

EXPOSITION OF SACRED RELICS

Treasures of the Church

Looking for physical, mental or emotional healing?
Struggling in a challenging marriage situation?
Trying to deepen your spiritual life?
THEN, THIS EVENT IS FOR YOU!



Fr. Carlos Martins was born in Kitchener, Ontario. A convert from atheism, he has a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Arts degree in philosophy from the University of Toronto. He also has a Bachelor of Education from the University of Ottawa. He is a member of a Roman Catholic community of priests called the *Companions of the Cross*.

Sponsored by Catholic Quest

Treasures of the Church is a Catholic evangelization ministry run by Fr. Carlos Martins. It gives people an experience of the living God through an encounter with the relics of His saints. Each exposition begins with a multi-media presentation on the Church's use of relics that is scriptural, catechetical, and devotional. Afterward, attendees can venerate about 150 relics, including those of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. The supreme highlights are one of the largest relics of the True Cross and a piece of the Veil that is believed to have belonged to Our Lady. The veneration of relics is a communion with the heroes of our Christian faith, asking for their powerful intercession. Many people have reported outstanding blessings, conversions and healings. To date, this ministry has been hosted in 46 US states, as well as in Canada and Mexico.

For information on relics, in general, and specific miracles associated with this ministry, see reverse side.

SCHEDULE OF EXPOSITIONS

Day	Date	Time	Church ~ Address
Tuesday	Feb. 24	7:00 pm	Holy Family Church ~ 370 Middleboro Ave., East Taunton, MA
Wednesday	Feb. 25	6:30 pm	St. Bernadette Church ~ 529 Eastern Ave., Fall River, MA
Thursday	Feb. 26	7:30 pm	St. Mary of the Nativity Church ~ One Kent St., Scituate, MA
Friday	Feb. 27	7:00 pm	St. Mary Church ~ 133 School St., Waltham, MA
Sunday	Mar. 1	2:30 pm	St. Edith Stein Church ~ 71 East Main St., Brockton, MA
Monday	Mar. 2	7:00 pm	St. Thomas the Apostle Church ~ 111 Exchange St., Millis, MA
Tuesday	Mar. 3	7:00 pm	St. Francis of Assisi Church ~ 9 St. Francis Way, Litchfield, NH
Wednesday	Mar. 4	7:00 pm	Ste. Marguerite D'Youville ~ 1340 Lakeview Ave., Dracut, MA
Thursday	Mar. 5	7:00 pm	St. William Church ~ 1351 Main St., Tewksbury, MA
Friday	Mar. 6	7:00 pm	St. Joseph Church ~ 173 Albion St., Wakefield, MA
Saturday	Mar. 7	5:00 pm	Our Lady of Grace Parish ~ 28 Tarbell St., Pepperell, MA
Sunday	Mar. 8	2:00 pm	Immaculate Conception Church ~ 214 E. Dunstable Road, Nashua, NH

www.catholicquest.org

What are relics? Relics are physical objects that have a direct association with a saint or Our Blessed Lord. They are divided into three classes:

~ A 1st class relic is part of the saint's body, such as a piece of bone or flesh.

~ A 2nd class relic is something that was owned by the saint in their lifetime, such as clothing or a book.

~ A 3rd class relic is something that was touched to a 1st, 2nd, or another 3rd class relic.

Almost all of the relics in the Treasures of the Church exhibit are 1st class relics.

First class relics are actually part of a person's body? How is this possible? Many saints are incorrupt, which means that their bodies do not decay after death the way most people's do. For some saints, it is only a certain part of his or her body that has remained incorrupt. For example, this exhibit includes a large piece of the incorrupt heart of St. Vincent de Paul. However, even for saints whose bodies did decay, their bones usually remain.

It sounds creepy to cut up the bodies of saints and put them in reliquaries. Why does the Church do that? As Fr. Martins explains, "Relics are connected with the Holy Spirit. In the case of first class relics, they were temples of the Holy Spirit. In a mystical way, the Holy Spirit dwelt within them." (From Fr. Carlos Martins' Testimony in Companions of the Cross, Fall 2009)

Why do we venerate relics? The saints chose to live many holy moments throughout their days on earth. The Church officially recognizes that they practiced heroic virtue and lived in fidelity to God's grace. We should see them as models of charity and strive to emulate their holiness in our own lives.

How do the relics of the saints work miracles? All miracles and healings ultimately come from God. The relics do not contain a "magical" power of their own apart from God. God can always heal a person directly. However, He often chooses to work through a human instrument. We recognize the saints as being perfected in holiness and able to intercede for those of us still on Earth. Some saints are considered patrons of a particular cause or group of people because of some connection during their lifetime.

According to Fr. Martins, "The saints are God's agents whom he sends to carry his love and mercy. As members of his mystical body, they are an extension of Him. They are His hands and feet that go out to touch His children and make them aware of His presence." (From the National Catholic Register, "Tender Saints for Troubled Times" by Celeste Behe, Jan 19, 2013)

Do miracles really occur during these expositions? There are healings at every exposition. When the faithful come in openness and humility, God never disappoints us. Some healings are quite dramatic while others are harder to prove and may even remain only within the heart of the one healed, such as emotional healings, spiritual conversions, marriages restored, and freedom from addictions.

Some of the more dramatic miracles associated with a Treasures of the Church Exposition include:

~ A man whose arm was bitten by a venomous spider who was just hours away from having the necropsied arm amputated at the shoulder after being prayed over and touched with the relic of St. Maria Goretti was completely cured, so much so, that the original spider bite could not be found.

~ A man who was completely deaf who touched a reliquary to his ears and began to hear.

~ A middle-aged man who had never walked in his life who got up out of his wheelchair and walked home.

~ A 9-year old girl with a tumor the size of a melon protruding from her lower abdomen was completely healed with no trace of a tumor.

These and many other healings can be read about on www.treasuresofthechurch.com. But even more than just reading about these miracles, come and experience for yourself God's healing love!