

BARA

Local Council Office: Bara no. 44, telephone 0256/333101;

Coordinates:

45°53'35" N lat.;

21°52'51" E long.;

Historical landmarks;

-1371 - the town is first mentioned as belonging to Balinț district, as **Terra Aquosa** (in Slavic, **Bara** means **wetland**);

-1440 - the Bara settlement is taken by king **Vladislav I** from the Timiș county head and given to the Șoimoș fortress;

-1477 - Bara is the property of **Nicolae (Miklos) Bánffy**;

-XVIth-XVIIth centuries - the town of Bara and Lăpușnic are devastated by the Ottomans;

-1717 - Rădmănești village was inhabited and had 22 households;

-1865 - **Emilian Micu**, theologian, book-seller and bibliophile is born in Spata village (d. 1909);

-1879 - the owners of Bara village are **Pavel Teodorescu** and **Constantin Florea**;

-1910 - construction of the Bara school;

-1924 - there were three mills in the village of Lăpușnic, belonging to **Ion Obșterescu**, **Nicolae Obșterescu** and **Ion Păunescu**;

-the Obșterescu family was one of the richest in the village: for example, **Dionise Obșterescu** owned a shop and a bar;

-1925 - Bara had 982 inhabitants, and Rădmănești 685 inhabitants;

-1936 - mention of a mineral spring called **Ciuciuurău** on the outskirts of Dobrești village;

-1939 - **Zaharia Moisescu**, who writes poems in the Banat idiom, is born in Lăpușnic;

-22 July 1951 - **Daniel Ciobotea**, Patriarch of Romania, is born in Dobrești;

-20 September 1952 - **Ioan Peia**, who writes poems in the Banat idiom, is born in Dobrești;

-1997 - the last native inhabitant of the Spata village dies;



-the settlement is repopulated by several families of sheep breeders from Ardeal;

Total population on 1 January 2010 = 290 persons, of which:

- male = 151 persons

- female = 139 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010 = 244

Member villages: Bara, Dobrești (1477, Dobreynicze), Lăpușnic (1416, Laposnok), Rădmănești (1437, Radmanocz), Spata (1444, Spata);

Educational institutions: Primary school (I-IV): Bara; Kindergarten with normal hours: Bara;

Health facilities: Medical practice: Bara; Sanitary-veterinary practice: Bara;

Cultural institutions: Community centre: Bara; Library: Bara (founded in 1977);

Churches, monasteries and other places of worship: Orthodox churches: Lăpușnic (1850) Dobrești (1870), Spata (1880), Bara (1907) and Rădmănești (1927); Greek Catholic Church: Dobrești (1875); Baptist Church (1924); "Saint Parascheva" Dobrești Monastery(2003);

Annual Church Festival: Bara: Celebration of the Saint George Patron (24 April); Rădmănești: Celebration of the Saint Elijah Patron (20 July); Spata: The Assumption of Mary (8 September); Dobrești: Celebration of the Saint Parascheva Patron (14 October); Lăpușnic: Celebration of the Saints Michael and Gabriel Patrons (8 November);

Citizens of Honour: Daniel, Patriarch of Romania.

CITY HALL AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF THE BARA COMMUNE

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Lăzărescu Ioan | Mayor | Dejica Ioan, LC member | SDP |
| Ursu Daniel Casian | Vice Mayor | Franțescu Nelu-Gligore, LC member | IND |
| Cinca Sorinel-Gabriel, LC member | CP | Marchiș Ana, LC member | SDP |
| Dani Lucia, LC member | DLP | Micota Constantin, LC member | SDP |
| Dănilă Gheorghe, LC member | UPSS | Milazzo Aurora Claudia, LC member | DLP |

BARA

THE PATRIARCH OF
DOBREȘTI

His Beatitude Daniel was born on 22 July 1951 in **Dobrești** village, Bara commune, the third child of the teacher Alexie and Stela Ciobotea. The Ciobotea family owned 34.69 hectares of land, and as such was considered one of the wealthiest families of the commune. The child **Dan-Ilie Ciobotea** attended primary school in his native village (1958-1962), elementary school in Lăpușnic (1962-1966). In 1966 he attended high school in the town of Buziaș, and afterwards in Lugoj, at the "Coriolan Brediceanu" High School (1967-1970). He attended the University Theological Institute of Sibiu (1970-1974, scholarship from the Banat Metropolitanate). He obtained the title of Bachelor of Theology and took the doctoral courses of the University Theological Institute of Bucharest, under the guidance of father professor Dumitru Stăniloae, Ph.D. (between 1974-1976). He studied for two years at the Faculty of Protestant Theology, the Humanities University in Strasbourg (France) and then for another two years at the "Albert Ludwig" University in Freiburg im Breisgau, Faculty of Catholic Theology (Germany). On 15 June 1979, he defended

his doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Protestant Theology, receiving the highest grade and becoming doctor of the University from France. Under the guidance of his mentor, father professor **Dumitru Stăniloae**, Ph.D., he defended his doctoral thesis, entitled "**Theology and Christian spirituality. The connection between them and the present situation**" at the Bucharest University Theological Institute, on 31 October 1980.

