

What are Relics and why does the Church use them?

Relics include the physical remains of a saint as well as other objects that have been sanctified by being touched to the body of the saint. The use of relics has its basis in scripture. In the Acts of the Apostles we read:

*Meanwhile, God worked extraordinary miracles at the hands of Paul. When handkerchiefs or cloths which had touched his skin were applied to the sick, their diseases were cured and evil spirits departed from them.*

ACTS 19:11-12

Miracles are associated with relics, but not because of power within them, but because God's work, which was done by the saints during their lives, continues after their death. The life of the saint inspires us to draw closer to God and these relics do the same.

(<https://www.ewtn.com/library/answers/relics.htm>)