



International Exhibition

THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD



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International Exhibition

MIRACLES OF THE EUCHARIST ACROSS THE WORLD

What is a Miracle of the Eucharist?

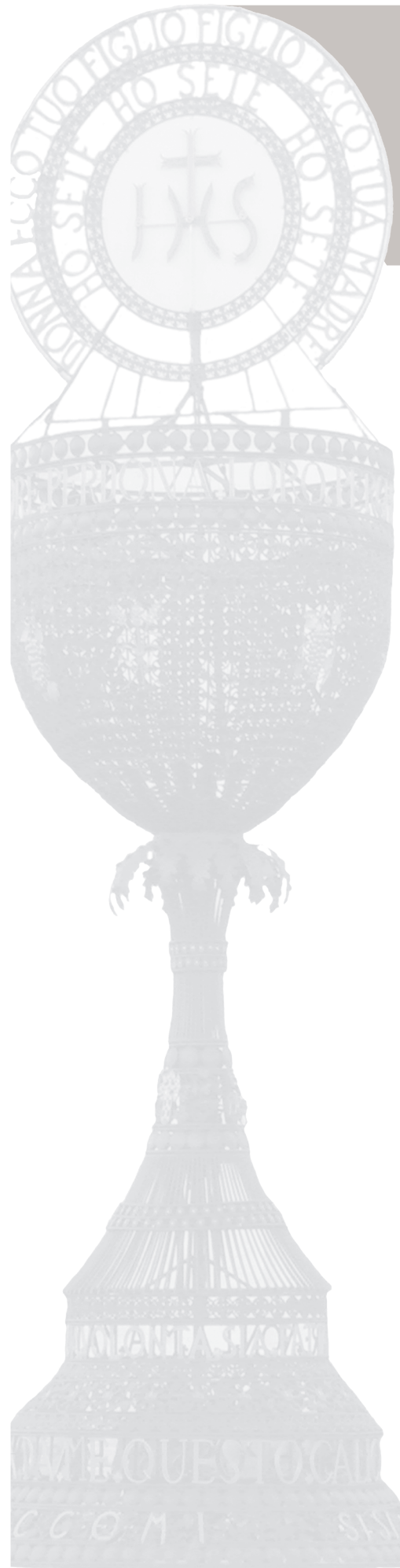
Miracles of the Eucharist are miraculous divine interventions that are aimed at confirming faith in the real presence of the body and blood of the Lord in the Eucharist. We are familiar with the Catholic doctrine relating to this real presence; with the Words of Consecration, “*this is my body*” and “*this is my blood*,” the substance of the bread becomes the body of Christ and the substance of the wine becomes his blood. This awe-inspiring change is known as transubstantiation, in other words, the transition of the substance. Only the appearances, or species, of the bread and wine remain; these are known by the philosophical term “*accidents*”. The dimensions, colour, flavour and odour remain, as do the nutrients, but the substance, or rather the true reality, does not remain because it has become the body and blood of Christ. Transubstantiation can in no way be experienced by the senses; faith alone makes certain of this miraculous change.

Miracles of the Eucharist are intended to confirm this faith, which is based on the words of Christ, according to which what seems like bread is no longer bread, and what seems like wine is no longer wine. Flesh and blood, or one or the other, appear in Miracles of the Eucharist, depending on the case. The aim of miracles such as these is to demonstrate that we should not look at external appearances (*bread and wine*), but at the substance, at the true reality of things, which is flesh and blood. Medieval theologians scrutinised the issue of Miracles of the Eucharist (*which were very common at that time*), and interpreted them in a variety of different ways. The most well-founded and reasoned of these seems to be that of the supreme “*Doctor of the Eucharist*” Saint Thomas Aquinas (*cf. Summa theologiae III, q. 76, a. 8*). He says that the body and

blood that appear after the miracle are a result of the transformation of the Eucharistic species, or rather of the accidents, and that they do not affect the real substance of the body and blood of Christ. The species of the bread and wine are miraculously changed into species of flesh and blood, but the real body and real blood of Christ are not those that appear. They are those that, even before the miracle, were hidden beneath the species of the bread and wine, and continue to exist hidden beneath the species of the flesh and blood. If, in fact, the flesh and blood that appear were really the flesh and blood of Christ, we would have to say that the risen Christ, who reigns at God's right hand, loses a part of his flesh and blood. We must therefore say that the flesh and blood that appear in the miracles are a type of species, appearance or accident, no more and no less than the species of the bread and wine. The Lord carries out these miracles to give a sign that is easy and visible to all, that the real body and blood of Christ are present in the Eucharist. But this real body and this real blood are not those that appear, rather they are substantially contained beneath the species or appearances, species or appearances that were those of the bread and wine before the miracle, and after the miracle are those of flesh and blood. Christ is truly and substantially contained beneath the appearances of flesh and blood, just as he was before the miracle. This is why we can worship Christ in his real presence beneath the species of the flesh and blood.

Father Roberto Coggi O.





