TREE OF FAITH

Description

I started to build the Tree of Faith when Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the Year of Faith. I was inspired by a maple trunk with four nodes in the shape of a cross.
The flame of Faith that comes from Jesus is formed from a strain (partly burned) of olive wood that was found on the banks of river Arno (in Tuscany). To convey cred I based my work on drawings by Lorenzo Ferri who painted them in collaboration with the mystic Maria Valtorta.

MAIN ELEMENTS

Structure and elements at the base of the Tree.

The base of the Tree of Faith is burl and olive wood. From the base point there are three pillars, as in the symbol of the Trinity. The three columns support the vine and the remaining parts. At the centre of the vine are set the faces of the three Wise Men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar who were the first to set out to look for the Messiah. Above the Kings, the rotating hemisphere symbolizes the world and the passing time.

Over the surface of maple.

Above the hemisphere (maple wood) there is another maple trunk (oak lined) with the carved faces of the twelve Apostles. This 90-year-old wood (maple trunk rings) exhibits on its surface four nodes in the shape of a cross.

Statuines

I decided to give the common name of ‘statuines’ to indicate faces and statues of the Tree of Faith. The main character is Jesus Christ the Messiah, placed at the center of the cross formed by the nodes on the trunk of the maple.
Now I am working on building the scene of the Adoration of the Shepherds (according to Maria Valtorta) scale of 1:10 (olive wood).

Flame of Faith that flows from Jesus.

The flame of Faith is made by a strain burnt olive wood that I partly covered with gold leaves (similar).