

Ad Altare Dei

~ "to the altar of God"

The Gregorian Society of Baltimore

Sunday Lenten Devotions

The Stations of the Cross also called The Way of the Cross will be prayed at St. Alphonsus Church during Lent. Please consult the parish bulletin for times.

[The Stations of the Cross](#)



Veneration of the Relics of the Passion (Feb 26-27)

Please plan to visit St. Alphonsus Church to venerate the Relics of the Passion which will be visiting our church on Saturday, February 26 and Sunday, February 27th. This is a wonderful opportunity for us.

Since ancient times, Christians have preserved and honored physical objects associated with Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the holy men and women who are recognized as saints. These objects include items associated with Christ's suffering and death, articles of clothing belonging to Mary, and the actual bodily remains of the saints themselves. These objects are commonly known as relics, and the practice of preserving and honoring them is known as veneration.

More information on the Relics of the Passion tour can be found at the website for the [Apostolate for Holy Relics](#).

Passion : Prayers

All pdf files require a minimum of [Adobe Acrobat 5.0](#) installation.

Brochure | [PDF](#)

Chaplet of the five wounds | [PDF](#)

Chaplet of the precious blood | [PDF](#)

Chaplet of the way of the cross | [PDF](#)

Liturgical blessing on the feast | [PDF](#)

Novena in exaltation of the Holy Cross | [PDF](#)

Novena to the Holy Face of Jesus | [PDF](#)

Novena to the Precious Blood | [PDF](#)

[Relic Images](#) | [Schedule of Tour](#) | [In the News](#) | [About Tour](#) | [Prayers](#)

...About Relics

According to Christian law and practice, no person or group may "own" a holy relic. Rather, a person or group in possession of a relic is its temporary guardian, charged with safeguarding it until such time as custody of the relic is passed along to another individual or group who will then assume responsibility for its guardianship. In this way, relics are passed from one generation to the next.

As a devotional practice, the veneration of relics has enjoyed varying degrees of popularity over the centuries. In medieval times, for example, veneration of relics played a prominent role in the daily life of European Christians: oaths were sworn and vows were made in the presence of relics, which served as heavenly witnesses; relics were carried into battle, in the hope of securing divine aid and protection; persons afflicted with disease or with physical or mental infirmities were blessed with relics, which were viewed as instruments through which God could choose to effect miraculous healings; pilgrims seeking spiritual insight or divine favor undertook arduous journeys to famous pilgrimage sites where important relics were preserved; and traveling collections of relics were displayed in town after town as a means of instructing and inspiring the local populace. Artists fabricated richly decorated display cases, known as reliquaries, in which relics were safeguarded and displayed.

The once widespread practice of venerating relics has declined in recent times. Indeed, a number of parish churches, religious orders, and families, some of whom have served as guardians of relics for many generations, have sought a means by which they might dispose of these objects and thereby be relieved of their duties as guardians.

For more information please consult: <http://www.apostolateforholyrelics.com/mission-statement.php>

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