

*Pax table (?)* (inv. 00183)

Author: Anonymous (Indo-Portuguese)

Place: Goa

Period: 17<sup>th</sup> century

Material: ivory

Measurements: 10,4 x 5,5 x 0,5 cm

Origin: purchased by Jean van Caloen

Description: The image, probably a pax table, has a profiled frame, the top in an interrupted segmental arch shape. The lower part shows a ship on the sea. The mast of the vessel has been replaced by the cross. Before it, on a cloud stands the nude Infant Christ with nimbus. In his right hand he holds the globe, a reference as *Salvator Mundi* (savior of the world) while with his left hand he holds the sail of the ship. That sail is decorated with the five wounds of the cross (heart, both hands and both feet). Against the cross we recognize two *Arma Christi*, namely the ladder and the stick with sponge. Above this scene, God, with nimbus, and holding the globe in his left hand, looks at the Infant.

Exhibition:

Bibliography: Kervyn de Volkaersbeke, B., *A Mechelen doll representing Blessing Infant Christ. A new addition to the collection of Loppem Castle in dialogue with other figurines of Infant Christ, Newsletter Loppem Castle, 2023*