In 1987 he entered monastic life at the Sihăstria Monastery, with the name Daniel, under the spiritual guidance of his monastic godfather, Reverend Archimandrite **Cleopa Ilie**. On 1 March 1990, upon the proposal of the Metropolitan **Nicolae Corneanu**, he was elected auxiliary bishop of the Timișoara Archdiocese, receiving the title "Lugojanu", and ordained bishop on 4 March 1990, at the Orthodox Cathedral of Timișoara. The same year, in June, he was elected Archbishop of Iași and Metropolitan of Moldavia and Bucovina.

On 12 September 2007 he was elected Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church.



The "Saint Parascheva" Church

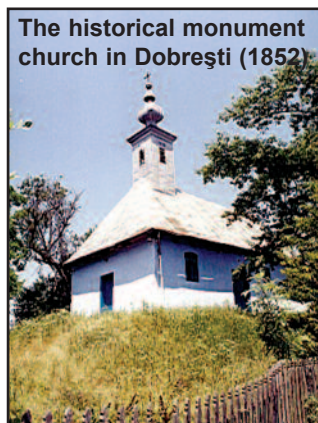
This is a monastery of monks who live as a community, patroned by "**Saint Parascheva**" (14 October). Abbot: hieromonk **Matei Buliga**. It was established in 2003 at the initiative and perseverance of His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel, who in the same year purchased a plot of land for the construction of the establishment. The monks still live in a house in the village, but efforts are made to start the construction works as soon as possible. The Banat Metropolitanate allowed the monks to conduct the religious services in the town church (a

historical monument). On 23 October 2005, with the blessing of His Holiness Nicolae Metropolitan of Banat, His Beatitude Father Patriarch Daniel, at that time Metropolitane of Moldova and Bucovina and His Holiness Lucian Bishop of Caransebeș, at that time auxiliary bishop of Timișoara, together with several priests and deacons, sanctified the church site and placed the traditional cross.

The church of the new monastery - 2010



The historical monument church in Dobrești (1852)



BARA

THE FOSSILIFEROUS SITE

The fossiliferous site from Rădmănești, Bara commune, spreads over an area of 4 hectares, in the Lipova Hills, 6 km from Stone Valley (Valea Pietrii) and 10 km from Lugoj, on the upper course of Miniș - affluent of Bega. The site was discovered in 1870 by the scientist **T. Fuchs**, who identified in the Banat deposit 52 species of rare and unique mollusks from the Tertiary period (Cenozoic). The paleontological site was declared protected area in 1955. The fossiliferous site is covered by a 60-70 cm thick layer of gravel and sand with torrential bedding. The typical mollusks of the Rădmănești site are: *Sinanodonta brandenburgi*, *Unio procumbens*, *Limnocardium secans*, *Limnocardium decorum*, *Limnocardium vicium*, *Plagiodocma auingeri*, *Pseudodactillus simplex*, **Theodoxus rad-**

manesti (photo), *Pyru-la archimedes*, *Gyra-ulus virdans*.



However, the rare Rădmănești mollusks are not the

only ancient relics discovered on the territory of Timiș county. The Timișoara magazine **“Control”** wrote on 17 April 1904 that in the town of Bara, on the estate of a wealthy land owner, **“a 20 fathom well was dug, and the workers discovered the bones of an elephant. Judging by the size of the skeleton, it was four times bigger than a regular elephant”**.

EMILIAN MICU, THE BIBLIOPHILE PRIEST

Emilian Micu was born in 1865 (or 1870), in November, in the village of **Spata**, in a family of priests. He attended elementary school in Kecskemét (Hungary) and Lugoj. He studied theology in Caransebeș then served as a priest in Ohaba Lungă, Belint and Chișoda, in Timiș county. A passionate bibliophile, he collected old philology and history books. In time, these valuable works ended up at the Cluj-Napoca University Library and the Timișoara Library. He donated over 60 old Romanian books and manuscripts to the Romanian Academy and the “V. A. Urechia” Library in Galați. They were used as materials for the complex work “Old Romanian Bibliography”, published in three volumes (I. Bianu and N. Hodoș). Emilian Micu published historical papers in contemporary magazines such as **“The Flame”**, **“Transilvania”**, **“Justice”** **“The Tribune”**, as he was interested in the Transylvanian School, and the cultural life of Romanians from Transilvania and Banat.

The bibliophile priest died in November 1909, in Lugoj. His obituary, published in “The Flag” newspaper from Lugoj, wrote: “His tall figure framed by long hair, his large

mantle, often concealing entire bookshelves, still a mystery, for even now no one knows exactly the volumes of wonders hidden inside. In the presence of other literature admirers, he would formally pour his books over the table, which seemed to spring out from every corner. For father Emilian Micu was the eternal bookseller marching on the roads of the humble Cinderella of Romanian literature. (...) He was the apostle of our poor literature, the literature of an easy-going nation, who doesn't know the value of its work. He was a familiar figure in all church houses throughout our Romanian metropolitanates, and renowned among the members of the Romanian Academy, which he served better than most ordinary members and correspondents. (...)

He was always restless. His wandering nature caused him a lot of grievance and trouble. His biggest disappointment was the total lack of consideration he got both from members of the clergy and laymen, who only saw in him the “merchant” and ignored the huge services he rendered to literature. He was very affected by this lack of consideration. For this humble, poorly dressed priest was a fountain of knowledge. Few of our esteemed contemporaries, renowned for their wisdom, know as much as Emilian Micu did”.