

Mount Tabor

Franciscan Compound



1. [Around the Garden](#)
2. [Franciscan Basilica of Transfiguration](#)
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Note :

- All Biblical quotes are based on the New Revised Standard Version
- The following abbreviations are used :
 - B. – Blessed
 - Fr. - Friar
 - St. – Saint
 - V. - Venerable

Around the Garden

Bird's Eye View

Orthodox Monastery

Franciscan Basilica



Franciscan Monastery

Opening Hours



Gate of the Winds



Sunset

Descendentibus Chapel*

* AKA the "Tell no one about the Vision" chapel

Apse



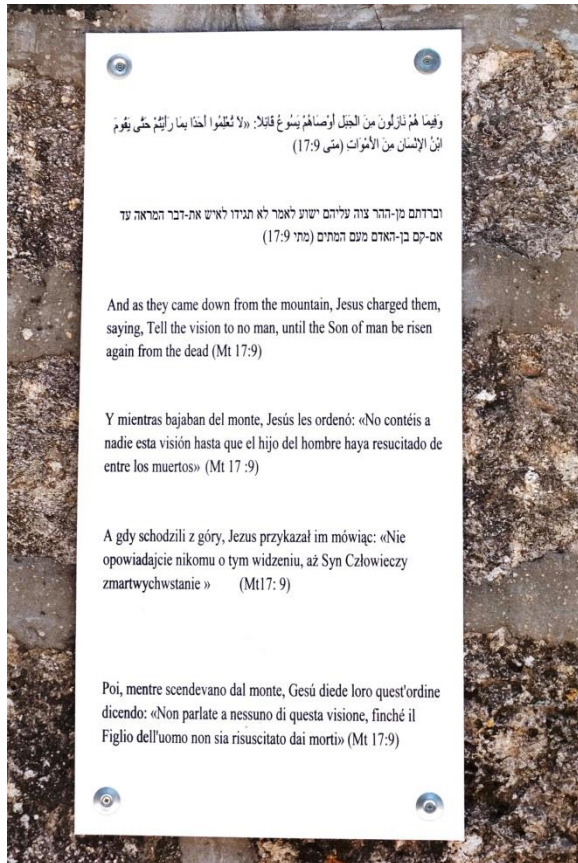
Northern facade

Descendentibus Chapel



Western facade

Descendentibus Chapel



Chapel built in 1923

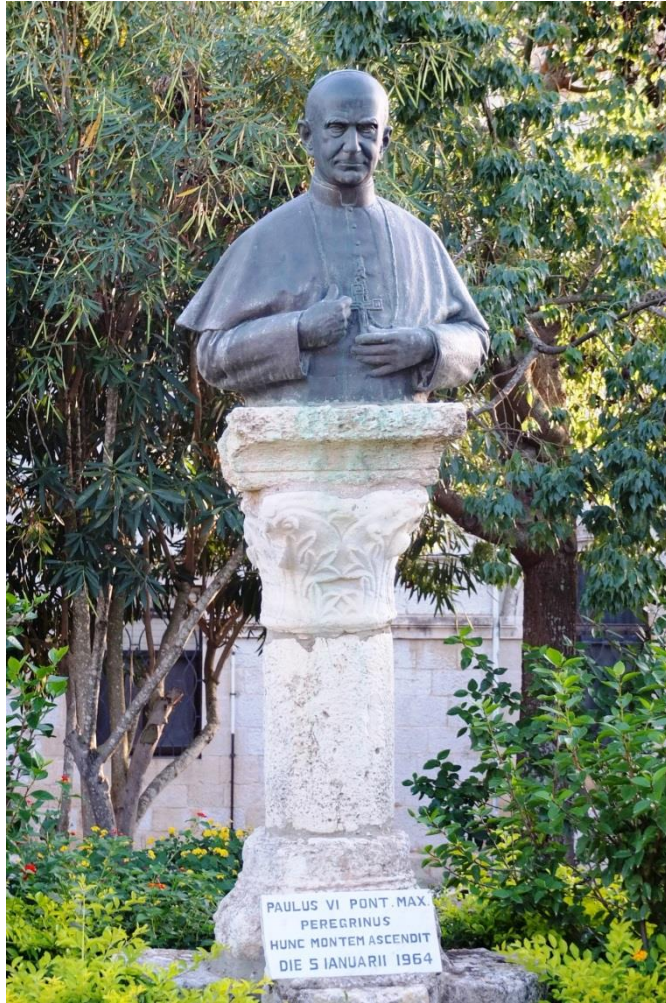
As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them **'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead (Matthew 17, 9)**

