

SA1054706

VERY UNUSUAL BRASS ALTAR CROSS WITH CONSECRATION BELLS

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1054706****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 37 cm (14.6")

Width = 15 cm (5.9")

Description

Here is a very unusual solid brass four sided altar cross with four hanging consecration bells. Bells were rung at Mass during consecration to draw attention to the moment when the bread and wine were converted into Christ's body, in a process known as Transubstantiation. The Priest would take the bells and alert the congregation to this divine transformation. The top of this cross is removable, and when taken from its base becomes the hand held set of bells which the Priest may ring. This piece is incredibly unusual as I have scoured the internet and cannot find one similar. I have cautiously dated them as 19th century on the basis of their manufacture, but as I don't have another to compare it with they may well be earlier - the surface wear and patina makes me think that they are certainly not later. The cross is four sided, with a bell hanging from each arm, producing a very pleasant ring. There is a central removable column, which sits atop a trifold base with decoration, scrolls and three Lions Paw feet. There are cast motifs to two of the sides, designed with vines, grapes and berries, and the third is now plain but may have once held a similar decoration. The...

Seller Details

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