



PROTECTION CROSS

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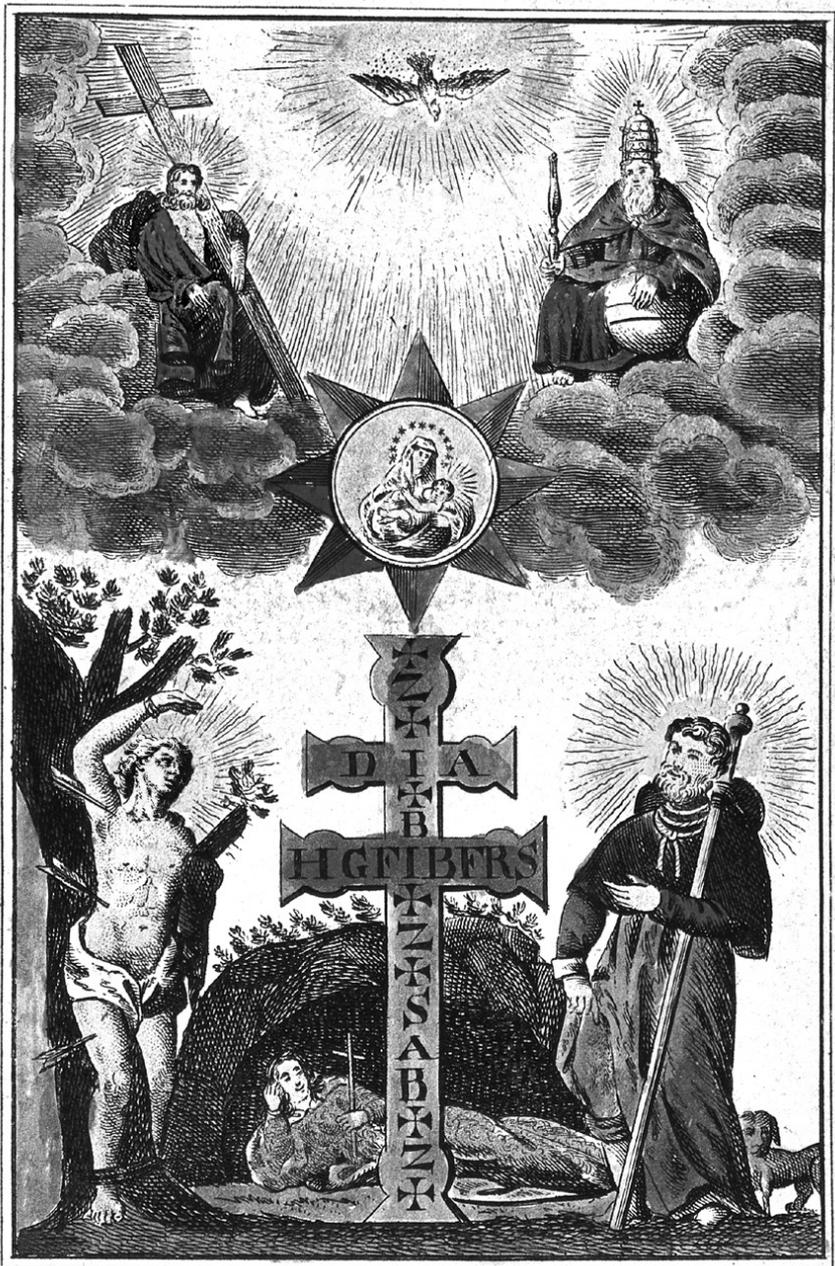
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PROTECTION CROSS

- INCLUDING -

THE BLESSING OF SAINT ZACHARIAS

FOR TIMES OF PLAGUE
AND PESTILENCE



A plague cross, with the Most Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin and Child, and Saint protectors against plague: St. Sebastian, St. John Nepomuk, St. Roch.

THE PLAGUE CROSS OF ST. ZACHARIAS

The Catholic Church, as God's own instrument of salvation on earth, has received from Him all the remedies and weapons necessary to overcome the ills of humanity. For centuries, "plague crosses" have been used in times of pestilence for protection and healing. They were inscribed on medals and parchments, into wood and monuments, to be worn on one's person, hung above doors and on walls, and erected in front of churches.

This present cross originated with St. Zacharias, Bishop of Jerusalem in the seventh century. In care and love for his people afflicted with plague, he composed a cross with acrostic prayers and blessings.

It is a pious tradition that during the Council of Trent in 1546, when a deadly plague was then raging in the area - the Council Fathers devoutly wore this cross, to great effect.

These crosses should be blessed by a Catholic priest.



BENEDICTIONUM

Remedium Contra Pestem.

EXPLANATIO CHARACTERUM.

✠ Z ✠ D I A ✠ B I Z ✠ S A B ✠
Z ✠ H G F ✠ B F R S

*Hae litterae debent prius
Benedici a Sacerdoti.*

✠ Crux Christi salva me.

