

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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George L. Faull, Editor

Who Stole My Patron Saint?



June 13: The undated photo (above) provided by Father Brian Doran of the St. Anthony Catholic Church in Long Beach, Calif. via the Long Beach Police Department shows a 780year-old religious relic of St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost causes and missing objects, center in cabinet, that was stolen from the church.

LOS ANGELES -- A 780-year-old religious relic of St. Anthony of Padua has been stolen, and parishioners at a Southern California Catholic church are praying to the patron saint of lost causes and missing objects for its speedy return.

The relic was stolen from inside a cabinet beside the altar at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Long Beach on Monday, **the feast day of the church's namesake**.

While church members are upset that someone would steal a holy object, their faith is still strong. "*They said,* `*Father, he's the patron saint of lost causes, so he'll come home,*" Magana said.

"I'm hoping we've got some higher sources who've got our backs here and we can get it back," Magana said. "People here are pretty upset but they're praying. **They're praying to** *St. Anthony for the return of his own object*."

I always thought if I ever again saw a car with a St. Christopher medal (Patron Saint of Travelers) swinging on a chain from a mirror on a wrecked car in which someone died, I would take a picture of it to show the vanity of praying to saints.