Descendentibus Chapel



Apse and altar
Built by A. Barluzzi in 1923

Memorials



Pope Paulus VI
Visited here on January 5th 1964



Antonio Barluzzi
The architect of the 20th Century Basilica

Franciscan Basilica of Transfiguration

Western Façade



Two Towers

The two towers represent the dwellings Petrus suggested to build for Moses and Elijah :
I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah (Matthew 17, 4)

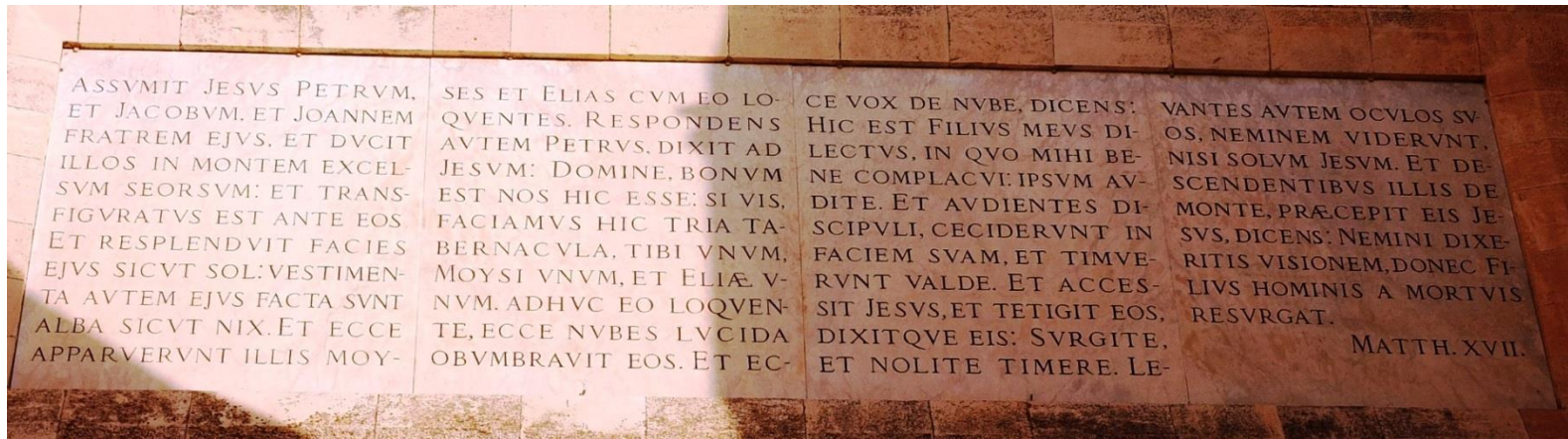
Western Façade



Windows decoration

Alabaster-filled slits allow natural light into the basilica

Western Façade



The inscription above the main entrance

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'LORD, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead (Matthew 17, 1-9)

