



SHRINE TO VENUS

At this small shrine of Roman Venus (Greek Aphrodite), visitors may honor the goddess and seek her help at important moments in their lives, as Greeks and Romans did.



Relief with Aphrodite and Worshippers, Greek, 400-300 BC
Marble, 18 3/8–19 1/8 in. high x 23 1/4–24 1/2 in. wide. Soprintendenza
Speciale per i Beni Archeologici di Napoli e Pompei. Museo Archeologico
Nazionale di Napoli. Image © www.pedicinimages.com

Venus's influence extended far beyond love and passion. As Caesar's ancestor, she protected the Roman people, ensuring victory, maintaining peace, and encouraging social and political harmony. In the natural realms, Venus promoted fertility and abundance on land and safe travel by sea.

Venus grants respectful wishes. A Roman prayer is like a formal letter asking for help:

- Greet the goddess by name
- Describe her beauty and abilities
- Make a sincere request
- If you like, promise her a gift (due if she grants your wish)
- State your name so she will know who needs her

We invite you to post your prayer behind her statue.