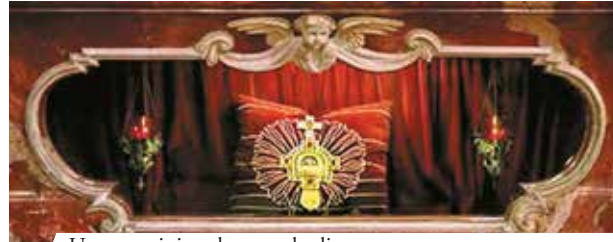


WEINGARTEN

GERMANY



For more than 900 years it has been possible to venerate the relic of a portion of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus at the Benedictine Monastery at Weingarten. According to many historians, the soldier Longinus had carried the relic of the Most Precious Blood of Christ to Mantua. Later the Precious Blood was divided into several portions and given to various rulers of the era, the most famous of whom was Charlemagne, and to different popes.



Urn containing the sacred relic



The relic of the Most Precious Blood is preserved in the church of Saint Martin in Weingarten



Antique painting depicting *The Ride (or Procession) of the Most Precious Blood* held in Weingarten



Relic of the Most Precious Blood



Procession in honor of the precious relic



The relic of the Most Precious Blood arrived even in Weingarten. According to an ancient document, in the year 1055, Emperor Henry III of the Franks was given part of the Precious Relic. Henry subsequently left the Most Precious Blood as an inheritance to Count Baldovino of Flanders, who in turn gave the Sacred Relic to his daughter, Judith.

When Guelfo IV of Bavaria sought Judith as his spouse, she gave him the Precious Relic, which he himself later gave to the Benedictines at Weingarten, directed at that time by Abbot Wilichon. The solemn ceremony took place March 4, 1094. For this reason the Benedictine Abbey received numerous indulgences from various popes, such that this church became a religious center of extraordinary importance.

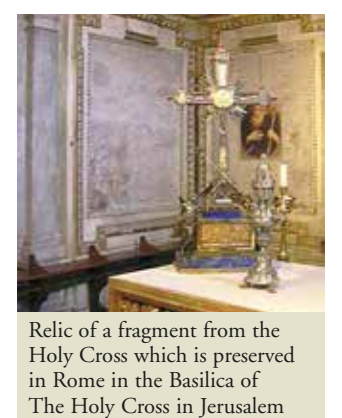
Every year a ceremony known as The Ride (or Procession) of the Blood, in honor of the relic, was organized at Weingarten. It was a parade in which nearly 3,000 horses, ridden by representatives of the individual parishes and by the clergy of the individual churches, participated.



Pope Pius II venerates the precious relic



Relic of a Nail from the Cross, Hofburg in Vienna.



Relic of a fragment from the Holy Cross which is preserved in Rome in the Basilica of The Holy Cross in Jerusalem

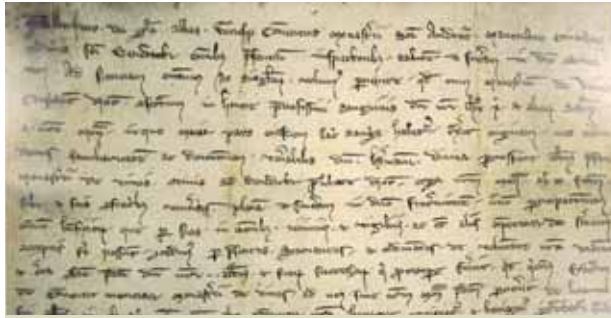
The Most Precious Blood of Jesus

WEINGARTEN

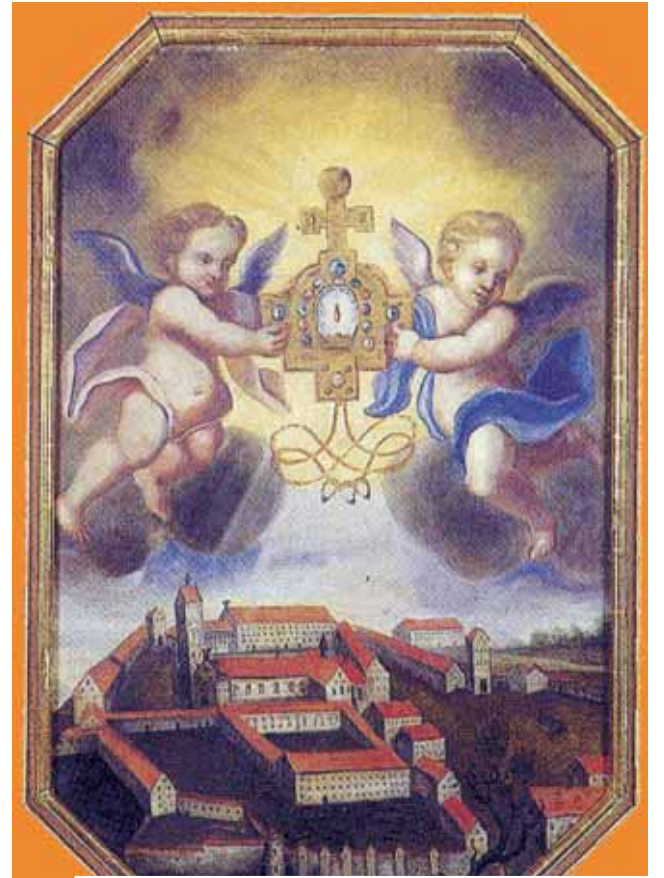
GERMANY



Every year a ceremony known as The Ride (or Procession) of the Blood in honor of the relic was organized at Weingarten.



A letter from 1278, dated March 1, in which Albert, abbot of the Benedictine Monastery of Sant'Andrea in Mantua, confirms the Mantuan origin of the relic of Precious Blood of Jesus, preserved in the monastery at Weingarten



The relic of Precious Blood (17th century).
City Hall at Weingarten



Relics of the Holy Blood, Mantua



Procession in honor of the Holy Blood at Mantua



The relic of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus is preserved in the Basilica of Sant'Andrea in Mantua



Twinning between the cities of Mantua and Weingarten



Monstrances containing some relics of the Passion of Christ, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna



Relic of the Sacred Lance with which the Roman soldier struck the side of Jesus. Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna



Reliquary containing the soil on which the Most Precious Blood of Christ fell from the Cross, Czestochowa, Poland



Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna