

NEWS & ACTIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD

ATLANTA, GA.: Another milestone was set up for the Holy Shroud in what was almost certainly the first ecumenical celebration in its long history. The occasion was the official dedication of the Shroud of Turin exhibit, now permanently at home in Atlanta. The dynamic Rev. Albert Dreisbach, Jr., pastor of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, founder and President of the Atlanta Center for Continuing Study of the Shroud of Turin (2407 Cascade Road, S.W., Atlanta GA 30311), brought together the leaders of eight other denominations to co-officiate in the Evening Service (see picture below). Among civic leaders attending the ceremony were the Hon. Andrew Young, Mayor of the city, and representatives of the Governor and the Fulton County Commission.



Gathered before a full-size transparency of the Shroud to participate in the ecumenical celebration are (L to R): The Rev. John H. Cross, Director Inter-Baptist Ministries, Atlanta Baptist Association; The Rev. William Corkish of the American Lutheran Church; His Grace Bishop John, Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Atlanta; the Officiant, The Most Rev. Thomas A. Donnellan, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Atlanta; The Rev. Albert R. Dreisbach, Jr.; The Rt. Rev. C. Judson Child, Jr., Bishop Elect, Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta; The Rev. Michael T. Atkins, Director of Youth Ministry, Mt. Paran Church of God; The Rev. Leon Jeffords, Chairman of the Atlanta Presbyterian Church; and the Rt. Rev. Frederick H. Talbot, Presiding Bishop, African Methodist Episcopal Church. (Photo by Gretchen Keiser)

AUSTRALIA: Mr. Rex Morgan, publisher of the highly informative newsletter, *Shroud News*, happily announces that the Brooks Exhibit of Visual Data has arrived in Sydney, where the display will be open to the public in December. From there it will travel to seven other cities until May, 1984.

ROME: The Act of Donation of the Holy Shroud to the Apostolic See has been completed, as announced in *L'Osservatore Romano*, official newspaper of the Vatican, in these words:

"On the morning of today, 18 October 1983, his Eminence Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, Vatican Secretary of State, representing the Holy See, has affixed his signature, along with those of His Majesty Simeone of Bulgaria and His Royal Highness Maurizio d'Assia, and in the presence of His Royal Highness Amedeo d'Aosta, to the document which completes the Act of Donation of the Holy Shroud to the Apostolic See, in execution of the testament of King Umberto II of Savoy.

"At the Completion of the Act, Cardinal Casaroli, Secretary of State, expressed the gratitude of the Holy Father for this reverential gesture of the late Sovereign and for the sentiments of devotion toward the Apostolic See which had always inspired him."

MEXICO CITY: Last June, the Centro Méxican di Sindonologia launched its Spanish-language bulletin, called *Sindone*. The 22 pages include a report on the inauguration of the Centro, a reproduction of the Act of Foundation, the names of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committees of Operations and of Studies. The solemn inauguration was presided by H. H. Ernesto Cardinal Corripio Ahumada, Archbishop Primate of Mexico.

Among other articles in the *Boletin* is a translation from English of Prof. Baima Bollone's article, "Identification of the Group of the Traces of Human Blood on the Shroud", as it appeared in *Spectrum* #6, March 1983 (originally published in *Sindon*, Turin, Dec. 1982). Interesting reading also is a transcript of the speech, entitled "The Holy Shroud: Gordian Knot cut by God", which Dr. Antonio Brambili Zamacono gave at the inaugural ceremony.

The Centro is building an impressive library of Shroud books. Dr. Julio Lopez Morales, Chief of Bibliographical and Photographical Archives, invites correspondence as well as exchange of books, magazines, etc., and will send the *Boletin* on request.

Dr. Lopez Morales has often contributed articles about the Shroud to *Nuestra Voz*, a publication which for more than 30 years has brought news and short articles to hospital patients. As noted in *Sindon* #31 (Dec. 1982), Dr. Lopez Morales' column draws from the study of the Shroud certain considerations which are so well understood by those who suffer. In the introductory sentence to an article on the Shroud and the Virgin of Guadalupe, he remarks, "Faith has nothing to fear from science, for true faith and genuine science proceed from the same source, which is God. Scientists capable of sending a man to the moon," he continues, "are seriously scrutinizing these two images."

Address: Centro Mexican° di Sindonologia, Durango #90, 4° piso, 06700 Mexico D.F., Mexico.