

Martha was the first to say, “Lord, I have believed that thou art Christ the Son of the living God, who art come into this world” (John 11:27). Martha was witness to Jesus resurrection of her brother Lazarus (John 11:39-44). Martha’s relics are in *Collégiale Sainte-Marthe* in Tarascon.



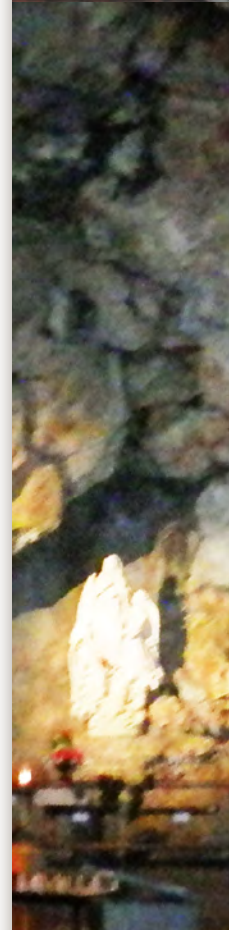
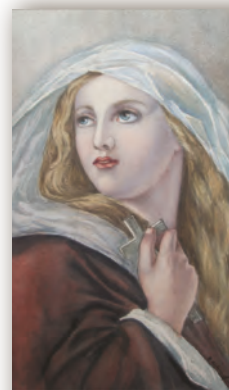
The Three Marys at the Empty Tomb
Mary Magdalene, Mary Jacobe and Mary Salome



A piece of the tibia of St. Mary Magdalene

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE - RELIC TOUR

February 20 - March 22, 2013



The Cave of
La Sainte-Baume

Early Christian Saints of God

Mark Friedman and Janet Vogt

Refrain: 1st time: Repeat

Saints of God, we stand be-fore you. This we ask you,
pray for us. Ho - ly men and ho - ly wom - en,
in your good - ness pray for us.

Verses
Cantor

1. St. Ma - ry,	God's moth - er,	our moth - er,
2. St. Jo - seph,	St. Pe - ter,	St. An - drew,
3. St. Mat - thew,	St. Si - las,	St. Bar - na - bas,
4. St. Mar - tha,	St. Max - i - min,	St. Ma - ry Sal - o - me,

Assembly

1-4. pray for us.

1. All an - gels	in heav - en,
2. St. Steph - en,	St. Paul, —
3. St. Luke,	St. Ce - do - ni - us,
4. St. La - za - rus,	St. Mar - tha,

1-4. pray for us. Ho - ly men and ho - ly wom - en,

1. so ho - ly,	} pray for us. us.
2. St. Law - rence,	
3. St. Ma - ry Ja - co - be,	
4. St. Ma - ry Mag - da - lene.	

1-4. in your good - ness, pray for us. us.

All

2,4. Save us, Lord, from sin and ev - 'ry

2,4. e - vil. Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord,

2,4. we ask you, hear our prayer. prayer.

The Provençal Tradition

Tradition has it that, after the execution of St. James in Jerusalem (son of Zebedee and Mary Salome), Mary Magdalene, her sister Martha and brother Lazarus were persecuted by the Jews of Jerusalem and imprisoned. The Jews were afraid of the crowd if they were to execute the prisoners so they towed them off the shores of Palestine in a boat without sails or oars or supplies and abandoned them to the open sea. Others in the boat included Mary Jacobe, mother of James and the sister-in-law of the Virgin Mary, Mary Salome, mother of the apostles James and John, Maximin, one of the seventy two disciples of Christ, Cedonius, the blind man who was miraculously healed by Jesus, Marcelle, Martha's servant, and Sara, maid of the two Marys.

After narrowly escaping death during a storm at sea the boat finally came to shore on the coast of Gaul in a town now called *Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer* in Camargue.



Mary Magdalene's Companions on the Boat from Palestine to Gaul

St. Cedonius was the blind man who was miraculously healed by Jesus in Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26). Cedonius became the 2nd bishop of Aix (after Saint Maximin). Cedonius is buried in the *Basilique Sainte-Marie-Madeleine* at Saint-Maximin-la-Sainte-Baume in Provence.

St. Mary Jacobe was married to Cleophas (also known as Alphaeus), who was the brother of Saint Joseph, which makes Mary Jacobe sister-in-law to the Blessed Mother. Mary Jacobe was the mother of the apostle James (*the lesser* and *the just*) and Joseph. Mary Jacobe followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him with Mary Magdalene and Mary Salome (Matthew 27:55-56) (Mark 15:41). Mary Jacobe was present during the Passion of Christ (John 19:25-27) (Mark 15:40). She was with Mary Magdalene during the burial of Jesus and saw where he was laid (Mark 15:42-47) and she was with Mary Magdalene and Mary Salome when they discovered the tomb was empty on Easter morning (Mark 16: 1-10). Mary Jacobe's relics are in the parish church of *Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer* in Provence.

St. Marcelle was Martha's servant. Marcelle is buried in the *Basilique Sainte-Marie-Madeleine* at Saint-Maximin-la-Sainte-Baume in Provence.

St. Maximin was one of the seventy-two disciples of Christ. St. Peter entrusted the care of Mary Magdalene to Maximin. Mary Magdalene traveled to Aix with Maximin. Maximin became the first bishop of Aix and Mary Magdalene retreated to the mountain cave of SainteBaume for thirty years. Before her death she came to Maximin and he gave her viaticum (her last holy communion or *food for the journey*) and then she died. After Maximin's death he was buried next to Mary Magdalene in what is now called the *Basilique Sainte-Marie-Madeleine* at Saint-Maximin-la-Sainte-Baume.

St. Mary Salome was married to Zebedee, and mother of the two apostles James (*the greater*) and John (*the beloved*). Mary Salome followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him with Mary Magdalene and Mary Jacobe (Matthew 27:55-56) (Mark 15:41). Mary Salome was present during the Passion of Christ (Mark 15:40) and was with Mary Magdalene and Mary Jacobe when they discovered the tomb was empty on Easter morning (Mark 16:1-10). Mary Salome's relics are in the parish church of *Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer* in Provence.

St. Lazarus was the brother of Mary Magdalene and Martha (John 11:1-2). Lazarus was dead four days (John 11:1-37) when Jesus raised him from the dead (John 11:38-44). Lazarus became the first bishop of Marseille. Lazarus was beheaded. His skull is in a gold reliquary in *Cathédrale Sainte-Marie-Majeure* in Marseille.

St. Martha was the sister of Mary Magdalene and Lazarus (John 11:1-2). Martha received Jesus into her house (Luke 10:38). It was Martha who complained to Jesus that she did all the serving while her sister, Mary Magdalene, neglected to help (Luke 10:39). Jesus replied, "*Mary has chosen the better part, which shall not be taken from her*" (Luke 10:41-42). Martha went to Jesus after her brother Lazarus had died and told Jesus if he had been there her brother wouldn't have died (John 11:22).