and Armenian Churches), as well as Protestantism and Judaism. Religious life of Lviv region is a complex system of relations, which are developing under the influence of many economical, cultural and demographic processes.

While analyzing popular works (Table 1), it becomes obvious that the notion of sanctuaries is not researched enough. By summing up all data it is possible to create one more definition of this term. Sanctuary is a place where it is possible to meet with God through miraculous icons or relics. Also, it is a devoted to God place where His power is displayed in a special way via miracles and divine grace. The sanctuary must be accompanied with the organization which will deal with pilgrims and their trips to the sacred place. Trips to sanctuaries have become popular in the Roman Catholic Church.

The very word "sanctuary" (Latin *Sanctuarium*) means "a sacred place". In English language this word can also mean "a shelter" (for people and animals), a place of safety. Usually sanctuaries are divided into separate types, depending on the level of authorities that founded them:

- diocesan (eparchial) (founded by an eparchial bishop);
- national (the conference of Catholic bishops of a specific country);
- international (Apostolic Capital).

The Roman Catholic Code of Canon Law devotes the whole third chapter called "Sanctuary" to the issue of legal regulation of sanctuaries' activities. According

Tab. 1. Definitions of "Sanctuary" in Christian theology

Definitions	Author
Shrine is understood a church or other sacred place to which numerous members of the faithful make pilgrimage for a special reason of piety, with the approval of the local ordinary.	Acc. to Canon 1230 of the 1983 Catholic Code of Canon Law
Sanctuary is a place of invocation, which constantly attracts more and more pilgrims and religious tourists, who often find themselves in the complicated human and spiritual-related condition, and those who are far from church and understanding what faith is. So, sanctuary is a symbol of the Living Christ among us, and the Christians have always been finding the initiative of the Living God towards humans in it.	Benedykt XVI
Sanctuary is a church or a sacral building for public practicing of the cult of God which (caused by reverence for holy icons and saved relics, the miracle of God and a possibility to acquire special remission on the patronal festival) is considered to be the place of pilgrimage where one can pray for mercy and express their gratitude for it.	Pius XII
A special place, identified by a local bishop, which can be visited by pilgrims and religious people and where they can ask for God's grace through the intercession of Mother of God.	Kyiv-Zhytomyr Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine
A rich religious, spiritual, cultural and material heritage of the Catholic Church	the Roman Catholic Church in Belorussia
A special space, where God's grace is displayed in a supernatural way; these are the places, which are blessed by God, and are visited by numerous pilgrims and religious people.	Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
A place of worship or storing of cult objects or relics; a place which holds something precious, or a place which is very special to someone	Doroszewski's dictionary of Polish language
A place, which is invested with axiological characteristics of sacral significance and is presented in a specific church or monastery	Ya.M.Popovych

Source: compiled by the authors based on: Code of Canon Law (1983), Adamczyk (2014), Київсько-Житомирська дієцезія (2018), Doroszewski (ed., 1958–1969), Попович (2014).

to the canon 1230 of the Code of Canon Law, a sanctuary is a church or other sacred place, which is visited by many pilgrims due to their devoutness with the blessing of a local bishop (Code of Canon Law, 1983). In accordance with the canon 1231 of the Code of Canon Law, in order to acquire a national status a sanctuary needs to get the approval from the Conference of Bishops of this country. Regarding an international status, it is necessary to present its statute to the Conference in the Apostolic Capital (Rome).

A sanctuary is appointed with a Beneficiary or other authorities that are responsible for the management of the sacred place, providing pilgrims with accommodation, services and access to the religious ceremonies and sacraments of confession and forgiveness of sins. According to the canon 1233, in order to provide a good service to pilgrims a Beneficiary is able to use local resources, especially when the flow of visitors is significant. Those resources

are: accommodation places, food etc, which will set positive conditions for praying and well-being of pilgrims. A Beneficiary is also responsible for documents, donations and woty (images of different parts of body, made of precious metals, which are left by people as a gratitude for healing, often hung on miraculous icons; they are widespread both in the Catholic and the Orthodox churches).

According to paragraph 1 of the canon 1234, in sanctuaries people receive the remission of their sins by being present at a holy mess, especially by taking Holy Sacraments, penance and performing other forms of a religious cult. A Beneficiary or other authorities may have assistants, who will help to manage and maintain a sanctuary and all of its building (Code of Canon Law, 1983).

