

JOIN US ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR THIS
ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY
VENERATION OF THE...

True Cross of Christ



**April 19 2019 | Following the
7:00 PM Service | St. Mark the
Evangelist Catholic Church**



**The relic will be on display at all Good
Friday Services, with veneration of the relic
following the 7:00 PM service |
Everyone is welcome!**

Relic of the True Cross of Christ

During the reign of the Roman Emperor Hadrian (reign A.D. 117-38) Judaism and Christianity were viewed as insurrectionary. To eradicate the influence of Christianity, Hadrian leveled the top of Mount Calvary and erected a temple to the pagan goddess Venus. The Emperor Constantine seized power in the year 312, and in the following year, legalized Christianity with the Edict of Milan. About this time, Emperor Constantine's mother, St. Helena, converted to Christianity. With the authority of her son, St. Helena went to Palestine in search of the sacred sites, and about the year 326, the temple of Venus was demolished, thereby exposing the site where Christ was crucified. Just east of the site, three crosses were found in a rock-cistern as well as the titulus (the wood plaque inscribed with Jesus Nazaranus Rex Judaeorum). When the three crosses were removed from the cistern, a woman, dying from a terminal disease, touched the crosses, one by one. After she touched the third cross, she was cured, thereby identifying the true cross. St. Cyril of Jerusalem wrote, "The whole world has since been filled with pieces of the wood of the Cross."

In fact, this particular relic on exhibit, was obtained from the Vatican by the Third Order, Legion of Victim Souls of the Franciscan Minims of the Perpetual Help of Mary, and gifted to the Disciples of Mercy Foundation. "You have before you a piece of the wood from my Cross at Calvary. Though this is an actual piece of wood taken from my Cross, each time you come to Mass, you are again brought to Calvary. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is a re-enactment of my Crucifixion and Resurrection. Children, my children, unless you die to things of this earth, the wood of my Cross has no meaning for you... I cannot emphasize enough the importance of receiving me in the Eucharist. It is then that I place a drop of my Blood upon your heart. The Blood that I place upon your heart is the same Blood I shed at Calvary." -The Heart of God Volume 2