International Exhibition

MIRACLES OF THE EUCHARIST

ACROSS THE WORLD

DEvised AND PLANNED BY CARLO ACUTIS
BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS

(London, 3 May 1991 — Milan, 11 October 2006)

*“My life plan is to always be connected to Jesus”. With these few words, Carlo Acutis, who died of leukaemia when he was only fifteen years old, outlined the distinctive feature of his brief existence: living with Jesus, for Jesus and in Jesus”. To quote Carlo’s own words: **“Our destination must be what is infinite, not what is finite. Infinity is our homeland. We have been expected in Heaven since time immemorial”**. He also said: *“All are born with their own originality, but many die as photocopies”*.*

To move towards this destination and to not “die as photocopies”, Carlo said that our compass must be the Word of God, against which we must constantly measure ourselves. Extremely special means are required to reach such a lofty destination: the sacraments and prayer. In particular, Carlo placed the Sacrament of the Eucharist at the heart of his own life, which he called “**my highway to heaven**”. After receiving his first communion at the age of seven, Carlo did not miss daily attendance at mass or reciting the rosary. He would always try to practise Eucharistic Devotion, convinced that “**by standing before the Eucharistic Christ, we become holy**”. Carlo would often ask himself why we see mile-long queues of people waiting for hours to go to a rock concert or a film, but we never see the same queues in front of the Eucharistic Christ. He would say that people do not realise what they are missing, otherwise churches would be so full that you would not be able to get into them. In the Blessed Sacrament — he would repeat passionately — Christ is present in the same way he was 2000 years ago in the time of the Apostles; that

back then, people had to travel constantly to see him, while we are much luckier today because we can find him in any church close to our homes. In his words, “***Jerusalem is right on our doorstep***’. From his days as a good catechist onwards, he would try his best to find new ways to help others to strengthen their own faith. For this reason, he left us his exhibitions as a legacy, among which the Miracles of the Eucharist stand out. In 2002, while visiting the Meeting Rimini exhibition, Carlo decided to stage an exhibition on the Miracles of the Eucharist recognised by the Church. This demanding work also involved his family for almost two and a half years. The spiritual effects brought about by this exhibition could not have been predicted before it opened. We can confirm that the exhibition has now been hosted on all five continents. Many parishes also asked that the material be collected in a catalogue, which was accompanied by an eminent preface written by Card. Angelo Comastri, Archpriest of the Papal Basilica of the Vatican and Vicar General to his Holiness for the Vatican City, and by His Excellency Mons. Raffaello Martinelli, then Head of the Catechetical Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. From that moment on, if we may say so given the results, the exhibition “has performed miracles”. In the United States alone, thanks to assistance from the Knights of Columbus, The Cardinal Newman Society and The Real Presence Association and Education, with the support of Card. Edmond Burke, it has been hosted in thousands of parishes and more than 100 universities. It has also been promoted by several Episcopal Conferences, including those of the Philippines, Argentina and Vietnam, etc. It has even travelled to China and Indonesia. Important basilicas and sanctuaries have hosted Carlo’s exhibition, including the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima on the occasion of the centenary of Francisco Marto.

It is possible to take a virtual visit of the sites where these miracles took place and download the panels at **www.carloacutis.com** and **www.miracolieucaristici.org**. [he exhibition is free and can be requested by sending an email to: info@carloacutis.com

Or by writing to:

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1. (*His Excellency Card. Angelo Comastri, Preface to N. Gori, Carlo Acutis, Un giovane per i giovani*)

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

LANCIANO

ITALY, 750 A.D

An inscription in marble from the 17th century describes this Eucharistic miracle which occurred at Lanciano in 750 at the Church of St. Francis. “A monastic priest doubted whether the Body of Our Lord was truly present in the consecrated Host. He celebrated Mass and when he said the words of consecration, he saw the Host turn into Flesh and the Wine turn into Blood. Everything was visible to those in attendance. The Flesh is still intact and the Blood is divided into five unequal parts which together have the exact same weight as each one does separately.

In 1970, the Archbishop of Lanciano and the Provincial Superior of the Conventual Franciscans at Abruzzo, with Rome’s approval, requested Dr. Edward Linoli, director of the hospital in Arezzo and professor of anatomy, histology, chemistry, and clinical microscopy, to perform a thorough scientific examination on the relics of the miracle which had occurred twelve centuries earlier. On March 4, 1971, the professor presented a detailed report of the various studies earlier carried out. Here are the basic results: .

1. The “*miraculous flesh*” is authentic flesh consisting of muscular striated tissue of the myocardium
2. The “miraculous Blood” is truly blood. The chromatographic analysis indicated this with absolute and indisputable certainty.
3. The immunological study shows with certitude that the flesh and the blood are human, and the immuno — hematological test allows us to affirm with complete objectivity and certitude that both belong to the same blood type AB, the same blood type as that of the man of the Shroud and the type most characteristic of Middle Eastern populations.
4. The proteins contained in the Blood have the normal distribution, in the identical percentage as that of the serum proteic chart for normal fresh blood.

5. No histological dissection has revealed any trace of salt infiltrations or preservative substances used in antiquity for the purpose of embalming.

Professor Linoli also discarded the hypothesis of a hoax carried out in past centuries. This report was published in *The Sclavo Notebooks in Diagnostics (Collection #3, 1971)* and aroused great interest in the scientific world. Also, in 1973, the chief Advisory Board of the World Health Organization appointed a scientific commission to corroborate Linoli's findings. Their work lasted 15 months and included 500 tests. It was verified that the fragments taken from Lanciano could in no way be likened to embalmed tissue. As to the nature of the fragment of Flesh, the commission declared it to be living tissue because it responded rapidly to all the clinical reactions distinctive of living beings. Their reply fully corroborated Professor Linoli's conclusions. In the extract summarizing the scientific work of the Medical Commission of the WHO and the UN, published in Dec. 1996 in New York and Geneva, declared that science, aware of its limits, has come to a halt, face to face with the impossibility of giving an explanation.



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

ONIL

SPAIN 1824

In the Eucharistic miracle of Onil, a pyx containing a consecrated Host was robbed from a parish church. Days later, a woman from the nearby town of Tibi recovered the stolen pyx with the consecrated Host inside in the middle of a green field.

Exactly 119 years later, on November 28, 1943, Don Guillermo Hijarrubia, delegate of the Archbishop of Valencia, confirmed the authenticity of the miracle, verifying the complete preservation of the Host. To this day the consecrated Host has remained intact in spite of the 182 years that have passed.

