The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Linz was built at the instigation of Bishop Rudigier in 1862 to 1935 during a period of intense controversy between the Catholic Church and the Liberal and the Social Democrat Parties, in which the bishop vigorously participated, as proved by various sources. This paper draws on the minutes of the Upper Austrian provincial assembly and of the town council of Linz as its sources, but also on local newspaper reports. The reports show a gradual shift in focus from the building process towards the cathedral’s function as a memorial building for Bishop Rudigier. After 1918, May Day celebrations were held at the same time as the anniversary celebration of the church’s dedication, leading to tensions between the political camps. After the assassination of Federal Chancellor Dollfuß, a memorial inscription was placed on a cathedral door, causing controversies until today.

Keywords: Cathedral of Linz; Upper Austria; Bishop Franz Josef Rudigier; Liberals; Social Democrats; newspaper reports

Schlagworte: Dom von Linz; Oberösterreich; Bischof Franz Josef Rudigier; Liberale; Sozialdemokraten; Presseberichte