Western Façade



The entrance arch

Entrance Level – Eastward View

Northern apsidiole

Apse

Southern apsidiole



Crypt

Entrance Level – Apse, Arch Fresco

Eagle
John

Winged man
Matthew

Franciscan Order
Coat of Arms

Winged ox
Luke

Winged lion
Mark



Entrance Level – Apse, Dome Mosaic

Moses

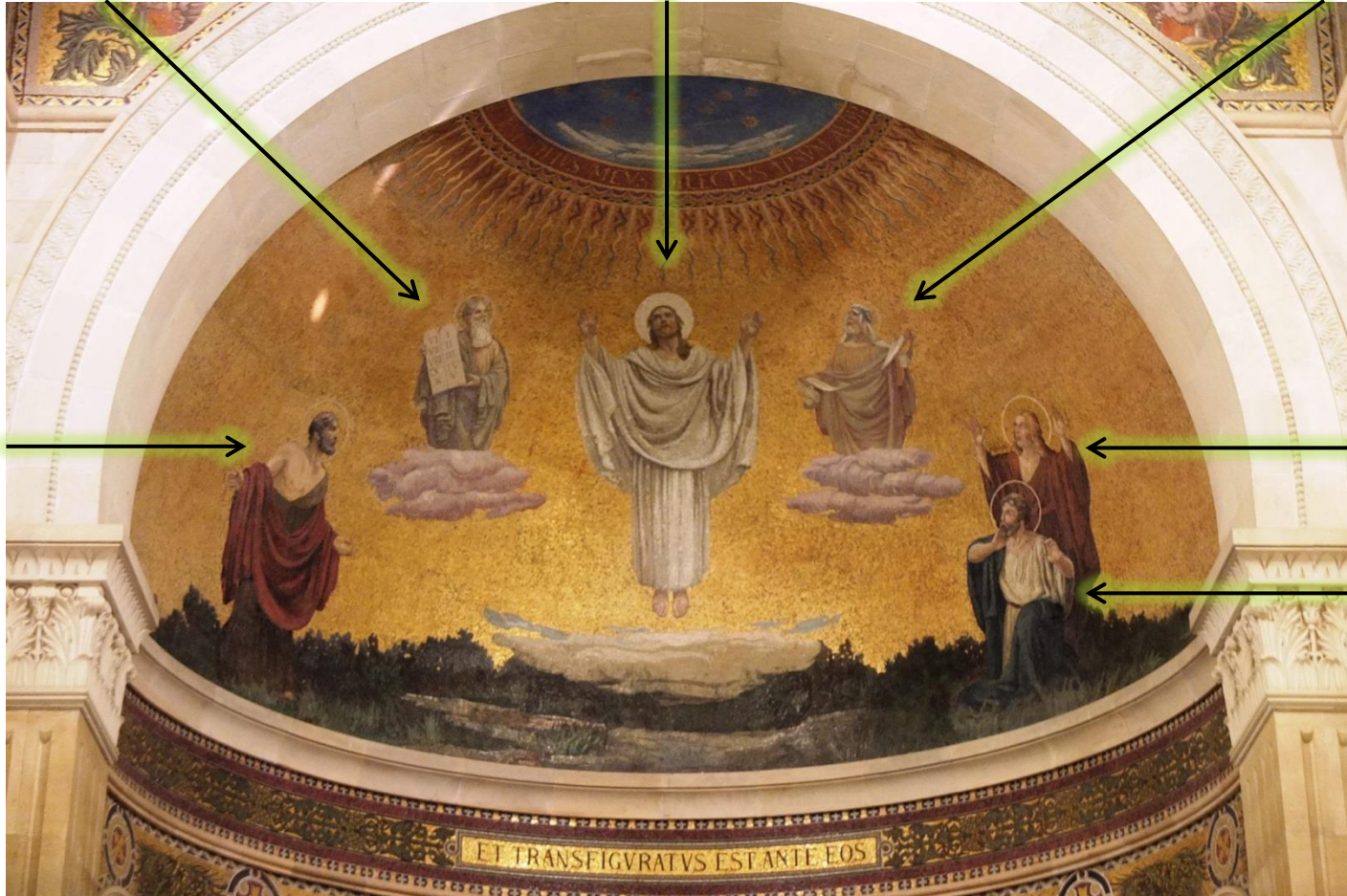
Holding the Tables of the Covenants,
representing the Law

