

The Famous Martyr Foca.

Foca, also a martyr, who after many injuries which they all suffered in the name of the Redeemer, he was taken in by Syria, his nation of the martyrs, to rest. How he triumphed over the old serpent is what is believed today and is attested by the people. In these places, in the end, if a fellow human is bitten by a snake, the venom spreads all over, if he who is bitten has reached the door to the martyr's courtyard and rests there, on compressing the swelling, the poison was emptied of its power, he is saved. Out of such a folk tales, already embellished, renown is created, and so if the evil beast's effect is all over his body and it becomes swollen with the poison in its continuing effect and as life gasps out of their hands, they are carried in the inner courtyard of the place and are healed: or is it possible that man has come of age with this venom and has achieved the sacred threshold of complete faith that he is able to cope with it.

Latin Original

De inclyto martyre Foca

Focas quoque martyr, et ipse his martyribus regione conjunctus, apud Syriam requiescit ; qui post multas , quas pro nomine Redemptoris est passus injurias , qualiter de antiquo illo serpente triumphaverit hodieque populis declaratur. Denique, si in quempiam in his locis coluber morsum stringens venena diffuderit , extemplo qui percussus est , ut januam atrii quo martyr quiescit attigerit , compresso tumore , evacuata virtute veneni , salvatur . Ex quibus nonnulli ut celebre vulgatum est , jam tumidi malæ bestiæ ictu , jam toto corpore incrassante veneno in hoc perflati ut spiritum exhalarent , inter manus delati et in atrio positi , sunt sanati : nec unquam ob hoc virus obire hominem fas est , si sacrum limen fide plenus attigerit.