

Archangel Michael in Bickesheim

On the north wall of the side aisle there has been a sculpture of the Archangel Michael since 1941. He is regarded as Satan's conqueror. The statue shows him defeating Satan with his sword.

The Archangel is also one of the patron saints of Germany, which is also the origin of the nickname "German Michel".

The figure was commissioned in 1940 by an unknown family in Durmersheim from the Karlsruhe sculptor Friedrich Schildhorn and was coloured by the Mörsch painter Gerstner. He had also designed the monastery chapel.

This action was part of a movement within the Redemptorist communities in which the order leadership had called for the installation of such Michael figures - in the hope that the rule of the Nazi regime would soon come to an end.

Since Satan is portrayed in brown, the political intent behind this foundation is unmistakable.

It is also no coincidence that the bill discovered in an old book in the museum does not contain a name.

The price of 990 RM was a lot of money for that time. It suggests that the donors must be well-off and that this form of political resistance was "worth something" to the donor.

On Michael's feast day on September 29, 1941, the figure was attached and has since been hanging deliberately in a relatively inconspicuous place above the middle confessional.