Z. Zelus domus tuae liberet me.

✠ Crux vincit, Crux regnat, Crux imperat per signum Crucis libera me, Domine, ab hac Peste.

D. Deus, Deus meus, expelle Pestem a me, et a loco isto, et libera me.

I. In manus tuas, Domine, commendo spiritum meum, cor et corpus meum.



LESSINGS

Remedy Against Plague

PRAYERS OF THE CHARACTERS

✠ Z ✠ D I A ✠ B I Z ✠ S A B ✠

Z ✠ H G F ✠ B F R S

*Priests and lay people should
pray these prayers.*

- ✠. Cross of Christ, save me.
- Z. May zeal for Your house liberate me.
- ✠. The Cross conquers, the Cross reigns, the Cross rules; through the sign of the Cross free me, O Lord, from this plague.
- D. God, my God, drive away this plague from me and from this place, and free me.
- I. Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit, my life and my body.

A. Ante Coelum et Terram Deus erat, et Deus potens est liberare me ab ista Pesta.

✠ Crux Christi potens est ad expellendam Pestem ab hoc loco, et a corpore meo.

B. Bonum est praestolari auxilium Dei cum silentio, ut expellat Pestem a me.

I. Inclinabo cor meum ad faciendas justificationes tuas, ut non confundar, quoniam invocavite.

Z. Zelavi super iniquos, pacem peccatorum videns speravi in te.

✠ Crux Christi fuget Daemones, Aerem corruptum, et Pestem expellat.

S. Salus tua ego sum, dicit Dominus: clama ad me, et ego exaudiam te, et liberabo te ab hac Peste.

A. Abyssus abyssum invocat, et voce tua expulisti Daemones; libera me ab hac Peste.

B. Beatus vir qui sperat in Domino, et non respexit in vanitates, et insanias falsas.

A. God existed before heaven and earth, and He is able to free me from this plague.

✠. The Cross of Christ is able to expel the plague from this place and from my body.

B. It is good to wait for God's help in silence, that He may expel the plague from me.

I. I will incline my heart to do Your will, so that I will not be confounded, since I called upon You.

Z. For I was envious of the arrogant, when I saw how the wicked prosper, I have hoped in You.

✠. The Cross of Christ puts demons to flight, dispels poisonous air, and expels the plague.

S. I am your salvation, says the Lord, when you call to Me I will hear you and free you from this plague.

A. Deep calls unto deep, at the thunder of Your voice demons take to flight; liberate me from this plague.

B. Blessed the man that hopes in the Lord and does not pursue vanities and false extravagances.

✠ Crux Christi, quae antea fuit in opprobrium, et contumeliam, et nunc in gloriam, et nobilitatem, sit mihi in salutem, et expellat a loco isto Diabolum, et aerem corruptum, et Pestem a corpore meo.

Z. Zelus honoris Dei convertat me antequam moriar, et in nomine tuo salva me ab ista Peste.

✠ Crucis signum liberet Populum Dei, et a Peste eos, qui confidunt in eo.

H. Haecine reddis Domino, popule stulte? Redde vota tua offerens, sacrificium laudis et fidei illi, quia potens est istum locum, et me ab hac Peste liberare, quoniam qui confidunt in eo non confundentur.

G. Gutturi meo, et faucibus meis adhaerat lingua mea si non benedixero tibi; libera sperantes in te; in te confido, libera me Deus ab hac Peste, et locum istum, quo nomen tuum invocatur.

✠. The Cross of Christ, that was once a reason for scandal and opprobrium, but is now for glory and nobility, is my salvation; it will drive out the devil and poisonous air from this place, and the plague from my body.

Z. May zeal in honoring God convert me before I die, and Your Name save me from this plague.

✠. The sign of the Cross frees the people of God, and liberates from the plague those who trust in Him.

H. O foolish people, will you now return to the Lord? Keep your promises by offering a sacrifice of praise and faith to Him, that He may free this place and me from the plague, for those who trust in Him will not be disappointed.

G. If I will not praise You, may my tongue stick to my mouth and to my jaws; free those who hope in You; I trust in You; O God, release from this plague me and this place where Your Name is called upon.

F. Factae sunt Tenebrae super universam Terram in morte tua, Domine: Deus meus, fiat lubrica, et tenebrosa Diaboli potestas, qui ad hoc venisti, Fili Dei vivi, ut dissolvas opera Diaboli; expelle tua potentia a loco isto, et a me servo tuo Pestem istam; discedat aer corruptus a me in tenebras exteriores.

✠ **C**ruce Christi defende nos, et expelle a loco isto Pestem, et servum tuum libera a Peste ista, qui benignus es, et misericors, et multae misericordiae, et verax.

B. Beatus qui non respexit in vanitates, et insanias falsas: in die mala liberabit eum Dominum: Domine in te speravi, libera me ab hac Peste.

