

For wisdom is the radiance of the light,  
the mirror without flaw of the majesty of God  
and the image of his goodness.

Wisdom 7:26

**COVER:** The Vatican Cross. Given to the Vatican Basilica by the emperor Justin II in 578, it is the oldest art object in the Treasury. In the center is preserved a fragment of the True Cross. This gold, gem-encrusted reliquary may, to some degree, reflect the opulence of the Measuring Cross made for Justinian the Great, Justin's uncle.

Photo by D. Crispino