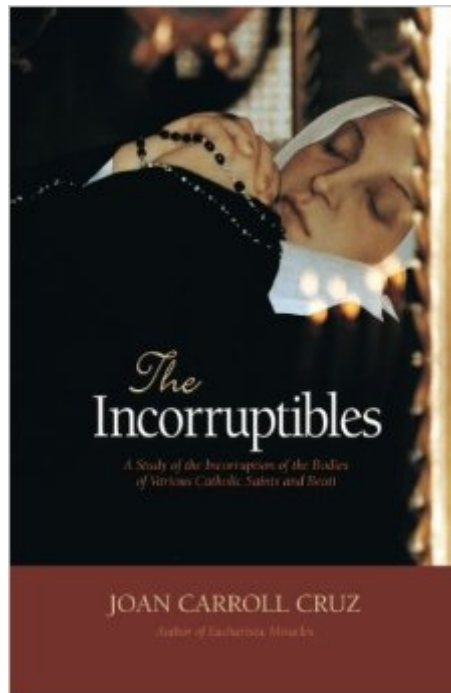


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The Incorruptibles: A Study Of The Incorruption Of The Bodies Of Various Catholic Saints And Beati



Synopsis

Continuously popular since it first appeared in 1977, *The Incorruptibles* remains the acknowledged classic on the bodies of saints that did not undergo decomposition after death. Many remained fresh and flexible for years, or even centuries. After explaining both natural and artificial mummification, the author shows that the incorruption of the saints' bodies fits neither category but rather constitutes a much greater phenomenon that is unexplained by modern science to this day. The author presents 102 canonized saints, beati, and venerables, summarizing their lives, the discovery of their incorruption, and investigations by Church and medical authorities. The incorruptible bodies of saints are a consoling sign of Christ's victory over death, a confirmation of the dogma of the Resurrection of the Body, a sign that the Saints are still with us in the Mystical Body of Christ, and proof of the truth of the Catholic Faith—"for only in the Catholic Church do we find this phenomenon. Impr. 342 pgs 33 Illus, PB.

Book Information

Paperback: 342 pages

Publisher: TAN Books; illustrated edition edition (1977)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0895550660

ISBN-13: 978-0895550668

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (86 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #155,494 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #120 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Mysticism](#) #199 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Mysticism](#) #204 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints](#)

Customer Reviews

You Will Be Amazed."The Incorruptibles" by Joan Carroll Cruz, Tan Books and Publishers, Rockford, Illinois, On the very first page of her introduction, Joan Cruz specifies that she understands that she is treating a very special case in the preservation of the bodies of saints. First, she notes that there are three classifications of preserved bodies: (1) deliberately preserved, (2) accidentally preserved and (3) the incorruptibles. Ancient Egyptian mummies are probably the most familiar examples of deliberately preserved bodies; many of us have seen them in various

museums. In her introduction, Ms. Cruz presents more details than most of us want to know about the modern techniques of embalming and its impact on the body of the deceased. (Pages 27 to 32). Accidentally preserved bodies include the more or less well known cases of bodies found in peat bogs in Denmark, Ireland and Scotland (page 32). Ms. Cruz presents the interesting case of Bremen Cathedral, Germany, where the cellar burial place tends to mummify any body left there. Experiments were run using the bodies of animals or fowls, hung in the open-windowed cellar, and the bodies of these animals became mummified. The incorruptibles, however, are those bodies which have been preserved only since Christian times and their preservation is ..."even more baffling..." since it "...seems to be neither dependent upon the manner of burial nor on the temperature or place of interment". Joan Cruz makes a case for the intervention of God as a sign of favor to His saints. The mystery is "...further compounded ... (with) ...the observance of blood and clear oils" which flow from these incorruptibles. (Page 27).

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