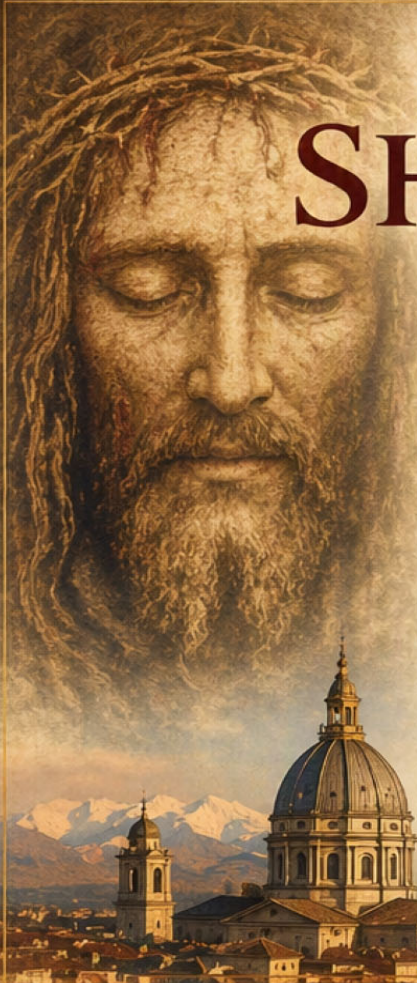




ABOUT THE SHROUD OF TURIN

THE SHROUD OF TURIN

The Shroud of Turin is a 14-foot linen cloth bearing the faint image of a crucified man. Revered by millions as the burial cloth of Jesus Christ, it is one of the most studied and discussed religious relics in the world. The Shroud is preserved in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, Italy, where it continues to inspire faith, devotion, and scientific inquiry.

The image on the cloth displays remarkable anatomical detail, including markings consistent with scourging, wounds from a crown of thorns, and nail wounds in the wrists. Many researchers have noted that these injuries closely correspond to the sufferings described in the Gospel accounts of Christ's Passion.



A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY



In 1898, Italian photographer Secondo Pia took the first photograph of the Shroud. When developing the photographic plate, he made a startling discovery: the image on the cloth functioned like a photographic negative. When inverted, it revealed a strikingly detailed and lifelike portrait of a bearded man.

Further investigations in the twentieth century uncovered additional mysteries. Scientists found that the image contains three-dimensional information and that the discoloration is limited to the outermost fibers of the linen. These characteristics continue to challenge researchers and have not been fully explained.

SCIENTIFIC STUDY AND ONGOING DEBATE

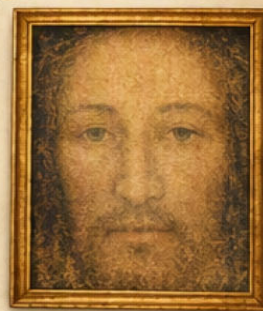


The authenticity of the Shroud remains a subject of ongoing debate. In 1988, radiocarbon testing suggested a medieval date for the linen. However, some researchers have questioned those results, proposing that the samples tested may have come from a repaired section of the cloth or may have been affected by contamination.

As a result, discussion and research continue among scientists, historians, and theologians. While opinions differ regarding its origin, the Shroud remains a powerful object of study and devotion.

THE SHROUD AND THE HOLY FACE OF MANOPPELLO

The Shroud of Turin is distinct from, yet closely associated with, the Holy Face of Manoppello. Housed in the Basilica of the Holy Face in Manoppello, Italy, the Holy Face is a delicate, translucent veil believed by many to be the Veil of Veronica.



Researchers have observed striking similarities between the facial features and proportions visible on the Holy Face and those on the Shroud. One notable difference is that the eyes on the Holy Face appear open, while those on the Shroud appear closed. For many believers, these two images provide complementary reflections on the mystery of Christ's Passion and Resurrection.



"I think the deepest longing in the heart of man is to see the face of God. If the shroud gives us even a pale image of the semblance of the Savior, then I say, blessed are we."

— Fr. Andrew Dalton

Whether viewed as a sacred relic, an historical mystery, or a powerful devotional image, the Shroud of Turin continues to draw hearts and minds toward contemplation of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