The authors of this article have researched the general amount of sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese, their location and presence of the object of pilgrimage (Table 2).

Tab. 2. Sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese as of year 2017

Lviv Archdiocese						
No.	City	Name of the church	Name of the sanctuary	Object of pilgrimage	Decree on establishment of sanctuary – date	Amount of pilgrims in 2017
1	Lviv	The Archcathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Latin Cathedral	Sanctuary of the Merciful Mother of God and Divine Mercy	Icon of the Merciful Mother of God and Divine Mercy	Provision as of 12.05.1776 and 1948	250 000
2	Lviv	St. Antony Church	Sanctuary of Saint Anthony of Padua	Icon of Saint Anthony of Padua	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 13.06.1995	60 000
3	Stryi	The Church of Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sanctuary of Virgin Mary, the Guardian of People's Hopes	Icon of Virgin Mary, the Guardian of People's Hopes	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 8.09.1995	1000
4	Kamianka-Buz'ka	The Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary	Sanctuary of the Dying Lord Jesus Christ of Miliatyn	Icon of the Dying Lord Jesus Christ of Miliatyn	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 14.09.1996	2 400
5	Krysovychi	The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima	Sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima	Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 13.10.1997	2 500
6	Mostyska	The Church of St. Catharina of Alexandria	Sanctuary of the Mother of Perpetual Help	Icon of the Mother of Perpetual Help	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 27.06.2002	7 200
7	Rudki	The Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary	Sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rudky	Icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rudky	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 2.07.2003	3 200

8	Berezdivtsi	The Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Sanctuary of the Holy Cross	Icon of Brozovskyi Jesus Christ	Provision of the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 14.09.2005	400-500
9	Nyzhankovychi	The Church of the Holy Trinity	Sanctuary of the Mother of Divine Providence	Statue of the Mother of Divine Providence	Provision as of 1.05.2007	1 800
10	Lanovychi	St.Nicholas Church	Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin Mary of Saliatyn	Statue of the Holy Virgin Mary of Saliatyn	Provision of Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi as of 3.11.2009	1000
11	Susidovychi	The Carmelite Church	Sanctuary of St.Anna	Bas-relief of St. Anna	Provision of Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi as of 24.07.2016	500
12	Vynnyky	The Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary	Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin Mary of Vynnyky	Icon of the Holy Virgin Mary of Vynnyky	Provision of Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi as of 27.11.2016	25000
13	Yazlovets	Chapel of the former General House of the Sisters of Immaculate	The Sanctuary of the Blessed Marcelina Darowska	Relikwie of the Blessed Marcelina Darowska	Provision of the Lviv Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 1.09.1999 r.	Data are not available
14	Chortkiv	The Sanctuary of the Lady of the Most Holy Rosary	Lady of the Most Holy Rosary	Lady of the Most Holy Rosary	Provision of Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi as of 3.11.2009 r	5 000
15	Polupanivka	St.Jozef	The Sanctuary of Holy Scapular of Our Lady	Holy Scapular of Our Lady	Provision of the Lviv Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi as of 16.07.2004 r	1 500

Source: data gathered by O.Bordun based on the survey of abbots.

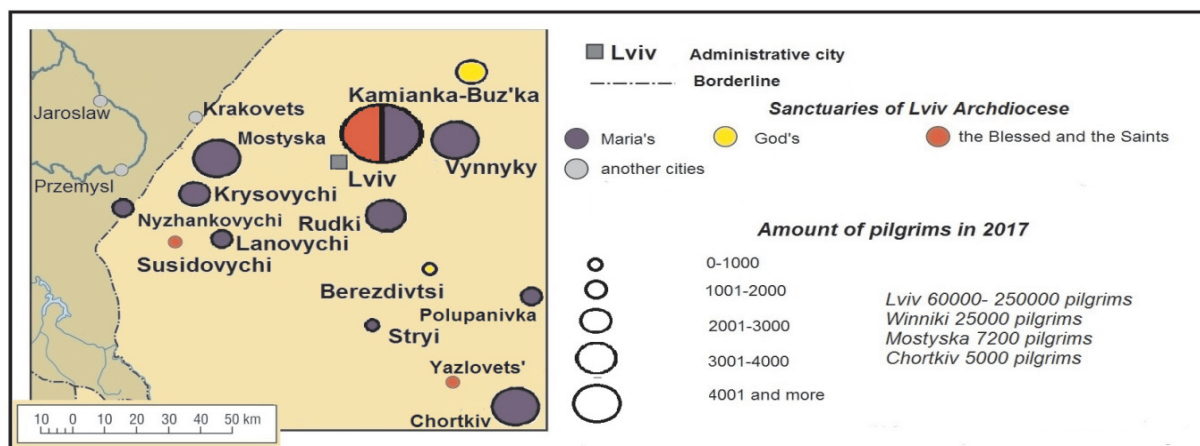


Fig. 1. Roman Catholic sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese

Source: compiled by the authors.

