

BAROCCHI CRUCIFIXES COLLECTION

Total Cost: € 9.200,00

STATE OF PRESERVATION:

These objects are completely covered with dust and the bi-products of metal corrosion. There are also generalized small abrasions.

RESTORATION PROCESS INCLUDES:

- Cleaning with immersion in Salts of Rochelles
- Washing with de-ionized water
- Systematic cleaning of all the surfaces
- Chemical cleaning of the gold, copper, and silver parts
- Accurate cleaning of gems, hard stones and crystal
- Stabilization of the residual products of corrosion
- Consolidation of possible small fractures
- Protective final varnish
- Photographic documentation

This wonderful collection of silver liturgical objects was donated by Carlo and Lucia Barocchi to the Holy Father Benedict XVI in June of 2007. Mr. Barocchi was a well-known antiquarian from Florence who had amassed a large quantity of splendid liturgical objects. After the death of Mr. Barocchi, his widow decided to give the larger part of this collection to the Holy Father.

In these pages we present a small collection of pieces which need immediate restoration.



PROCESSIONAL CROSS IN GILDED SILVER

Artist: Silversmith of central Italy
Date: Mid-17th Century
Dimensions: 69 x 51 cm
Material: Engraved, embossed, and gilded silver
Inventory Number: 62901

This cross is designed for public exposition during procession or for the adoration of the faithful. The arms of this cross are lobed at the ends. The front bears the crucified Christ with embossed plates depicting the figures of God the Father on the top and St. Francis of Assisi on the bottom, accompanied by those of St. Anthony of Padua on the left and St. Vincent Ferrer on the right.

The Immaculate Conception is embossed on the back alongside plates with Our Lady of the Rosary on top, St. Peter on the bottom, St. Catherine of Siena on the left and a Bishop Saint on the right. The molded cloth around Christ, his bowed head and the large drapery of the Immaculate Conception date this object to the 17th century.



ALTAR CROSS OF COPPER ALLOY

Artist: Silversmith from Pistoia
Date: 14th Century
Dimensions: 51.5 x 37 cm
Material: Engraved, embossed and gilded copper
Inventory Number: 62905

This medium-sized altar cross is carved from a single sheet of copper which has been engraved, embossed and gilded. With lobed ends, it displays an affinity to a cross of equal shape and 14th century iconography from the Cistercian Abbey of Casamari which is presently conserved in the Veroli Cathedral Treasury.

The work is classified as "archaic" for its exclusive use of copper, its primitive simplicity of the cantilever technique, its smooth and undecorated central body, and its formal arrangement of iconographic motifs. On the front is the crucified Christ with the canonical figures of the Virgin Mary on the left and St. John the Evangelist on the right, the personification of the Mystic Lamb on the top and an unidentified bishop saint on the bottom.



SILVER, BRONZE AND GOLD CROSS

Artists: Italian silversmiths
Date: End of 17th- Mid 18th Century
Dimensions: 65.5 x 36 cm
Material: Engraved and embossed silver, gold and bronze
Inventory Number: 62911

The cross is composed of a wooden structure which is coated in silver on both sides. There are bronze finishings in the shape of embossed cherub's heads. The Christ is cast in silver. From a structural point of view, the artifact anticipates the style of the Neapolitan silversmiths of the first quarter of the 18th century.