Jesus

Hovering in the air,
representing the fulfillment of God's promise

Elijah

Holding the mantle,
representing the Prophecy



Peter

Bare shoulder

John

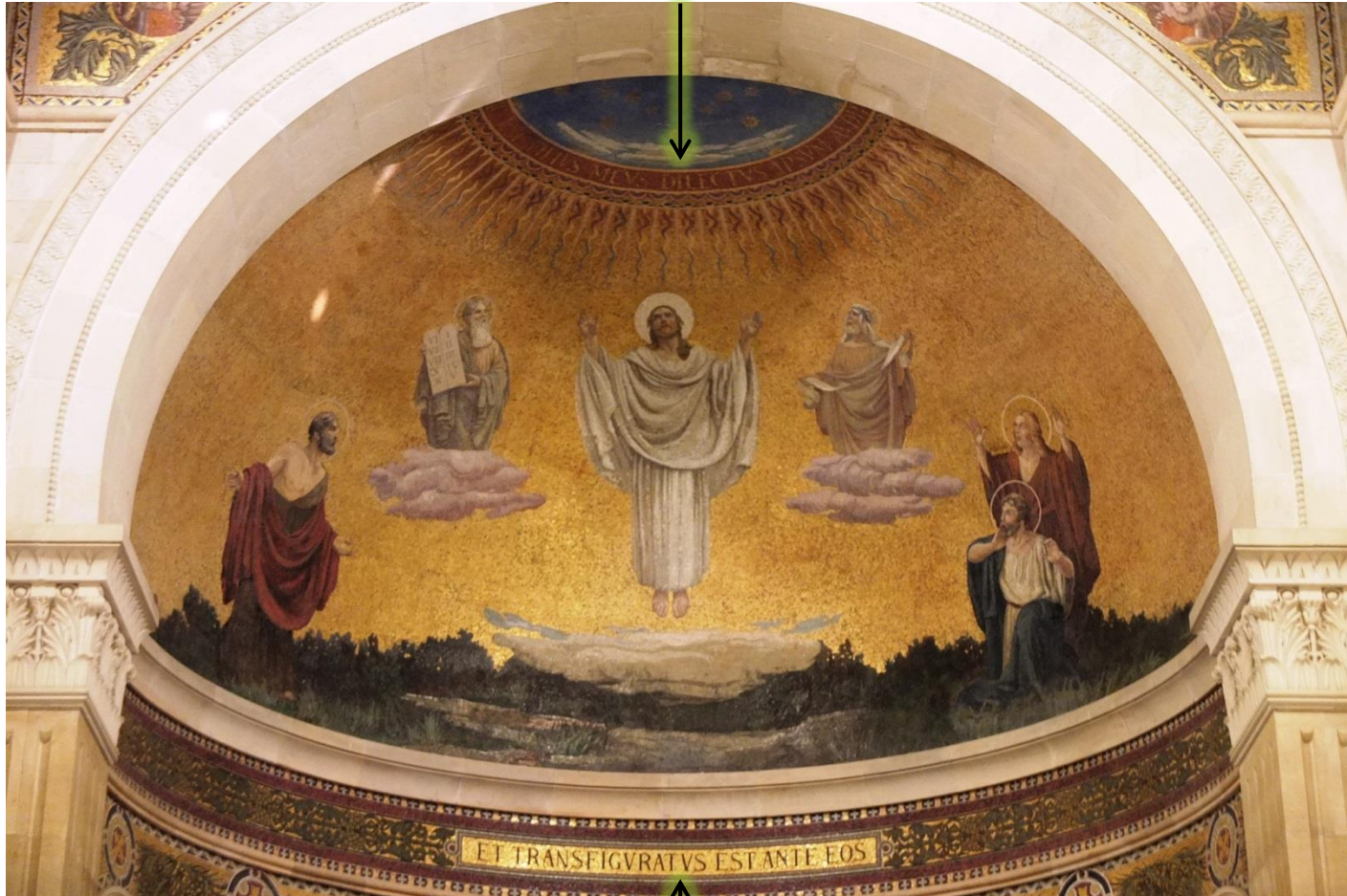
Son of Zebedee

James

Son of Zebedee

Entrance Level – Apse, Dome Mosaic

This is my Son...listen to him (Matthew 17, 5)



