

The Weekly
Newspaper
of the
Archdiocese
of St. Louis

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March 26, 2004

Relics of the Passion to be displayed April 3-4

Catholics in the archdiocese are invited to observe Christ's Passion by venerating relics of the Passion to be displayed Saturday and Palm Sunday, April 3 and 4, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Lindell Boulevard and Newstead Avenue in the Central West End.

The Vatican-authenticated relics include relics of the True Cross, the Column of the Flagellation, the Crown of Thorns, the Burial Shroud and the Table of the Last Supper, as well as a replica of a nail used in the Crucifixion and an effigy of Veronica's Veil.

The relics will be on display in the All Saints Chapel of the cathedral basilica beginning on April 3, following 8 a.m. Mass and continuing until the conclusion of 5 p.m. Mass, and on April 4, following 8 a.m. Mass, concluding that evening with a 7:30 p.m. celebration of Evening Prayer.

The relics are in St. Louis through the cooperation of the Apostolate for Holy Relics, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Christian relics and promoting their veneration.

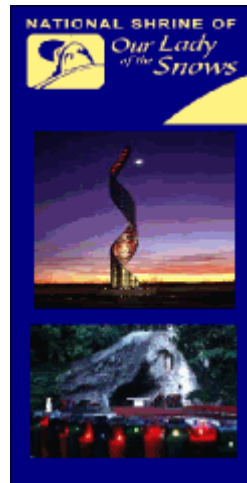
Archbishop Raymond L. Burke was contacted by Thomas Serafin, president of the Apostolate for Holy Relics, about having the relics displayed at the cathedral basilica this year.

Serafin met then-Bishop Burke last year in La Crosse, Wis., during a relic tour. That relic tour was unable to be brought to St. Louis, due to the widespread power outage on the East Coast, said Father Henry Breier, secretary to Archbishop Burke. Serafin later arranged that this tour of relics be brought here.

Archbishop Burke will president at the Evening Prayer, which will include a procession with and veneration of the relics.

Archbishop Burke will also celebrate Palm Sunday Mass at 10 a.m. April 4 at the cathedral basilica.

For more information on Church tradition on holy relics and their veneration, visit the Web site www.apostolateforholyrelics.com.



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