On November 5, 1824 Nicolás Bernabeu, who had been an altar boy in the church of Onil since the time he was little, stole the pyx that contained the Most Holy Sacrament and some other sacred objects from the church of Onil. The news of the sacrilegious robbery spread so quickly throughout the region that when the thief tried to sell the stolen objects to Alicante he aroused the suspicions of the businessman, who then warned the authorities. Nicolás Bernabeu was arrested, but did not want to reveal where he hid the pyx, which still contained the Blessed Sacrament. The faithful and the civil authorities looked for days all over the countryside but the stolen goods were in the nearby town of Tibi where the thief lived. A woman named Teresa Carbonell found the Hosts on November 28, 1824 in the area called “*la Pedrera*”. Immediately the woman returned the Blessed Sacrament to Onil where she was received with great celebration. Exactly 119 years later, on November 28, 1943, Don Guillermo Hijarrubia, delegate of the archbishop of Valencia, confirmed the authenticity of the miracle, verifying the complete preservation of the Host contained in the stolen pyx. To this day one can admire the miraculous Host that has remained intact for almost two centuries in the parish church of St. James the Apostle in Onil. Every year the Feast of Our Lord “*Robat*” is celebrated in memory of this Eucharistic miracle and the recovery of the Host.



Shrine of the miraculous Host



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

GUADALUPE

MEXICO 1531

The indisputable history of the Eucharist and the Incarnation of the Son of God, “*Flesh of Christ, flesh of Mary*”, says Saint Augustine. The Church “*contemplates Mary with joy in the purest image - that which she desires and hopes to be in her entirety*” (SC, 103): tabernacle, womb, pyx. The Madonna appeared in Guadalupe dressed in a gown fastened at the waist with a black belt, identical to that worn by the local women during pregnancy.

At dawn on December 9, 1531, the young Indian, Juan Diego, went up the hills of Tepeyac, in the northern outskirts of the City of Mexico, heading towards Tlatelolco, for his usual catechism lesson. Suddenly he heard a soft song and turned towards the source of this sound. He came upon a young woman wearing a shiny dress, who revealed herself to be the Virgin Mary. The Madonna begged Juan Diego to ask the bishop of the capital city to build a temple in the place where she appeared so that all can come to honor her son Jesus. Juan Diego obeyed, but the Bishop Juan de Zumárraga did not believe him and asked him to ask Mary for a sign. When the Virgin appeared the third time to Juan Diego, she promised to give him a sign the following day. On Monday however he did not go to his appointment because his uncle fell gravely ill, so much so that he needed to receive the Last Rites.

The next day, Juan Diego went out very early directly to Tlatelolco, where he wanted to look for a priest for his uncle. He decided to avoid the hills of Tepeyac, so he would not encounter Our Lady, but she met him during his walk. He then confided in her about his pain and she asked him to have faith in her and announced the cure of his uncle. Then she asked him to go to the top of the hill and collect and bring her any flowers that he could find. Juan Diego went to the place she told him and found it covered with marvelous roses and other flowers, unusual for the winter season and the arid nature of the land. He picked them and put them in his tilma, a typical apron worn by the

Aztec farmers, and he took them to the Virgin who told him to take the flowers to the bishop as proof of the apparition. The man did as he was asked and went to Mexico City where, after a long wait, he was seen by the prelate. He showed him the tilma and when he spread it out the roses and other flowers fell and on it appeared a blazing image of the Madonna. The Bishop fell to his knees before this miracle. He marveled, and repenting he asked the Virgin to forgive him for his defiance. Then he took the tilma and put it in a chapel. The next day Juan Diego returned home anxious to see his uncle, who he had left in grave condition. Juan Diego found his uncle completely recovered and he told him about the Madonna and how she appeared to him the day before presenting herself as the Holy Mary of Guadalupe, announcing he would be cured.

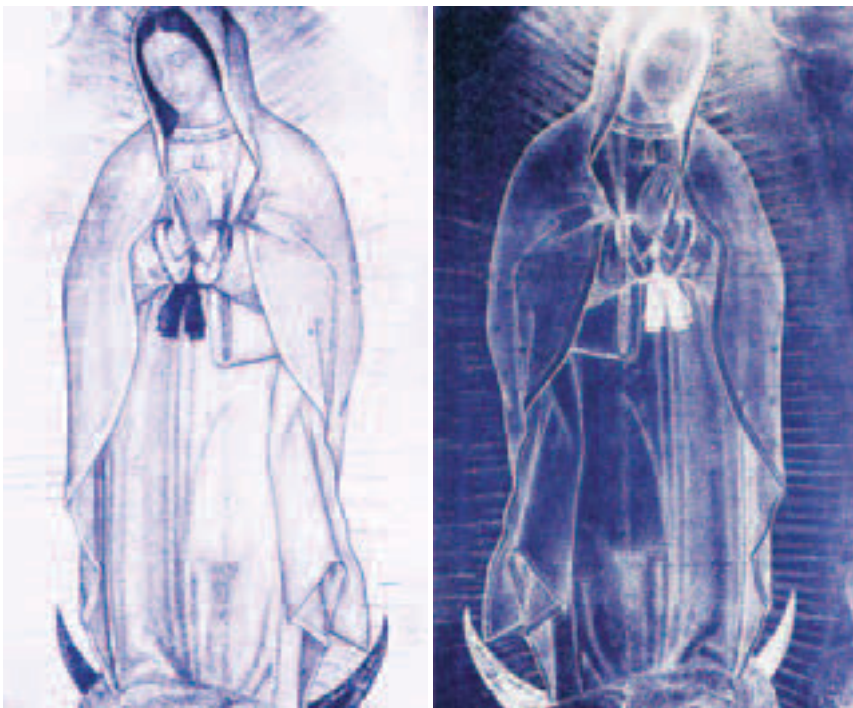


Image of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Like the Shroud of Turin, it is an image created not by the human hand, as scientists J.B. Smith and P.S. Callahan have demonstrated through the analysis of the infrared x-rays. Their conclusion is as follows: "The results of the image of Guadalupe are inexplicable".



