



Codice della Catena

Il codice della Catena è il volume pergamenaceo nel quale sono raccolti gli statuti e le franchigie che nel 1360 il Conte Verde (Amedeo VI di Savoia) concesse in cambio dell'omaggio di fedeltà al Comune di Torino.

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Codice della catena. I Santi Martiri e gli stemmi dei Savoia e del Comune, 1360. Archivio Storico della Città di Torino.



The representation of the sacred

Devotional images from the Middle Age to the 18th century

Among many iconographies, we will mention the symbols that have penetrated deep into the catholic culture and the local history. The importance of religious iconography is attested also by documents like the book of Statutes of Turin of 1360 in which, on the religious icons below, appears the 'raging bull', secular symbol of Turin.

The «Eucharistic Miracle» refers to the legend of the pillage happened in 1453 at a church in Exilles where a soldier stole a Host. He loaded a sack upon a mule and he left. As it arrived in Turin, it stumbled and fell. The Host tumbled and ascended into the air. Finally, the bishop of Turin brought out a chalice into which the Host descended.

The City immediately promoted the construction of a kiosk where the miracle took place; the same place where, later, the Church of Corpus Domini was built. The devotion to Our Lady of Consolata has ancient roots: the legend concerned a portrait of the Virgin Mary that was lost. Finally, it was found near Turin by a blind man who regained his sight. During the siege in 1706 the icon of Our Lady of Consolata was placed on the doors of the houses. On September 29th, 1706, Our Lady of Consolata was proclaimed patron saint of Turin.

This short report ends with the religious icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary in contrast to the majesty of the "raging bull", secular emblem.

Two opposite images which represent together the sense of belonging to the same cultural order. ■

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