So, there are 15 sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese. Some of them are more than three hundred years in action, and some are quite new. There are 2 sanctuaries in Lviv: Sanctuary of the Merciful Mother of God and Divine Mercy (the Latin Cathedral, since 1776) and St. Anthony of Padua (St. Anthony Church, since 1995). Location and history has already been explored in literature by M. Flaga (2014). Other sanctuaries are spread all over the region (Fig. 1.). They

are not concentrated in one single place. Some of them (in Lviv, Krysovychi and Mostyska) are situated on the pathway of St. Jacob, mutually augmenting their significance for pilgrimage.

3. Functional analysis of Roman Catholic sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese

It is interesting to do well of the sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese in more details:

Sanctuary of the Merciful Mother of God and Divine Mercy is held in the Roman Catholic Basilica, the main church of Lviv Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine. It is situated in Cathedral Square of Lviv. The church is a piece of a sacral architecture of the 14th-18th centuries, and a listed building of the national significance. Its protection number is 316/0 (Kozłowska, 2011). The exact date, when the construction works started, is unknown, but nevertheless this church belongs to top 7 oldest churches of Lviv. 8 chapels around the church have survived till these days. The tower of the Basilica is one of the highest buildings in the central part of the city (66 m). Together with four other buildings it creates a logo of Lviv.

Sanctuary of St Anthony of Padua is situated in Lviv at 49a Lychakivska St. At request of the provincial Curia of Franciscans Fathers and St Anthony Church priests the Lviv Metropolitan Archbishop Marian Yavorskyi established the Sanctuary in St Anthony Church on June, 13, 1995 (The Archdiocese of Lviv). Although the official date is June, 13, 1995, the church has been gathering numerous pilgrims due to their devoutness to St Anthony for a long time (Kopij, 2014). Each Tuesday during the mess everyone has a chance to ask God for his grace via the intercession of St Anthony of Padua. The celebration of St Anthony Church patron's day takes place on June, 13, and each person may get the remission of their sins. A solemn mess is held in the park near the church, after which bread and lilies are blessed. The mess ends up in the collective prayer to St Anthony and veneration of his relics. The sanctuary is in the peaceful part of Lviv, not far from the downtown. Pilgrims are received in the administrative building. The advantage of such location lies in the good public transport communications with all parts of the city. One of the most important prominent places of Lviv – Lychakiv cemetery and the Cemetery of Lwow Eaglets – are situated not far from the church.

Sanctuary of Virgin Mary, the Guardian of People's Hopes is located in Stryi in the Church of Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On September, 09, 2001 cardinal Marian Yavorskyi crowned the icon of Virgin Mary with Stryi crown, which was blessed in Lviv on June, 26, 2001 by Pope John Paul II. The parish is served by diocesan priests, and since October 1994 nuns from the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph have been working in this church (The Archdiocese of Lviv).

Sanctuary of the Dying Lord Jesus Christ of Miliatyn is in the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary in Kamianka-Buz'ka at John Paul II St. The church was founded in 1471. However, it lost its original form, because it was burnt down by the Tatars, but soon it was renovated. The decree on establishment of sanctuary in the church was signed by the Metropolitan Marian Yavorskyi in 1996 (The Archdiocese of Lviv). In the 17th century an unknown Italian artist created an icon of Jesus Christ on the Cross, which he painted with oil paints on the thick 56x73 cm canvas. The background of the painting is brighter than the figure of crucified Jesus. His head with the hair hanging over the right shoulder is almost parallel to the horizontal beam of the cross. His face is turned in the way as if He looks at people with a great grief in His eyes. He has a crown of thorns on His head and a deep wound on the left shoulder near the neck, left after carrying the cross. The miraculous icon as well as its copies is often decorated with golden and silver crowns and costly frameworks (Kopij, 2014).

Sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima is located in Krysovychi, not far from the city of Mostyska. On October, 13, 1997 the church was proclaimed the sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima (The Archdiocese of Lviv). Krysovychi belonged to the parish of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Striletskyi, but on August, 1, 2009 they created their own parish. It's served by diocesan priests and nuns from the Congregation of the Sisters servants of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Salesian Sisters). During the period from May to October the church holds special religious services and many other celebrations under the supervision of Virgin Mary. A lot of pilgrims come to the sanctuary from different parts of Ukraine, Poland and the world.

Sanctuary of the Mother of Perpetual Help is located in the Church of St Catharina of Alexandria in Mostyska at 1, Ivana Franko st. Many pilgrims come to visit this church, because it stands on Via Regia route (Бордун, Шуманська, 2014). The sanctuary is served by Redemptionists (the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer).

Sanctuary of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Rudky is located in the city of Rudky near Sambir, in the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary. A famous Polish writer Oleksandr Fredro is buried in this church (Kopij, 2014). There is a big amount of pilgrims coming to this sacred place from Ukraine and Poland, that's why all information is available in Ukraine and Polish.

Sanctuary of the Holy Cross is located in the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross in Berezdivtsi near

Stryi. Its protection register number is 1370/1. The icon of Virgin Mary from the main altar was considered miraculous in 1741. But soon the main point of interest in the church was changed to the icon of crucified Jesus Christ, which started to cry with bloody tears on May, 16, 1741. The church was flourishing until World War II. After the war and the decline of the Soviet Union it was returned to the Roman Catholic community and gradually reconstructed.

Sanctuary of the Mother of Divine Providence is located in Nyzhankovychi in the Church of the Holy Trinity. On October, 7, 2017 there was the celebration of Lady of the Most Holy Rosary hold in the church, which was attended by many pilgrims, including 200 people who crossed the Ukrainian-Polish border for this reason. The church and its additional premises were repaired with the help of pilgrims. Each month 150 people come to visit it, mostly in groups by buses, less individually.

Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin Mary of Saliatyn is located in St Nicholas Church in Lanovychi near Sambir. On September 19, 2017 the sanctuary celebrated 171 anniversary of a Marian apparition (The Archdiocese of Lviv).

Sanctuary of St Anna at the Carmelite monastery in Susidovychi. On July 26, 2012 the Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi blessed a precise copy of St Anna's bas-relief at the main altar, and in 2016 he proclaimed the church as St Anna's sanctuary (The Archdiocese of Lviv). According to the legend, St Anna's bas-relief was "excavated" from the ground in the second half of the 16th century in the area, which later was called the Merciful Hill. It was placed in St Nicholas Church, but the bas-relief "returned" to its previous place until the wooden chapel was built for it there, which was transformed into the stone temple. The miraculous bas-relief of St Anna is in Krakow right now, but it should be returned to Susidovychi.

Sanctuary of the Holy Virgin Mary of Vynnyky is located in Vynnyky near Lviv. On November 27, 2016 the miraculous icon was crowned and the church was proclaimed a sanctuary of the Holy Virgin Mary of Vynnyky (The Archdiocese of Lviv). It is one of the newest sanctuaries in Ukraine. That is why there are not a lot of pilgrims now visiting this holy place, but later its convenient location near Lviv will become a huge plus, which will facilitate the amount of visitors. The Church of the Ascension of the Blessed Virgin Mary and its bell tower are the pieces of architecture of the 18th-19th centuries.

Three more sanctuaries of Lviv Archdiocese are located in Ternopil oblasts:

The Sanctuary of the Lady of the Most Holy Rosary is located in Chortkiv in the church of the Lady of the Most Holy Rosary and St Stanislaw (the Decree as of

November, 3, 2009) (The Archdiocese of Lviv). The church impresses the visitors by its Neo-gothic style of architecture. It used to be a defensive fortification centuries ago. Among other sanctuaries of the modern Ukraine the sanctuary in Chortkiv is almost unknown: very little amount of pilgrims come to visit this sacred place. However it is only the matter of time, the sanctuary is comparatively new.

The Sanctuary of Holy Scapular of Our Lady in St Joseph church in Polupanivka (Ternopil deanery). On the 16th of July 2004 the church became the Sanctuary of Holy Scapular of Our Lady. On the 17th of October 2010 Archbishop Mechyslav Mokshytskyi blessed the Way of the Cross near the church. It was arranged by the local community on their own initiative and money.

