

# CASE STUDY

## Restrictions on gatherings no obstacle – the Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Prague streams services online

### About the project

The Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Prague's Karlín district is an architectural gem not only by Prague standards – it's actually **one of the largest churches built in Bohemia during the 19th century**. Like all churches, this one too has been **affected by the coronavirus pandemic** and resulting social distancing measures. Practically from one day to the next, the **ban on gatherings prevented parishioners from holding services**. Father Miroslav Cúth, however, found he could let people attend his services with the help of live streaming.

*“Live streaming online wasn't completely new to me; the organizers of clergy meetings use it often, for example. I once saw it used to stream a funeral service, and it was then I realized it could be put to good use for our purposes too,”* explains Cúth. First, he tried streaming with a mobile phone. *“I started out holding a mobile phone in my hand. Later I began using a tripod. In the end, I came across an offer from the company NetRex and decided to try one of their professional solutions,”* says the priest.

### Technical solution

Trained on the chancel at the Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius is an [AXIS M1135 camera](#) atop a tripod, which makes it possible to move the camera and thus change the view angle. Running on board the camera is the [CamStreamer App](#), which handles transmission of the video stream directly to **YouTube and Facebook**. For maximum ease of control, the solution features an **external button with an indicator diode**, thanks to which a **live stream can be started or stopped with a simple push of a button**, while the view angle can be controlled on a connected tablet. The tablet can also be used to alter captions in individual streams. Once the button is pushed – to start a live stream, for instance – the diode begins blinking and continues to do so for as long as it



Video quality	1080p / 30 fps
Audio	<a href="#">External audio</a>
Camera model	<a href="#">AXIS M1135</a>
ACAP applications	<a href="#">CamStreamer App</a>
Streaming platform	<a href="#">YouTube Live</a> <a href="#">Facebook Live</a>
Location	Czech Republic

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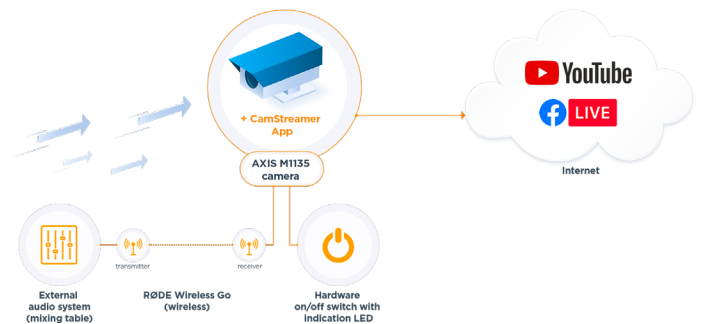
takes the stream to “come online”. After that, the diode changes to a solid light to indicate that the camera is streaming live. **When the stream is switched off, the video is automatically saved to a publicly accessible archive.**

Live streaming from a church also requires **quality audio**. At Cyril and Methodius, the camera is **connected to the church’s existing sound system**. For the priest to be able to move around freely during a service, he wears a wireless lapel microphone.

### Conclusion

The live streaming has met the needs of all the parties involved. *“Without people in the church, we don’t have any money from collections, which is why the question of cost was an important one for us. I have to say, though, that NetRex (CamStreamer installation partner) responded to all our conditions very quickly and professionally and provided us with a solution we could afford. Moreover, when the time came to invest in the camera, we received some assistance from a private donor,”* explains Cúth, and he adds: *“We’ve had very positive reactions to the live streams. People are really pleased to have them.”*

Once the restrictions relating to the coronavirus are lifted, Cúth plans to limit the live streams of services and find other possible uses for the camera. *“Even though we may not be live streaming every service, we definitely plan to continue using the camera. For instance, I’ve got some ideas in mind for a series on the church itself. There are many possibilities, but I don’t have any specific plans just yet. We’ll see,”* says Cúth in closing.



Case study on CamStreamer website:



[https://camstreamer.com/resources/case-study\\_church](https://camstreamer.com/resources/case-study_church)

Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius:

YouTube Channel



Facebook page