And he was transfigured before them (Matthew 17, 2)

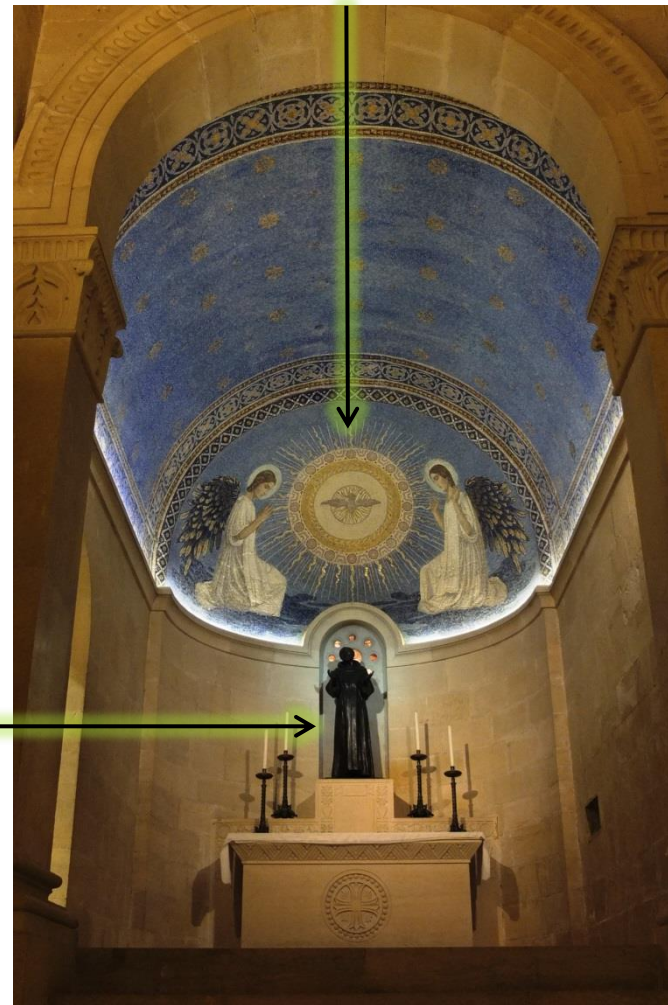
Entrance Level – Apsidioles

Triangle with an eye inside
God the Father



Northern apsidiole

Dove
Holy Spirit



Southern apsidiole

Mary

St. Francis of Assisi

Crypt Level – Eastward View

Painted icon
For Orthodox pilgrims

Ancient apse
Remains from the Crusaders' church

Altar
Built of 12 unhewn stones



Crypt Level – Eastern Wall

LORD, it is good for us to be here (Matthew 17, 4)

Triangle
God the Father



Chalice
The wine

Peacocks
Immortality

Decorated window

Crypt Level – Panoramic View



From Nativity to Resurrection

In each of the four wall-painted scenes the three angels are hovering in the air, while the hands-gesture of the central angel is different

Crypt Level – Northern Wall

The angel opens his hands
to welcome the newborn



Jesus in the manger,
holding the
Cross-bearing orb

A son is given to us
(Isaiah 9, 6)

Nativity of Jesus

Crypt Level – Northern Wall

The angel holds
the Bread and Wine



Vine and Wheat

I am the bread of life
(John 6,48)

