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The Golden Rose and the Hall of Vestments WORLD VATICAN - PAST AND PRESENT

A CURA DI NICCOLÒ DEL RE (BY NICOLAS OF THE KING)

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PINK GOLD. Consistent now, according to the form taken from the time of Sixtus IV (1471-84), all in a rose bush 's gold, in which the greatest of central flower is enclosed in balsam and musk, the Golden Rose is a symbolic gift that the popes are usually offered for over two centuries now, only the queens more pro segnalatesi in the Catholic Church and prominent shrines, while in the past were honored with this distinction even kings, princes and other eminent personalities to reward them for some important service to the Church and society, as well as major cities. While the earliest mention of the Golden Rose is already to be found in a document of Leo IX of 1049, the memory of his first concession by a pope dates back to 1096, when Pope Urban II gave to the Count of Anjou Fulcone . Since the sixteenth century, then, the use of the Golden Rose went to offer more and more widespread, so much so that, next to famous people of both sexes, distinguished by signal services rendered to the Church and society, received in sign of special devotion, even distinguished churches, including Roman basilicas of S. Peter, S. And St. John Lateran Maria Maggiore, which had all three several times, S. Maria del Fiore in Florence, the Basilica of Notre-Dame de Lourdes, etc.. And famous cities such as Venice, Bologna, Siena, Lucca, etc..

The Doge of Venice Loredan Francis was the last male representative in 1759 to receive the gift of the Golden Rose, which has since been restricted only to the Catholic sovereigns, churches and famous shrines, the last of which, for now was that of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Poland, which was recently granted by the reigning Pope John Paul II, while the last Catholic sovereign to receive the Golden Rose was the Queen of Italy Elena of Savoy, which was given by Pius XI in short 8 March 1937, King Umberto II left in his will and testament of St. all'arcibasilica John Lateran, which was in fact called October 18, 1983.

The ceremony of blessing the golden rose, which formerly took place in the church of S. Cross in Jerusalem, is now accomplished in Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent) by the Roman Pontiff in the Hall of the Vatican before the Mass vestments. If the person to whom the gift is intended is located in Rome, receives from the hands of the Pope to 'out of the Sistine Chapel, otherwise delivered by a specially appointed papal dignitary (before there were bearers of the so-called Rose d' gold [see]). For statistics is to be noted, finally, that are well 175 were donated by the Golden Rose popes from 1096 to today, with the target to 73 men, 51 women (the first was Queen Joanna I of Naples in 1368), 40 churches and shrines in the city and 11; only person of middle-class and female to receive the Golden Rose was the American Mary Gwendaline Caldwell, one of the founders and financiers of the "Catholic University of America" in Washington, the who was sent as a gift from Leo XIII at the end of the last century.

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