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## **Reliquaries from Očevija, Vareš and Vukanovići**

### **Summary**

Even at the time of the bloodiest persecutions that were carried out against them in their own homeland for centuries by the Ottoman occupiers, robbers, rapists, and murderers, various relics and reliquaries arrived among the Bosnian Catholics from the territories under the control of Rome. Among them are "a fragment of the cross of Jesus Christ" acquired in Rome in 1730 - kept in the Catholic church in Očevija near Vareš in the eastern part of central Bosnia, "the relic of the Roman pope Saint Gregory I the Great – confessor and teacher of the Church" acquired in 1790 in Rome - which is kept in the old Catholic church in Vareš, "the relics of the martyr St. Vincentius" obtained in 1797 through the canon and episcopal pro-vicar of Makarska Fr. Ivan Josip Pavlović Lučić – also in the old Catholic church in Vareš, and "the relics of the holy martyrs Basil and Bonaventure" inserted in 1862 into the altar of St. Anthony of Padua in the church of the Franciscan monastery of 'St. John the Baptist' in Kraljeva Sutjeska near Kakanj in central Bosnia, which was donated to the church of 'St. Anthony of Padua' in Vukanovići near Kakanj. Certificates of the authenticity of these relics were kept in the Catholic Parish of Vareš, while in the 1950s they were stored in the archives of the Franciscan Monastery of 'St. John the Baptist' in Kraljeva Sutjeska.

*Keywords:* a fragment of the Cross of Jesus Christ from the Catholic church in Očevija near Vareš; the reliquary of Roman pope St. Gregory I the Great from the church of St. Michael the Archangel in Vareš; the reliquary of St. Vincentius from the church of St. Michael the Archangel in Vareš; reliquaries from the altar of the Church of St. Anthony of Padua in the Parish of Vukanovići near Kakanj; Franciscan Province of 'the Holy Cross' of Bosnia Argentina (Bosna Srebrena).