The Bread and Wine

Crypt Level – Southern Wall

The angel holds his hands
in a praying gesture



Slaughtered lamb →

*I was dead, and see,
I am alive
(Revelation 1,18)* →

The Agnus Dei

Crypt Level – Southern Wall

The angel holds his hands
in an acceptance gesture



Empty sarcophagus

*He has been raised,
he is not here
(Mark 16, 6)*

Resurrection of Jesus

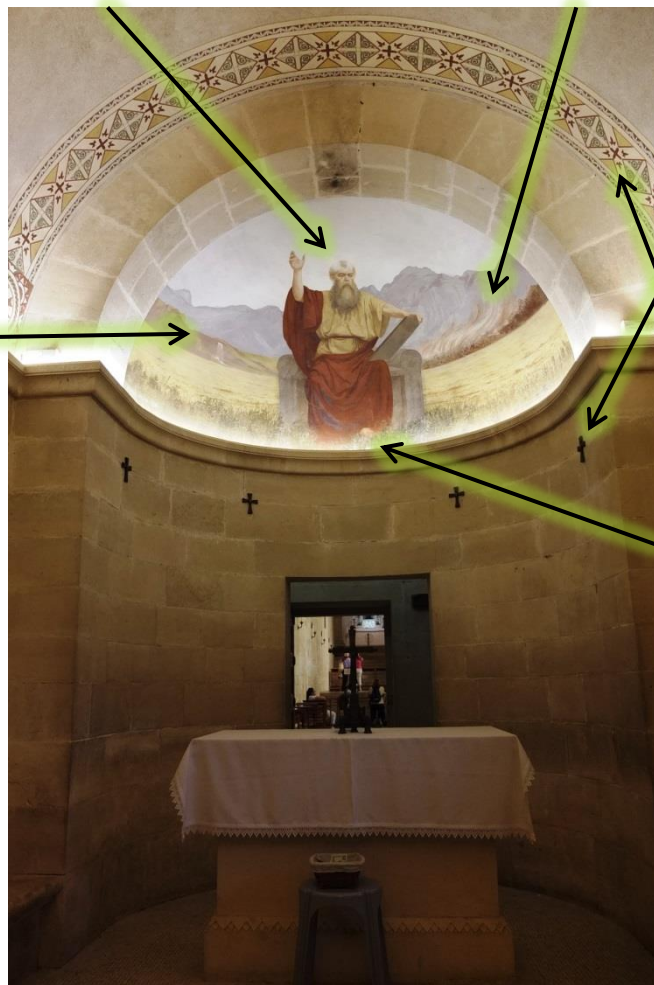
Entrance Level – Moses' Chapel

Moses

Holding the Tables of the Covenants

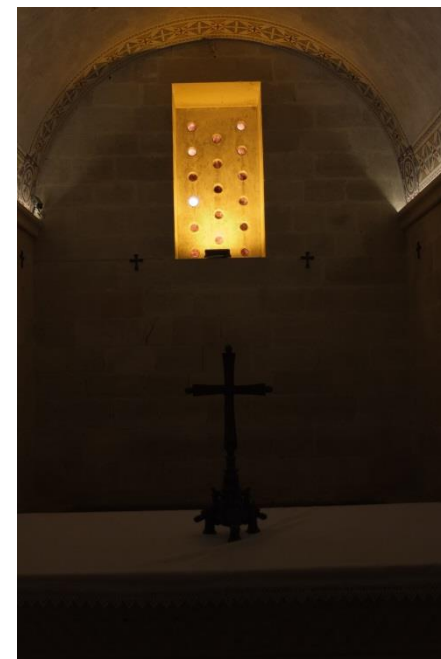
The burning bush

Water coming
out of the rock



Way of the Cross
14 Stations

Moses is
barefoot



Window with alabaster-filled slits

Entrance Level – Elijah's Chapel

Elijah prays to the LORD

Answer me, O LORD, answer me (I Kings 18, 37)



The fire of the LORD
on Elijah's altar

No fire
on Baal's altar

Elijah's altar built of 12 stones

Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob (I Kings 18, 31)