F. Factus est Deus refugium mihi: quia in te speravi, libera me ab hac Peste.

R. Respice in me, Domine Deus meus Adonai de sede sancta Majestatis tuae, et miserere mei, et propter misericordiam tuam ab ista Peste libera me.

S. Salus mea tu es: sana me, et sanabor: salvum fac salvus ero.

F. At the thunder of Your threat, O Lord, darkness covered the earth; O my God, make the path of the devil slippery, make his eyes grow dim and blind, for it is for this that You have come, O Son of the living God, to destroy the works of the devil; by Your power drive the plague from me, Your servant, and from this place, and may poisonous air leave me and go down to the outer darkness.

✠. May the Cross of Christ, that is kind and full of compassion, protect us and drive away the plague from this place, and free Your servant from it.

B. Blessed the man that does not pursue vanities and false extravagances: the Lord will save him on the evil day; O Lord, I have hoped in You, release me from this plague.

F. I have made the Lord God my refuge, in You I trust, release me from this plague.

R. Look upon me, O Lord my God, from the throne of Your Holy Majesty, and have pity on me, and by Your mercy free me from this plague.

S. You are my salvation, heal me and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved.

BENEDICTIO CHARACTERUM PRAEFATAE CRUCIS.

℣. Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini.

℞. Qui fecit caelum et terram.

℣. Dominus vobiscum.

℞. Et cum spiritu tuo.

OREMUS.

Deus Omnipotens bonarum virtutum dator, et omnium Benedictionum largus infusor, supplices te rogamus, ut manibus nostris opem tuae Benedictionis infundas, et hos characteres, et litteras, ad alligandos daemones, Morbosque pellendos tua revelatione praeparatas virtute S. Spiritus Benedicere digneris, et omnibus eis utentibus sanitatem mentis, et corporis, et gratiam Sancti†ficationis benignus concede, ut in conspectu tuo Sancti, et Immaculati, atque Irreprehensibiles appareant, et insidias latentis inimici per auxilium misericordiae tuae clementer effugiant. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Christum, etc.

THE BLESSING OF THE CROSS CHARACTERS

*The following prayers must be prayed
by a Catholic Priest over the cross.*

✠. Our help is in the name of the Lord

✠. Who made heaven and earth.

✠. The Lord be with you

✠. And with your spirit.

LET US PRAY

Almighty God, giver of all good virtues and infuser of all abundant blessings, we humbly beseech You to pour forth into our hands the aid of Your Blessing, and deign to bless both these symbols and letters, prepared by Your revelation, to bind demons and drive away diseases by the power of the Holy Spirit, and to those using them mercifully grant health of mind and body as well as the grace of Sanctification, so that in Your sight they may appear Holy, Immaculate and Blameless; and may they mercifully escape the hidden snares of the enemy through the help of Your compassion.

OREMUS.

Domine Jesu Christe, qui voluisti pro Mundi redemptione de Virgine nasci, in carne tua Sanctissima circumcidi, a Judaeis reprobari, a Juda proditore osculo tradi, vinculis alligari, sicut agnus innocens ad victimam duci, atque conspectibus Annae, Caiphae, Pilati, et Herodis indecenter offerri, a falsis testibus accusari, flagellis, et opprobriis vexari, sputis conspui, spinis coronari, colaphis caedi, arundine percuti, facie velari, vestibus exui, crucifigi, inter latrones deputari, felle, et acero potari, et lancea vulnerari, Tu Domine, per has Sanctissimas poenas tuas, quas indignus recolo, et per tuam Sanctissimam Crucem, et Mortem, libera hunc locum cum omnibus incolis ejus et me servum tuum, et omnes quicumque per litteras, et characteres hos invocaverint Nomen S. tuum ab ista Peste, et expelle illam, et omnes insidias Diabolicae fraudis, atque omnes nos pristinae

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God unto the ages of ages.

LET US PRAY

O Lord Jesus Christ, You Who willed for the redemption of the world to be born of the Virgin, to be circumcised in Your Most Holy flesh, condemned by the Jews, to be handed over by the traitor Judas with a kiss, bound by ropes, to be led as an innocent lamb to sacrifice, and unbecomingly presented before Annas, Caiaphas, Pilate and Herod, accused by false witnesses, struck by lashes and insults, spit upon, crowned by thorns, punched, beaten with reeds, had Your Face covered, stripped of Your clothes, crucified, placed between robbers, and to drink vinegar with gall, and pierced by a lance, You, O Lord, through these Your Most Holy Pains, which I, an unworthy sinner recall, and through Your Most Holy Cross and Death, free this place with all of its inhabitants and me Your servant, and all whosoever will invoke Your Holy

restituē sanitati, fracto cujuscumque generis malitiæ vinculo. *℞.* Amen.

Et Aspergantur Aqua Benedicta.



Name through these letters and symbols,
from this plague and expel it and all the
snares of the devil's deception; moreover,
after you have broken the fetters of every
sort of vice, restore us all to our former
health. *℞*. Amen.

And Holy Water is Sprinkled



