



19TH CENTURY FRENCH GREEN ONYX AND CLOISONNÉ ENAMEL HOLY WATER FONT CROSS

\$900

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This exceptional French wall-mounted holy water font was crafted circa 1870 and showcases the luxurious artistry of cloisonné enamel combined with richly veined green onyx and finely cast bronze. The large cross-shaped form is set on a gleaming green marble (onyx) base, overlaid with elaborate cloisonné decoration in a vibrant palette of crimson, turquoise, sky blue, and ivory. At the center, an ornate "IHS" Christogram reinforces the devotional nature of the piece. Executed using the ancient cloisonné technique, where enamel, glass, or gemstones are inlaid within compartments formed by delicate metal strips, the decoration reflects the intricate craftsmanship and opulent materials favored during the Second Empire period. The holy water font at the base is equally ornate, featuring hinged access, a gilt interior, and multi-colored enamel in floriate and geometric motifs. The reverse is finished in solid brass and includes a sturdy hanging ring for wall display. Measuring 13.75 inches high by 8 inches wide and 2.25 inches deep, this sacred object remains in excellent condition, with light wear consistent with age. A striking example of 19th-century French ecclesiastical art, ideal for collectors, devotional spaces, or as a refined spiritual accent in any interior.