On May 6, 1999 Pope John Paul II before the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe during a pilgrimage

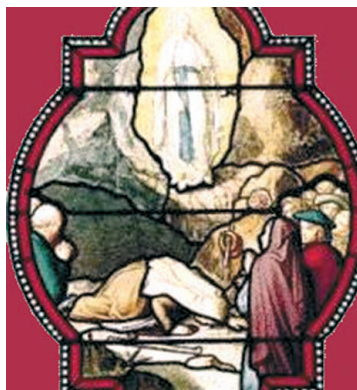
Eucharistic Miracles of The World

LOURDES

FRANCE, 1888

In 1888, a French priest of the National Pilgrimage proposed the creation of a procession with the Blessed Sacrament in Lourdes; a miraculous healing was then realized. Since then the sick make pilgrimages to Lourdes, are blessed by the Holy Sacrament and countless have been cured of illnesses during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The Sanctuary of Lourdes is a clear example of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

On August 22, 1888, at 4:00pm, the first procession with the final blessing of the sick with the Blessed Sacrament took place in Lourdes. It was a priest who first proposed this pious initiative and since then it has never ceased. On this date, when the sick were blessed with the Blessed Sacrament before the grotto of the apparitions, Pietro Delanoy, who suffered from ataxia (an inability to coordinate voluntary muscular movements that is symptomatic of some nervous disorders which inevitably leads to death) for many years, was instantly cured when the tabernacle passed by during the procession. That was the first Eucharistic miracle that took place in Lourdes. From that very date, the Eucharistic procession for the sick has taken place without interruption.



Sanctuary of Lourdes

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

MONTSERRAT

SPAIN, 1657

The Eucharistic miracle of Montserrat brings us to reflect on the reality of purgatory and reminds us that every Mass has an infinite value because it makes the unique sacrifice of Christ suffering on Calvary present in our minds. This Eucharistic prodigy is reported by the Benedictine priest R.P. Francio de Paula Crusellas, in his text, *New History of the Sanctuary and Monastery of Our Lady of Montserrat*.

In 1657, the Most Reverend Father Don Bernardo de Ontevieros, General of the Benedictine order in Spain, and Abbot Don Millán de Mirando, arrived at the Monastery of Our Lady of Montserrat in order to participate in some conferences. During one of the conferences, a woman and her young daughter showed up and the daughter began to beg the Abbot Millán de Mirando to celebrate three Masses in memory of her deceased father, whole-heartedly convinced that with these Masses the soul of her father would be freed from the pains of purgatory. The good abbot, moved to tears by the girl, began to celebrate the first Mass of suffering the next day, and the girl, who was present with her mother, confirmed seeing her father kneeling, surrounded by frightening flames at the step of the main altar during the consecration. The priest and General, dubious, asked the girl to put a tissue close to the flames that surrounded her father in order to verify her story. Following their request, the girl put the tissue into the fire, which only she could see, and the tissue began to burn with a lively flame. During the second Mass the girl confirmed having seen her father dressed in a vibrantly colored suit standing next to the deacon. At the third Mass, the father appeared to his daughter dressed in a snow-white suit. As soon as the Mass ended the girl exclaimed, “There is my father going away and rising into the sky!” The girl then thanked the community of monks on behalf of her father as he had asked her to do. The Most Reverend General of the Benedictine order in Spain, the Bishop of Astorga, and numerous citizens of the town were present.



The miraculous Madonna of Montserrat



Sanctuary of the Madonna of Montserrat



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

THE ANGEL OF PEACE

PORTUGAL, 1916

The angel appeared three times to the shepherds of Fatima in order to prepare them for future apparitions of Our Lady and elevate them with Communion to a supernatural state. During the third apparition the angel gave Lucy Communion with a Host that dripped a drop of blood into the chalice. Francesco and Jacinta, having not yet made their First Holy Communion, were offered the content of the chalice. In this apparition the angel told them: *“Eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ terribly outraged by the ingratitude of men. Offer reparation for their sakes console your God”*.

