

Using Online Czech Records/ Zámrsk Regional Archives

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1. Hello and welcome. My name is Sylvie Pysnak, and this presentation is part of the series on Using Online Czech Records.
2. Today we will focus on how to access and search the collections of digitized vital records from the State Regional Archives in Zámrsk. This service is provided free of charge.
3. The Zámrsk archives records are available for research via two venues: through the Zámrsk archives website and through the FamilySearch. If you wish to browse images online, use FamilySearch. You cannot do that through the Zamrsk archive website. However, if you wish to download entire digitized register and use it offline at your convenience, use the Zamrsk archive website: <http://vychodoceskearchivy.cz/zamrsk/matriky/>. Let's take a look at the Zámrsk archives website.
4. Although the Zámrsk archive does not maintain its own online digital archive, unlike other Czech archives, you have an option of downloading individual registers from their website in a ZIP file. This may be especially helpful if you do extensive research in one particular register. Also, instead of downloading images one by one from the online digital archive you can now download images of the entire register in one folder. Enter the website address as shown on your screen into the address bar of your internet browser. This page is titled "Matriky" or in English "Registers". Let's take a closer look at it.
5. The most important items on the page are found in the download section, an English translation is included. On the left side of the page are various links. The "Matriky" link will always take you back to this page in case you accidentally click out of it. The "English Page" link will take you to a page containing helpful information in case you decide to personally research in the archive. Let's take a look at the download section.
6. The "Inventory of parish registers" link will take you to the PDF file with downloadable links. The "Digitized parish registers" link will take you to a document that lists all the parishes that have registers available for download. And finally, the "Parish registers on FamilySearch International web" link will take you to a document that lists all the parishes that have registers available for research on FamilySearch. You may explore additional links.
7. After you click on the "Inventory of parish registers" link you will be taken to the PDF file which contains archive inventory of all parish registers and downloadable links. This PDF file has 1679 pages and is subject to change anytime. Roman Catholic registers are listed first followed by the Evangelical registers. If you are not sure of your ancestor's religion, start by searching Roman Catholic records because that was the predominant religion.
8. Parishes are listed in alphabetical order and each parish has its own section.
9. Each section describes the parish and registers available for that parish. Because this inventory is in Czech we will learn how to read some key information.

10. A parish description includes some helpful geographical information. #1 farni urad or Parish Office, in this case it is Babice. #2 uzemni obvod or Parish District, listing of all places that jurisdictionally belonged to that parish, in this case Babice, Barchov, Kosicky and Trnava. #3 poznamka or Note, for example the year that parish started and so on.

11. A register description includes: #1 matrika NOZ or Register of births, marriages and deaths. Time period is listed right next to the register type. #2 uzemni rozsah or places included in this particular register, in this case it is Babice only. Sometimes the register may include a whole parish district in which case you will see instead of locality names one word “farnost” or Whole parish district . #3 is the most important item - the downloadable link. Click on the link.

12. Click on the Save button to save the file.

13. Choose where you want to save this file, be it to your desktop, a specific folder on your computer, or your flash drive. Click the Save button.

14. After a while the ZIP file will be downloaded.

15. Locate the folder and open it to access the images. Now you can start looking for your ancestors.

16. If you are interested in researching the Evangelical church records please go to page 1574 of the inventory. Please note that the page number can change.

17. Now, that we have learned how to access the records through the Zámorsk archives website, let’s take a look at the FamilySearch website.

18. You can browse the images of the digitized Zámorsk archives records online, through the FamilySearch Historical Record Collection. Enter the website address as shown on your screen into the address bar of your internet browser. This is the FamilySearch home page.

19. Links to the Historical Record Collections are located on the left side of the page under “Browse by Location” next to the world map.

20. Click on the “Continental Europe” link.

21. Locate the links to the Czech Republic databases from the list, or click on the “Czech Republic” link at the top left corner of the page.

22. Here is the list of current Czech databases available through FamilySearch.

23. An easy way to find Czech archives websites is through the FamilySearch Research Wiki. Click the “Learn” tab on familysearch.org.

24. Select “Research Wiki” at the bottom of the page.

25. Type “Czech Republic” into the search box.
26. Click on the link for the “Czech Republic” on the Search results page.
27. This is the Czech Republic home page.
28. In the contents box, select “Online Databases” or scroll further down on the page until you see that heading.
29. Click on “Church Books from the Zámrsk Regional Archives”.
30. This page contains a link to the PDF file with downloadable links and a brief description of how to access the records and search them.
31. In this presentation we have learned how to access the Zámrsk archive records collections through the Zámrsk Archives website and through the FamilySearch. We have also learned an easy way to find Czech archives websites through the FamilySearch Research Wiki.
32. Good luck using the digitized records of the State Regional Archives in Zámrsk. You have completed the lesson. Please take a moment to complete a short survey to provide feedback on this lesson. Thank you!