



**The Crozier Head in the medieval ecclesiastical tradition 19th century  
£4,750.00**

Decorative Silver Crozier head inspired by medieval European ecclesiastical art, featuring an ornate throne scene with crowned Madonna and Child motif, floral border, engraved shaft, and parcel gilt accents.

The Met's related 13th-century example describes a similar throne scene as "Christ in Majesty and Throne of Wisdom."

The throne image also connects to King Solomon's throne, famous in the Bible for wisdom and justice.

Medieval theologians saw Mary as the new Seat of Wisdom, because she carried Christ.

The central throne scene depicts the crowned Madonna and Child in the medieval "Throne of Wisdom" tradition, symbolizing the Virgin Mary as the Queen of Heaven and sacred seat of divine wisdom.

This iconic Romanesque motif was widely used on ecclesiastical crozier heads during the 12th–13th centuries.

Medieval theologians saw Mary as the new Seat of Wisdom, because she carried Christ, who is the Wisdom of God made human.

Mary becomes the throne from which divine wisdom enters the world.

Origin: Lower Saxony or Westphalia

Date: 19th century

Provenance & Historical Context

This remarkable crozier head in the medieval ecclesiastical tradition draws inspiration from the ceremonial staffs carried by bishops and abbots throughout the 12th–13th century Europe. Its form follows the classic shepherd's crook shape, symbolizing spiritual guidance, authority, and pastoral care within the Christian Church.

At the center is a beautifully embossed Throne of Wisdom scene, depicting the crowned Madonna and Child enthroned—one of the most revered motifs in Romanesque sacred art. In medieval theology, the Virgin Mary was understood as the Seat of Wisdom (*Sedes Sapientiae*), bearing Christ, who represented divine wisdom and kingship.

Comparable crozier heads from this period are preserved in major museum collections, including examples in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where related works are dated to the late 12th to early 13th century.

This piece echoes the same iconographic tradition through its circular crook, floral border, engraved shaft, and parcel gilt accents.

Measurements:

Length: 35,5 cm

Width: 4.5 cm

Total Weight: 564 grams

<b>Origin</b>	European Other
<b>Period</b>	Early 1900s
<b>Condition</b>	Excellent
<b>Dimensions</b>	Length: 35,5 cm Width: 4.5 cm