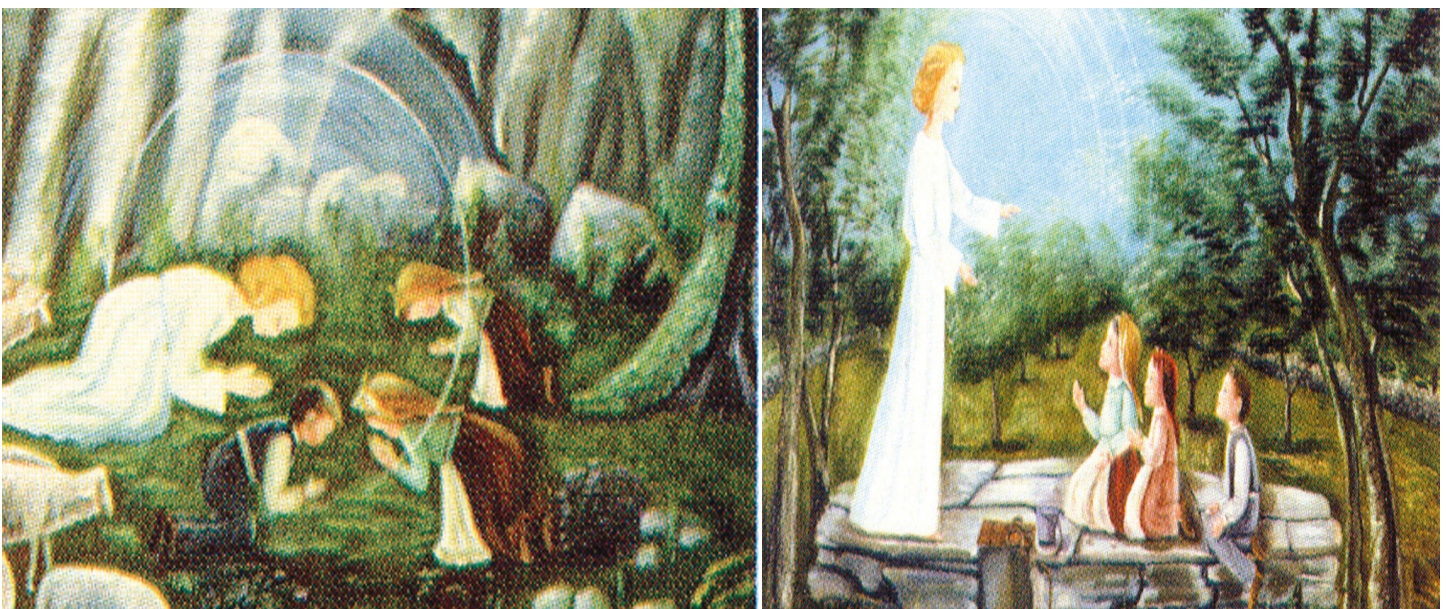
First. Apparition of Angel “We began to see, in the distance, a light whiter than snow in the form of a young man, quite transparent, and as brilliant as crystal in the rays of the sun. As he came near we were able to see his features: a young man about 14 or 15 years old and very beautiful. We were surprised and quite taken aback. We did not say a word. He reached us and said: ‘Do not be afraid. I am the angel of peace. Pray with me.’ He knelt, bending his forehead to the ground. With a supernatural impulse we did the same, repeating the words we heard him say: My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You.’ Pray in this way. The hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to your prayers. And he disappeared. The supernatural atmosphere that he left us in was so intense we were for a long time unaware of our own existence...”.

Second apparition of the Angel “The angel said to us: *“What are you doing? You must pray! Pray a lot! The hearts of Jesus and Mary have merciful designs for you. You must constantly offer your prayers and sacrifices to God, the Most High.”* “*How are we to sacrifice?*” I asked. “In every possible way offer sacrifice to God in reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of sinners. In this way you will bring peace to

your country. I am the Guardian Angel of Portugal. Above all, bear and accept with submission the sufferings God will send you.’ And he disappeared... These words of the angel cut into our spirits like a light, making us understand who God is, how He loves us, and how He wants us to love Him; the value of sacrifice and how it pleases Him; how He receives it for the conversion of sinners.”

We began to see, in the distance a light whiter than snow in the form of a young man, quiet transparent , and as brilliant sa crystal in the ray of the sun...”

Third apparition of the angel “We saw the angel holding in his left hand a chalice and suspended in the air above it, was a Host from which drops of blood fell into the chalice. Leaving the chalice and the Host suspended in the air, he knelt near us and repeated three times the prayer: ‘Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly, and I offer You the Most Precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and in differences by which He is offended. And by the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.’ After that he rose, took again in his hand the chalice and the Host. The Host he gave to me and the contents of the chalice he gave to Jacinta and Francesco, saying at the same time: -‘Eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ terribly outraged by the ingratitude of men. Offer reparation for their sakes and console God.’ ...and then he disappeared”.



"We saw the angel holding in his left hand a chalice and suspended in the air above it, was a Host from which drops of blood fell into the chalice... "



October 13, 1917 the pilgrims Increased (70,000), they saw the rain stop suddenly, the clouds tear apart. the solar disc face outwards like a silver moon that spun dizzily, similar to a wheel of fire, projecting in every direction beams of multi-colored light, that fantastically lit up the clouds in the sky, the trees, the rocks, the land and riverberated through the immense crowd, howling at it. It paused for a few moments and then again the dance of lights, like a rich and glowing wind-mill. Again a pause and then for the third time fireworks, more varied and colored and blazing as ever. The crowd had the impression that the sun was falling from the sky and let out a collective scream "Miracle! Miracle!". When everything finished even the people's drenched clothes from a short time ago were perfectly dry.



Photograph of the 1st apparition of October 13, 1917, when the sun began to "dance"



