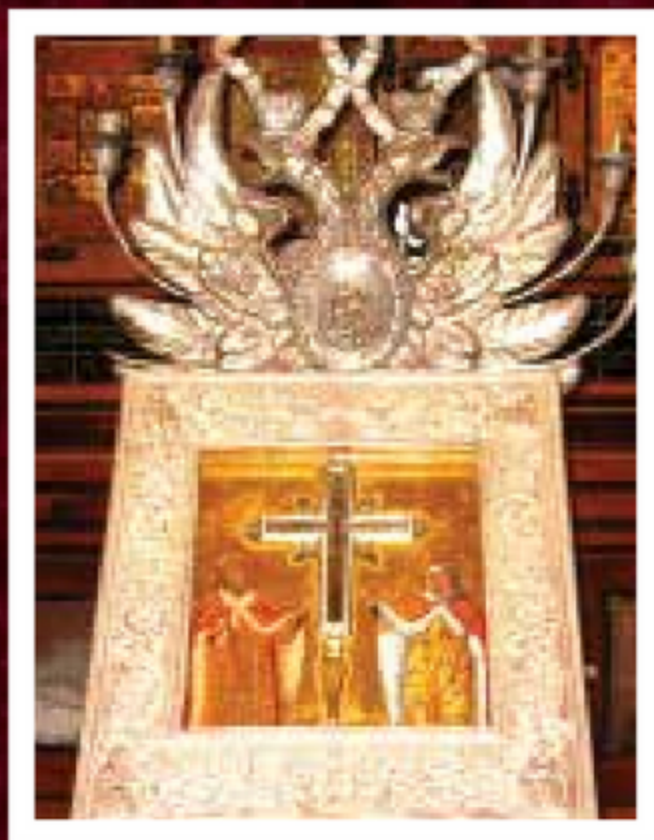


# RELIQS of the PASSION

## TRUE CROSS



was born and Church of Eleona on the Mount of Olives, the site of Jesus's ascension. According to tradition Helena found three crosses in Golgotha. To distinguish the True Cross, the Bishop of Jerusalem had a terminally sick woman touch all the three crosses. She was healed upon touching the True Cross. Constantine ordered the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to be built upon this site.

These relics are remnants of the wood of the Cross on which Jesus was crucified. The True Cross was discovered by St. Helena (mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great) in AD 326, when she undertook a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She built several churches there, including the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where Jesus



**Ave Crux, spes unica! (Hail O Cross, our only hope!)**  
*May this acclamation ....remain ever on our lips, for the Cross is a mystery of life and death. The Cross has become for the Church a 'tree of life'. For this reason we proclaim that life has triumphed over death.*

– St. Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation *Pastores Gregis*

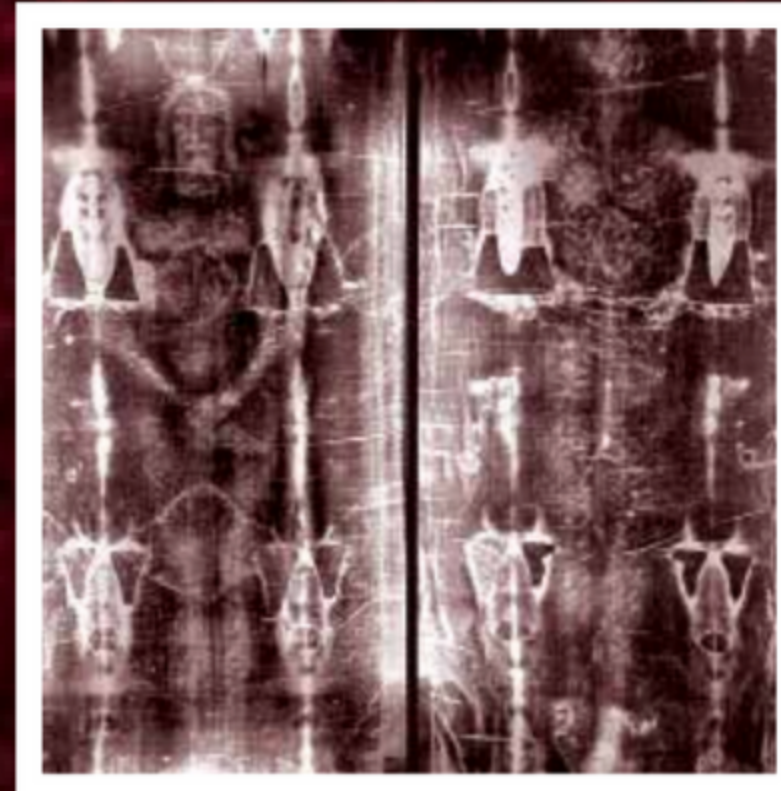
## CROWN OF THORNS



The Crown of Thorns relic is venerated as the wreath of thorns thrust on Jesus's head before his crucifixion. During the Crusades, it was brought to Paris by the French King Louis IX. It now resides in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris (having survived the fire of 2019).

*Truth wears a Crown of Thorns – St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*

## THE SHROUD OF TURIN



Also known as the Holy Shroud, this length of linen cloth was the burial garment in which Jesus was wrapped after the crucifixion. It bears the image of the crucified Jesus, showing wounds of the thorn marks on the head, lacerations on the back, bruises on the shoulders and various stains of blood. It has been preserved since 1578 in the royal chapel of the Cathedral of San Giovanni Battista in Turin, Italy.

*The Shroud shows us Jesus at the moment of his greatest helplessness and reminds us that in the abasement of that death lies the salvation of the whole world.*

– St. Pope John Paul II, Pastoral Visit to Turin, 24 May, 1998.