

As Good as New

I thought I had ruined a delicate, expensive, and important fabric. I prayed to Dora while trying everything I could to repair the damage - and voila! It's as good as new!

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In February or March of last year, I was teaching a student how to take care of liturgical linens at a university residence. We were in the laundry and an item fell off the tray onto the floor, inside a narrow space between a counter and a washing

machine. It was a ciborium veil of pure silk that had been made with great skill and love by a volunteer. When I picked it up, it had large blotches of orange grease on it, most likely machine grease from the washer. We were both horrified.

Aware of the possible irreparable damage caused to the veil, I suggested we pray to Dora for help. The student, who had seen a video about Dora's life only days before, exclaimed: "Yes, if there is anyone who will know how to remove those stains, it's her!"

I attempted melting the grease out of the silk fabric with an iron, to no avail. I then began looking at all our laundry products. All of them cautioned, on their labels, not to use them on silk. It was becoming obvious that the veil would either become of no use or that Dora would have to intervene.

Realizing I had nothing to lose, I decided to try scrubbing the veil with a coarse household stain-removal soap bar that had given good results with other fabrics. I attacked every stain with vigor, invoking Dora the whole time. After letting the soap act for a few minutes, I rinsed the veil, expecting the stains to be still noticeable and the silk to be so damaged by the soap that it would no longer be of any use for Our Lord.

To my surprise, upon rinsing, I found the veil looked exactly like it was before it was dropped. Not a single grease stain or soap mark was visible. I lay it to dry, asking Dora to make sure the stains would not reappear once the dampness had gone and to keep the silk in good condition. Once dry and ironed, the veil looked like nothing had happened to it!

This ciborium veil is still in excellent condition and in regular use in the Residence's tabernacle. Thank you Dora!

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