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

ANDRÉ FROSSARD

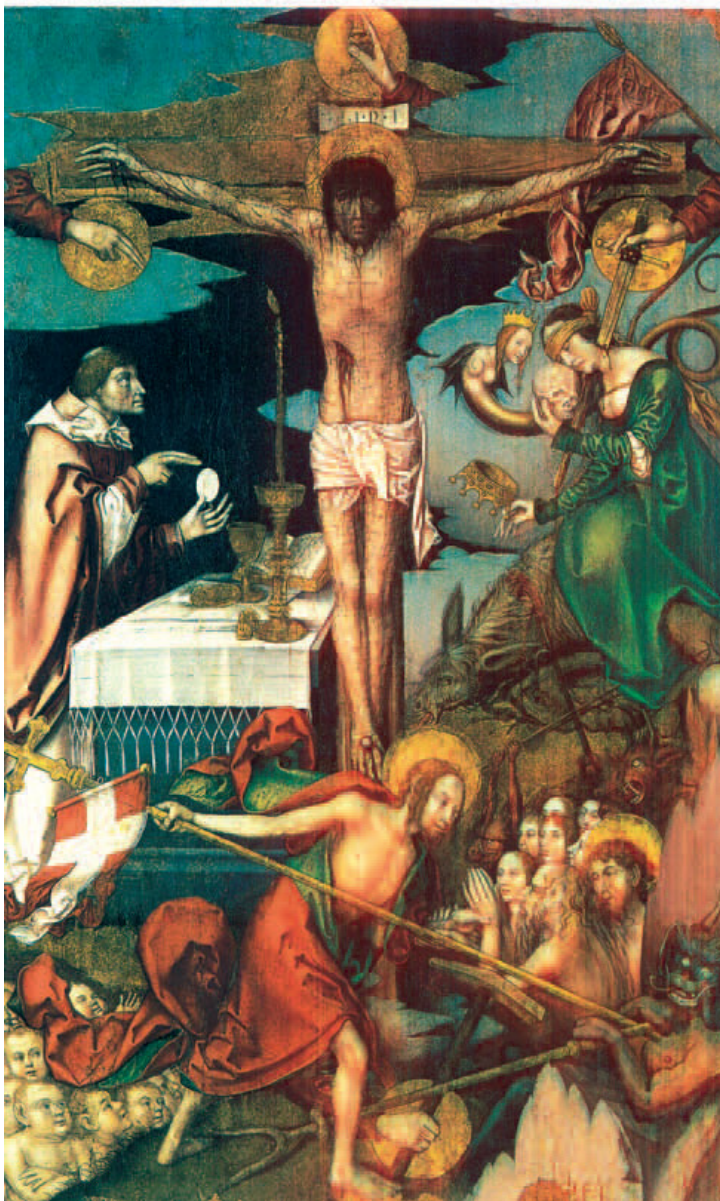
20TH CENTURY

The conversion of the atheist writer Andre Frossard, in the presence of the Holy Eucharist, has had great repercussions in the world. He himself recounted how his conversion came about in his book, *God Exists. I Have Met Him* (1969). Up to his final years, up to his final days, he would only say: *“Since the time when I encountered God, I have never succeeded in growing tired of the mystery of God. Every day is something new for me. And if God exists, I should speak of it; if Christ is the Son of God, I should proclaim it loudly; if there is Life Eternal, I should preach it.”*

Frossard’s testimonial: “Having entered a chapel in the Latin Quarter of Paris at 5:10 in the morning to look for a friend, I left at a quarter after 5 in the company of a friendship that was not of this earth. Having entered as a skeptic and an atheist...and ever more skeptical and atheistic, indifferent and preoccupied with so many things other than a God to Whom I never even gave a thought even to deny... I was standing by the door, looking around with my eyes for my friend, but did not succeed in finding him...

“My gaze passed from the shadows to the light...from the faithful gathered there, to the nuns, to the altar...and came to rest above the second candle burning to the left of the Cross (*unaware that I was standing in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament*). And at that point, suddenly a series of miracles unfolded whose indescribable force shattered in an instant the absurd being that I was, to bring to birth the amazed child that I had never been... At first the hint of these words, ‘Spiritual Life’ came to me... as if they had been pronounced in a whisper next to me... then came a great light... a world, another world of a radiance and a destiny that in one stroke cast our world among the fragile shadows of unfulfilled dreams... of which I felt all the sweetness... a sweetness that was active and upsetting beyond every form of violence, capable of breaking the hardest stone and that which is even harder than stone - the human heart. Its overflowing

eruption, so complete, was accompanied by a joy which is the exultation of the saved, the joy of the shipwrecked who is picked up just in time. These sensations, which I find difficult to translate into a language which cannot capture these ideas and images, were all simultaneous... Everything is dominated by the Presence... of Him of Whom I would never be able to write His name without fear of harming its tenderness, of Him before Whom I have had the good fortune to be a forgiven child who wakes up to discover that everything is a gift... God existed and was present... one thing only surprised me: The Eucharist! Not that it seemed incredible, but it amazed me that Divine Charity would have come upon this silent way to communicate Himself, and above all that He would choose to become bread, which is the staple of the poor, and the food preferred by children... O Divine Love, eternity will be too short to speak of You.”