Moreover, there are 15 stations along the Way of the Cross, from the moment when Christ was sentenced till His resurrection. Each station is described in sculptures, which are placed on stones and perfectly match the local landscape. The locals tried to make everything as natural as possible; therefore they didn't destroy anything which had been made by the nature. They even tried not to cover stones, laid naturally, by cobblestones while building the road.

This place is taken care of a lot. The beautiful flowers grow near each station, and in order to look after them properly the special water pouring system has been applied. The Way of the Cross is lit up by many lanterns. Unfortunately this place is not very popular both among religious people and tourists, because it is almost unknown as the sanctuary. Although it is considered that this Way of the Cross and St Joseph church is the most representative and spectacular in the Ternopil oblast.

The Sanctuary of the Blessed Marcelina Darowska is located in the chapel of the former General House of the Sisters of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Yazlovets. During the whole year children and young people come here for religious recollections, where they pray, study, work, go on interesting excursions. Also family couples and lone travelers are welcomed here. Standing near the grave of the Blessed Marcelina Darowska women pray for their firstborns and healing of their ill children.

4. The Problems and Perspectives

So, the Roman Catholic sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese are well-managed and well-organized. But some of them need to be repaired to a greater or lesser extent. Money for these types of work should come not only from Ukrainian sponsors and religious

people, but also from the Roman Catholics of Poland and the Roman Catholic Church overall.

The part of the sanctuaries is located in little villages with poorly developed infrastructure, and this is a problematic issue. That is why it is necessary to repair roads and maintain economical transport means.

As for the very sanctuaries, often they are not able to hold a big amount of pilgrims. A lot of them are situated near the national border and cannot provide travelers with all necessary services. Most buildings for pilgrims are built with own money of abbots and local citizens.

Unfortunately, not all people who want to visit these sacred places have a chance to do that. Very often those who have a great desire to come to and pray in different holy places belong to the poor layer of society. Rich people remember about the state of their souls very seldom and they don't think it is that necessary to give money and affords to take part in tiring and complicated tours to Rome and Jerusalem. That's why it is so important to develop the local pilgrimage and make more and more people from different social layers feel that need to visit the sacred place at least once a year, because the pilgrimage means a craving for transformation, a desire to go beyond worldly pleasures and expand your own horizons as well as the means to push the borders and overcome them.

The big obstacle in developing pilgrimage is an unstable political situation in Ukraine and the combat actions in the East of the country, which reduces the flow of tourists on this territory, restraining both local citizens and foreign pilgrims from visiting the sanctuaries under discussion.

Also it is necessary to provide the support of qualified specialists (guides, tour organizers etc) who know history, culture, religion, traditions of Ukraine and the peoples that have been living here as well as the foreign languages. It is important to record statistical data about the amount of pilgrims in order to analyze the performed work and the potentialities of sanctuaries.

In order to learn perspectives of the international pilgrimage and tourism development in details, to identify possible flows of pilgrims and tourists from specific countries, their interests and requests, it is necessary to establish relations with attaches of these countries in Ukraine (USA, Canada, Israel, Vatican, Germany, Poland, Sweden, Bulgaria etc.) as well as with societies, communities, national cultural funds and confessional centers of national minorities in our countries.

After accomplishing all abovementioned tasks it will be possible to state that the foundation of sanctuaries as objects of pilgrimage has been laid.

5. Conclusions

A sanctuary is one of the types of Christian sacred places, which are visited by Roman Catholic pilgrims in order to get the remission of their sins. Besides the very objects of pilgrimage and significant sacral and spiritual meaning, a sanctuary must have people, responsible for its management, functioning and pilgrimage. There are twelve sanctuaries in Lviv archdiocese: two of them (the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Anthony sanctuaries) are in Lviv, the others are located in these cities and villages (one in each): Stryi, Kamianka-Buz'ka, Mostyska, Rudky, Vynnyky, Nyzhankovychi, Krysovychi, Lanovychi, Susidovychi, Berezdivtsi. Most of them have been recently established by provisions of Lviv Archbishop. The following problems of functioning are characteristic to these sanctuaries: infrastructure and transport accessibility (especially for those in small villages); collection of funds for repair and maintenance of buildings; searching and attraction of skilled personnel for excursions and pilgrimage services; advertising and information support; interaction with the authorities, public organizations and the whole Ukrainian society.

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