

standard of St Mark was then hoisted on the fortress of Famagusta.

The memory of the event is preserved in an inscription engraved on a stone in the wall behind the altar of the Cathedral Church of Famagusta. Although this became a mosque the stone remained there until the year 1736, when the building was injured by an earthquake. In the restoration the stone was removed, but may still be seen on the ground in a room near the choir, which is now disused, but contains many other bits of marble, heaped pell mell, fragments of tombstones which formerly lay on the floor of the church. Here is the inscription. Note that the year is given in the old style, 1488.

FRANCISCO DE PRIOLIS VENETAE CLASSI
IMPERANTE DIVI MARCI VEXILLUM
CYPRI FELICITER ERECTUM EST

AN. MCCCCLXXXVIII. XXVIII. FEBRVAR.

Francesco de' Priuli being in command of the Venetian fleet, the standard of St Mark was happily raised in Cyprus, February 28, 1488.

Queen Catharine left Cyprus on May 14, and after a prosperous voyage reached Venice May 31. She was conducted to St Mark's, and there confirmed her resignation of the kingdom. The ratification of her act was sent to Cyprus, where on July 20, 1489, the banner of St Mark was hoisted in all the fortresses, cities and villages of the island. From this date is reckoned the establishment of the sovereignty of Venice in Cyprus.