

International Center for Holy Relics

I have compiled a glossary to provide you with the definitions of the most commonly used words and abbreviations.

Definitions of the most commonly used words:

arca mortuaria - mortuary box, container

corone spine D.N.J.C. - crown of thorns of Our Lord Jesus Christ

corporis - body

de velo - from the veil

domini nostri jesu christi, D.N.J.C. - Our Lord Jesus Christ

domo - house

ex capillis - from the hair

ex capute - from the skull

ex carne - from the flesh

ex cineribus - from the ashes

ex corpore - from the body

ex crypta - from the cave or grotto

ex domo - from the house

ex indumentis - from the clothing

ex ossibus - from the bones

ex palio - from the cloak/mantle

ex pelle - from the skin

ex petra - from the rock

ex praecordis - from the stomach or intestines

ex praesepis - birthplace of D.N.J.C.

ex tunica - from the tunic

ex veste - from the dress/clothing

Initials that follow the name to which the relic belongs:

- AP.** - Apostle
- C.** - Confessor
- D.** - Doctor of the Church
- E.** - Bishop
- EV.** - Evangelist
- F.** - Founder of Order
- Lev.** - Deacon
- M.** - Martyr
- Poen.** - Penitent
- PP.** - Pope
- Reg.** - King or Queen
- V.** - Virgin
- Vid.** - Widow

The next important step is to clarify the classification of the relic itself. There are three classes of relics; 1st class, 2nd class, and 3rd class.

[1st class] *The bodies of saintly persons or any of their integrant parts, such as limbs, ashes, and bones.*

[2nd class] *Objects that have come in physical contact with living Saints and are thereby sanctified (for instance, the instruments wherewith a martyr has been tortured, the chains by which he was bound, the clothes he wore, objects he used).*

[3rd class] Bits of cloth touched to an actual 1st or 2nd class relic.