André Frossard



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

CASCIA

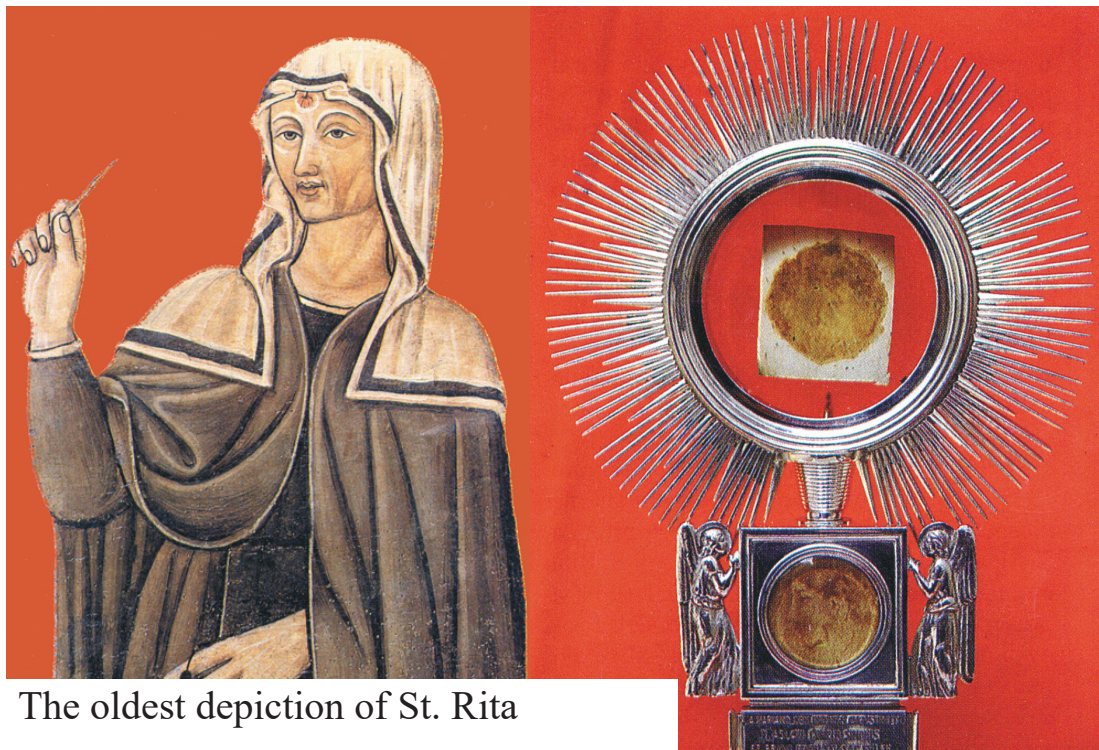
ITALY 1330

In 1330, at Cascia, a gravely ill peasant called the priest to receive Communion. The priest, partly through carelessness and partly through apathy, instead of taking with himself the ciborium to carry the Eucharist to the house of sick man, took a Host and placed it irreverently in a prayer book. When he reached the peasant the priest opened the book and with astonishment saw that the Host was transformed into a clot of blood and the pages of the book were marked with blood.

At Cascia, in the basilica dedicated to St. Rita, is also preserved the Relic of the Eucharistic Miracle, which happened near Siena in 1330. A priest was asked to bring Communion to a sick peasant. The priest took a consecrated Host and placed it irreverently in the pages of his breviary and went to the peasant. When he arrived at the house of the sick man, after hearing his confession, he opened the book to take out the Host which he had placed there. To his great surprise he found that the Host was stained with living blood, so much as to mark both pages between which it had been placed. 'The priest, confused and penitent, went immediately to Siena to the Augustinian Priory to ask the counsel of Fr. Simone Fidati of Cascia, known by all to be a holy man. Fr. Fidati, having heard the story, granted pardon to the priest and asked to keep the two pages marked by blood. Many of the Popes promoted veneration conceding indulgences.

In the act of recognition the relic of the Eucharistic miracle of Cascia in 1687, a text was also reported of a very ancient code of the priory of St. Augustine in which are described numerous pieces of information regarding the miracle. Beyond this information, the episode is also mentioned in the Communal Statutes of Cascia of 1387 where it was ordered that "every year on the Feast of Corpus Christi, the authorities, the counsels, and the people of Cascia, should meet in the Church of St. Augustine and follow the priest who should carry the venerable relic of the Most Holy Body of Christ in procession through the city.

In 1930, on the occasion of the sixth centenary of the event, a Eucharistic Congress was celebrated at Cascia for the entire diocese of Norcia; a precious and artistic monstrance was consecrated, and the entire historical documentation of the miracle was published.



The oldest depiction of St. Rita



Basilica of St. Rita



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

ITALY 1240

The History of Saint Clare, Virgin, tells of various miracles performed by Saint Clare. There are episodes of multiplications of loaves and of bottles of oil that appeared in the convent when there was none before. But Clare performed the most famous of the miracles in 1240 on a Friday in September, in which she turned away an attack by Saracen soldiers who had broken into the convent cloister by showing them the Sacred Host.

This Eucharistic miracle is cited in The History of Saint Clare, Virgin written by Tommaso da Celano, and describes how Saint Clare of Assisi succeeded, with the Blessed Sacrament, in turning away Saracen troops in the pay of Emperor Frederick II of Sweden. The history goes like this: *“By imperial order, regiments of Saracen soldiers and bowmen were stationed there (the convent of San Damiano in Assisi, Italy), massed like bees, ready to devastate the encampments and seize the cities. Once, during an enemy attack against Assisi, city beloved of the Lord, and while the army was approaching the gates, the fierce Saracens invaded San Damiano, entered the confines of the monastery and even the very cloister of the virgins. The women swooned in terror, their voices trembling with fear as they cried to their Mother, Saint Clare.*

“Saint Clare, with a fearless heart, commanded them to lead her, sick as she was, to the enemy, preceded by a silver and ivory case in which the Body of the Saint of saints was kept with great devotion. And prostrating herself before the Lord, she spoke tearfully to her Christ: ‘Behold, my Lord, is it possible You want to deliver into the hands of pagans Your defenseless handmaids, whom I have taught out of love for You? I pray You, Lord, protect these Your handmaids whom I cannot now save by myself.’ Suddenly a voice like that of a child resounded in her ears from the tabernacle: ‘I will always protect you!’ ‘My Lord,’ she added, ‘if it is Your wish, protect also this city which is sustained by Your love.’ Christ replied, ‘It will have to undergo

trials, but it will be defended by My protection.’ Then the virgin, raising a face bathed in tears, comforted the sisters: ‘I assure you, daughters, that you will suffer no evil; only have faith in Christ.’ Upon seeing the courage of the sisters, the Saracens took flight and fled back over the walls they had scaled, unnerved by the strength of she who prayed. And Clare immediately admonished those who heard the voice I spoke of above, telling them severely: *‘Take care not to tell anyone about that voice while I am still alive, dearest daughters.’*”



Icon in the Basilica of Saint Clare, Assisi. Clare’s faith in the Son of God and Mary, hidden in the poverty of Eucharistic Bread, destroyed the strength of the enemies



Ancient depiction of the Miracle of Saint Clare



Convent of San Damiano in Assisi

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

CHIRATTAKONAM ARCHDIOCESE OF TRIVANDRUM, INDIA, MAY 5, 2001

This Eucharistic miracle was verified recently, on May 5, 2001 in Trivandrum, India. In the Host there appeared the likeness of a man similar to that of Christ crowned with thorns. His Beatitude Cyril Mar Baselice, Archbishop of the diocese of Trivandrum, wrote regarding this prodigy: “[...] For us believers what we have seen is something that we have always believed [...]. If our Lord is speaking to us by giving us this sign, it certainly needs a response from us”. The monstrance containing the miraculous Host is to this day kept in the church.