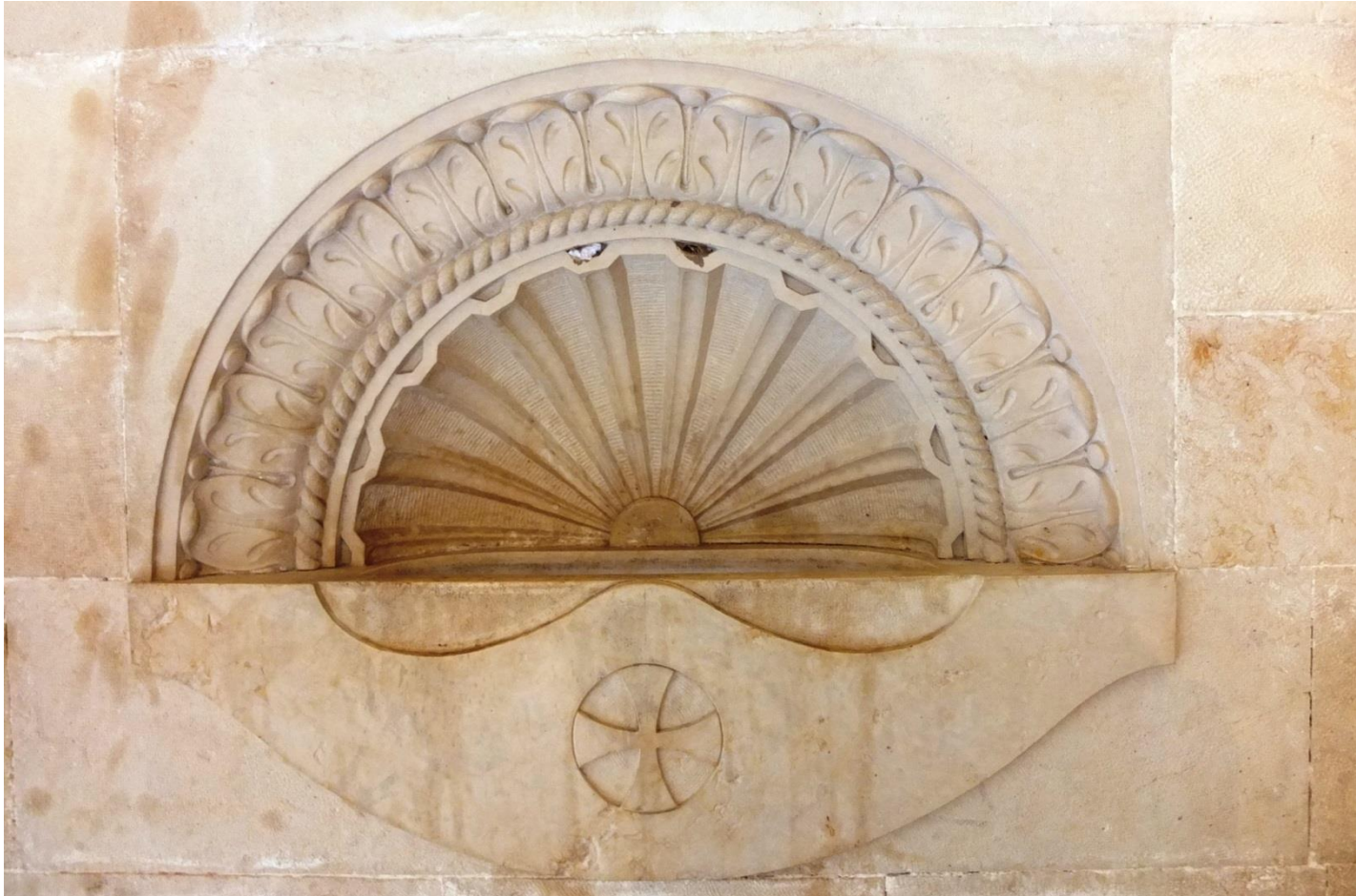
Jesus' stigmata

St. Francis' stigmata



Franciscan Order Coat of Arms

Entrance Level – Western Wall



Stoup

Mount Tabor Silhouette*

* Unique in its half-dome shape, Mount Tabor can be seen from many sites in the North of the country

The Famous Silhouette



View from Issachar Heights (South-East)



View from Golan Heights (East)



View from Mount Precipice (West)



View from Horns of Hattin (North)

The Famous Silhouette

Basilica of Transfiguration



Bird's eye view (looking Eastward)

The Famous Silhouette

