

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN OF DORRÓN



St John the Evangelist

It was built between 1764 and 1775 in Baroque style on the remains of a previous temple, believed to be Romanesque but without documentary evidence. Stones from that temple have been reused on the walls and eaves of this nave, the sacristy and the lintel on the sacristy door (possibly an old baldachin).

The rectangular floor plan is divided into two sections, one with a barrel vault with buttresses on the outside and the other with a groin vault, to which the sacristy is attached. Its simple façade features a belfry with two bells, and two pinnacles on the upper ends of the wall.

Inside, a rich baroque altarpiece from 1775 stands out. Dedicated to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, it is located on the north wall and situated between two transept arches of the lateral ribbed vault. There is also an old pre-Romanesque baptismal font.



The Parish of Dorrón

Area: 5,6 Km²
Population: 1.371 inhabitants (2022)

The place name "Dorrón" comes from the Greek "Dorris" which means "gift of the gods." It can mean "next to the tower" (dorre-on) in reference to an old keep of which there are no remains.

There are over 3.770 parishes in Galicia (666 in the province of Pontevedra) of which 236 have St John as their patron saint, St John the Evangelist in this parish. In the ranking of most frequent dedications, St John occupies fifth place in Galicia, with Saint Mary in first place.

The parish of St John of Dorrón has thirteen rural communities: A Costa, A Granxa, A Torre, Areas, Barreiro, Casal,

Freixeiro, Magaláns, O Castro, O Outeiro, Recarei, Reguengo and Rodeiras.

Near the parish church is the Pazo de Bermúdez da Maza (Pazo: typical Galician Manor House). It belonged to the Aldao family, descendants of the Suebian kings Teodosio and Aramiro, and later to the Manor Preserve of Dorrón, whose descendants still own it.

Other ethnographic and heritage elements of this parish are its water mills (A Costa, De Felipe, Quintás, Barreiro) that we can see scattered along the Route of the Pintillón or Dorrón River.



Lintel of the sacristy door (possibly a baldachin): In the center we see a Virgin with Child; On both sides, two male figures in large robes in a praying position. Between the figures, two fleurs de lis.

In the Altarpiece of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, located on the north wall of the nave, you can see twenty-five heads of angels and two angels on a cornice, in a sitting position. In the centre of the altarpiece is the niche with the image of Our Lady accompanied by St Ramon (1), St Barbara (2), St Blaise (3) and St Lucia (4). On the stone at the top we can see some mural paintings that are an architectural complement to the altarpiece.

Stone with a three-lobed arch reused in the sacristy, possibly pre-Romanesque.

Pre-Romanesque baptismal font.

In the centre of the main altarpiece of the presbytery we can see the image of St John the Evangelist along with the eagle that symbolizes him; He is accompanied by St Roque (right), St Anthony (left) and, above the Tabernacle, with a small image of the Immaculate Conception.

