


2012

## Six Crosses

Michael C. Vocino

*University of Rhode Island*, [vocino@uri.edu](mailto:vocino@uri.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/lib\\_ts\\_pubs](http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/lib_ts_pubs)

 Part of the [Ethnic Studies Commons](#), [Fiction Commons](#), [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons](#), and the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Citation/Publisher Attribution

Vocino, Michael C., "Six Crosses" (2012). *Technical Services Department Faculty Publications*. Paper 46.  
[http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/lib\\_ts\\_pubs/46](http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/lib_ts_pubs/46)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Technical Services at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Technical Services Department Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu).

# SIX CROSSES

by michael vocino

There is a balcony across from me in Via Palestro in Sannicandro Garganico in Foggia, Italy. Next to the balcony door, there are six wooden crosses, all alike. They are small. They have been painted over a number of times and they are hard to see. No one seems to know what the significance of the crosses are, but evidently at one time, the local church used Via Palestro as a section to reenact the Way of the Cross. Each time the procession of the about to be crucified Jesus passed the house, the devout “padrone” or the owner of the house, attached a cross in remembrance.

I never would have noticed them unless I had developed the habit of sitting on the stoop across and just below them. At first the sun was in my eyes, but later in the day I checked further, and yes, they were six crosses, randomly placed. Interesting. This house, which no one knows when built, has seen Jesus and his retinue pass by at least the six times while this devout person was watching. The road is narrow with huge granite stones in odd shapes and sizes. I ask everyone who put the crosses there.

One fellow said a priest lived there for a short time. A younger woman, known for being outspoken, said “Yes, a priest lived there and each cross probably marks a person he sexually attacked.”

Everyone in the via laughed, and she walked away shaking her head and saying, “E’ vero!” or, in English, “It’s true!”

© michael vocino  
January 2012