

ST. JUDE RELIC

About St. Jude

He is called Saint of the Impossible. St Jude is the first Cousin of Jesus and one of the 12 Apostles. His Brother is the Apostle, St James the Less.

St Jude Evangelized in Judea, Mesopotamia, and Persia. “Some records indicate he preached in Mesopotamia, including present-day Iraq and parts of present-day Iran, Kuwait, Syria, and Turkey. It was there that he partnered with Simon the Zealot. Some Syriac texts declare that he preached in Edessa, an ancient city in Upper Mesopotamia.” See information on the miraculous image of Jesus from Edessa below.

St Jude Died as a Martyr, and was Beaten with a Club. He is only quoted once in Gospels. However, he wrote an Epistle, a letter in the New Testament. This is the Letter of Jude, the last book of the NT before Revelation. It is very short, only one chapter with 25 verses. The letter of St Jude is “famous for its majestic closing doxology” (<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/jude/0>).

Images of St. Jude

St Jude is depicted in many Statues and Paintings. Jude is usually shown as a bearded man who looks like Jesus, his cousin.

In artwork, Jude usually holds a club or axe (instruments of his martyrdom).

Jude also holds a book and pen, representing the short Epistle he wrote.

He usually is shown with a small flame above his head, representing his presence at Pentecost and as an Apostle who received the Holy Spirit.

Images of St Jude also show him with a cloth or medallion of Jesus' face in profile. "This depiction is due to the ancient story of the Image of Edessa." This is a holy relic consisting of a square or rectangle of cloth upon which a miraculous image of the face of Jesus Christ had been imprinted. This is an additional relic to the Shroud of Turin or the Veil of Veronica. (descriptions of St Jude from the book, The Apostle of the Impossible, Saint Jude Thaddeus by Fr. Carlos Martins)



Fr. Carlos Martins

Companions of the Cross

Custodian of Relics of St Jude

Evangelist

Exorcist

For More Information:

Homily on St Jude and the Relic, 52 minutes

Audio & Captions in English, Autotranslate into other Languages, including Spanish

<https://www.youtube.com/live/VTFWR8O4JJw?si=BoAo2hOo5iPs-JTR>

Website about St Jude Relics and Tour

<https://apostleoftheimpossible.com/>

Fr. Carlos Martins on Pints with Aquinas with Matt Fradd, 3 hours

Audio & Captions in English, Autotranslate into other Languages, including Spanish

https://www.youtube.com/live/MnA_I7Yc3wg?si=fY4a5aayylEO_1f3

Do you know which Saint has the most Shrines and Churches in the world, next to the Blessed Mother? Answer: *St Jude*

What are relics and why do Catholics venerate relics? Relics are physical objects that have a direct association with the saints or with Our Lord. They are usually broken down into three classes. **First class relics** are the body or fragments of the body of a saint, such as pieces of bone or flesh. **Second class relics** are something that a saint personally owned, such as a shirt or book (or fragments of those items). **Third class relics** are those items that a saint touched or that have been touched to a first, second, or another third class relic of a saint. With regard to third class relics, the touch does not have to be a direct touch to the relic itself. Merely touching the container that houses the relic is sufficient to bring about that transformation and effect a new relic.

How long has it been since a relic of an apostle has left Italy? 1700 years

Why was the relic of St Jude allowed to leave Italy at this time?

For centuries, Saint Jude's reliquary has been kept in a shrine within the Chiesa di San Salvatore in Lauro, a magnificent Roman church close to St. Peter's Basilica. The church is immaculately kept and possesses one of the most robust liturgical schedules of any church within the Eternal City. However, the passing of time brings inevitable deterioration that afflicts all physical things, and San Salvatore in Lauro is no exception. Its dome has sustained damage from lightning strikes and storms and badly needs repair.

Why do Catholics venerate relics? *Scripture teaches that God acts through relics, especially in terms of healing. In fact, when surveying*

what Scripture has to say about sacred relics, one is left with the idea that healing is what relics “do.”

- When the corpse of a man was touched to the bones of the prophet Elisha the man came back to life and rose to his feet (2 Kings 13:20-21). In fact, we are told that after his death, Elisha’s bones prophesied (Sirach 48:13-14).
- A woman was healed of her hemorrhage simply by touching the hem of Jesus’ cloak (Matthew 9:20-22); and Mark informs us that as many as touched it were healed (Mark 6:56).
- The signs and wonders worked by the Apostles were so great that people would line the streets with the sick so that when Peter walked by at least his shadow might ‘touch’ them (Acts 5:12-15). In other words, even Peter’s shadow was healing.
- When handkerchiefs or aprons that had been touched to Paul were applied to the sick, the people were healed and evil spirits were driven out of them (Acts 19:11-12).

In each of these instances God has brought about a healing using a material object. The vehicle for the healing was the touching of that object. It is very important to note, however, that the cause of the healing is God; the relics are a means through which He acts. In other words, relics are not magic. They do not contain a power that is their own; a power separate from God.

A gift from your parish, St Thomas More: Today, you will receive a Holy Card of St Jude that has been blessed, and then touched to the case of the First Class relic of St Jude. This makes the Holy Card a Third Class Relic.

Make friends with St Jude: We are invited to venerate St Jude’s relics. Get a holy card that is now a third class relic, and treat it with respect. Learn more about St. Jude. Share with others about St Jude. Teach others about St Jude and his life. When you become friends with St Jude, he becomes your friend and prays and intercedes for your intentions and your family’s intentions.

Arm Reliquary of St Jude Made of Wood

