

Catholic Culture Prize to a scholar of the Shroud Emanuela Marinelli

This morning at City Hall the Mayor of Bassano Riccardo Poletto held the press conference of the 33rd edition of the *International Prize medal 'Now of Merit of Catholic Culture*, which will be awarded to Dr. Emanuela Marinelli, a scholar of the Shroud among the best known internationally.

The ceremony for the award will be held **FRIDAY 23 October** at 20.30 at the Teatro Remondini in Bassano.

"The award is always a great occasion," began the mayor Poletto. "It is an opportunity that projects Bassano to important levels." The School of Catholic Culture, he said, "has always brought our city names of personalities that stand out in the field of Catholic culture". The fact that the award this year goes to Prof. Marinelli said Poletto, "has enormous significance for believers, but for unbelievers." The Shroud, in fact, "is a symbol that applies to everyone because it shows not only what man can do to hurt another man, but also as someone may suffer for the sake of others."

"The School of Catholic Culture - said the president of the Andrea Mariotto - has always wanted to highlight to the public, with the award of those personalities that have been able to make the faith culture." Professor Marinelli not only did this, "but did the Shroud a life, having been exclusively dedicated for 38 years to research on the Holy Shroud." His example, concluded Mariotto, is that of a person who approached the Shroud for a scientific curiosity, did it become the reason for her commitment and her Christian witness. " At a time when there appears to be only what is scientifically provable, he concluded by quoting the same Marinelli, the Shroud is "a fifth Gospel written in blood, which allows us to be like a novice St. Thomas, watching, getting involved by the provocation that it is, ideally putting his finger on the side of Christ. "

Dr. Marinelli will arrive in the city on Thursday and Friday at 11:30 am at City Hall will receive the official welcome by the municipal administration in a meeting with the First Citizen. During the ceremony for the award, Dr. Marinelli will be interviewed by the Vatican correspondent Marco Tosatti.