

Let's Learn!

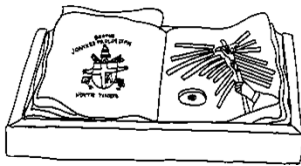
Relics - Holy Reminders

Words to Know

Relic: part or all of a canonized saint's body or physical objects that have a direct association with the saints
Relics are divided into three "classes"

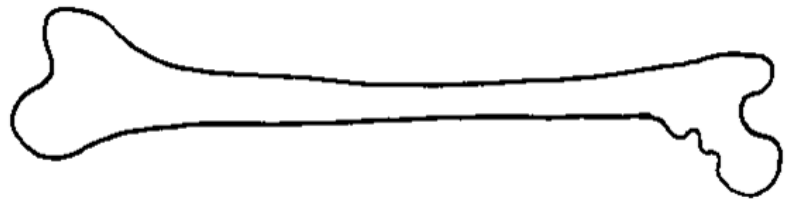
Reliquary: a container holding a relic

Veneration: an expression of reverence for the holiness of the saint



What do you do when you see a relic?

Kiss or Touch the relic or the reliquary.
Ask the saint to pray for you or someone you love.



A relic

is similar to
a keepsake memory
(example: baby teeth or first clipping of a baby's hair)
or **a family treasure**
(example: your great grandma's pearl ring or your grandparent's cross)
that is passed through the generation.

Three Classes of Relics

First-Class Relic
all or part of the body of a saint

Second-Class Relic
something that was owned by the saint or part of what was used to kill a martyred saint

Third-Class Relic
any item that touches a first or second-class relic



Pilgrims (visitors) often ask for the saint to intercede (pray) on their behalf before God for spiritual assistance, physical healing, or other particular graces.

The actual relic cannot do a miracle. However, God can use a relic of a saint to heal, just like he used his cloak to heal the woman with the hemorrhage. The relic is an instrument for God's miraculous power.

Relics remind us of the holiness of a saint and the saint wanting to do God's will and their actions actually doing God's will.

Relics remind us to have the **saints be our role models.**



Relics are very precious. We treat them with respect.

Relics are honored and venerated, but not worshipped.