The Rev. Fr. Johnson Karnoor, pastor of the church where the Eucharistic miracle took place, recounts in his deposition: “*On April 28, 2001, in the parish church of St. Mary of Chirattakonam, we began the Novena to St. Jude Thaddeus as we did every year. At 8:49am, I exposed the Most Holy Sacrament in the monstrance for public adoration. After a few moments I saw what appeared to be three dots in the Holy Eucharist. I then stopped praying and began to look at the monstrance, also inviting the faithful to admire the three dots. I then asked the faithful to remain in prayer and reposed the monstrance in the tabernacle. On April 30th, I celebrated the Holy Mass and on the following day I left for Trivandrum. On Saturday morning, the 5th of May 2001, I opened the church for the usual liturgical celebrations. I vested for Mass and went to open the tabernacle to see what had happened to the Eucharist in the monstrance. I immediately noted in the Host, a figure, to the likeness of a human face. I was deeply moved and asked the faithful to kneel and begin praying. I thought I alone could see the face so I asked the altar server what he noticed in the monstrance. He answered: ‘I see the figure of a man.’ I noticed that the rest of the faithful were looking intently at the monstrance.*

“We began Adoration and as the minutes went by, the image became more and more clear. I did not have the courage to say anything and I began to cry. During Adoration, we have the practice of reading

a passage from Holy Scriptures. The reading of the day was the one from Chapter 20 in the Gospel of John, which narrates the story of when Jesus appeared to St. Thomas and asked him to look at the wounds. I was only able to say a few words in my homily, and, having to leave for the nearby parish of Kokkodu to celebrate Mass, I immediately summoned a photographer to take pictures of the Holy Eucharist with the human face on it. After two hours all the photos were developed; with the passing of the time the face in every photo became more and more clear.”



Monstrance containing the Particle in which the image appeared



His Beatitude Cyril Mar Baselice, Archbishop of the diocese of Trivandrum

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

TERESA NEUMANN

GERMANY, 1898-1962

For 36 Years, Her Only Nourishment Was The Holy Eucharist

Teresa Neumann's life changed radically after her miraculous recovery from paralysis and total blindness at the age of 25. About a year later, she received the stigmata and began fasting, which lasted 36 years until her death. Her only nourishment was the Holy Eucharist and for this reason the Nazi authorities, during World War II, withdrew her food rationing card and gave her a double rationing of soap to wash her towels and clothing, because every Friday she would be drenched in Blood while she was in ecstasy, experiencing the Passion of Christ. Hitler was very fearful of Teresa.

Teresa Neumann was born in Konnersreuth Germany, on April 8th, 1898 from an extremely poor Catholic family. Her greatest ambition was to become a missionary in Africa but that was not possible as she was a victim of an accident at the age of 20 when a horrible fire broke out in a nearby plant and Teresa went to help and in the process of passing buckets of water to stop the flames, she got a horrible lesion in her spinal cord that caused a paralysis in both her legs and complete blindness. Teresa then passed her days in prayer, but one day her miraculous recovery occurred in the presence of Father Naber who wrote: "Teresa described a vision of a great light and an extraordinary, sweet voice that was asking her if she wished to be healed. Teresa gave the most surprising answer when she replied that to her it would not make any difference whether she would be healed, stay the way she was or even die, as long as it was the will of God. The mysterious voice told her that 'that very day she would receive a small joy; the healing of her infirmities, but that she would still have a lot of suffering to endure in her future.'"

For a little while, Teresa lived in fairly good health, but in 1926 her most important mystical experiences started and lasted until the day she died. She received the stigmata, and she began a complete

fasting, with the Eucharist as her only nourishment. Father Naber, who administered Communion to Teresa every day, wrote: “In her, God’s promised word is accomplished: ‘My Flesh is real food and my Blood is a true drink’”. Teresa offered the Lord her physical suffering - due to the loss of blood caused by the stigmata - that started every Thursday during the day when Jesus’ Passion started, until Sunday, His Resurrection. This suffering was offered, through her intercession, for sinners that asked for help. Every time she would be called to a person’s death bed, she would be witness to that soul’s judgment, as it is usual to happen right after death. Ecclesiastical authorities performed many examinations in regard to Teresa’s continuous fasting. Carl Strater, S.J., directed by the Bishop of Ratisbonne, studied and examined the life of the stigmatized Teresa and confirmed: “The significance of Teresa Neumann’s fasting is to show the people of the world the value of the Holy Eucharist, to make the world understand that Christ is actually present in the bread of the Eucharist and that through the Holy Eucharist, physical life can actually be preserved.”



Giáo xứ của Teresa



Teresa đang rước Lễ vào
ngày Chủ nhật Phục sinh
1934



Teresa sau khi bị bệnh

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

SILLA

SPAIN, 1907

The Eucharistic miracle of Silla happened in 1907. Some Hosts, stolen by unknown thieves, were recovered in perfect condition and were hidden under a stone in a little garden not far from the city. Even today it is possible to adore the miraculous Hosts: they remain intact since almost one hundred years ago. The Hosts are pre-served in the church of Our Lady of the Angels in Silla. Still today it is possible to adore the uncorrupted Hosts preserved in the church of this town at the outskirts of Valencia.

During the celebration of the Mass on March 25, 1907, feast of the Annunciation, Fernand Gomez, pastor of the Church of Our Lady of the Angels in Silla, opened the tabernacle to get the Hosts for the Communion of the faithful. Greatly perturbed, he found the little tabernacle door opened and the precious silver ciborium with all the consecrated Hosts missing. The Sacred Species were found two days later in a small garden outside the city, hidden under a stone. The pastor returned them with a solemn procession to the church.

In 1934, realizing that the Hosts remained “in the same way in which they were found under the stone and that they had remained unchanged in the original condition”, the Archbishop of Valencia started a process to declare their preservation a miracle, and sealed with wax the reliquary containing the Hosts. He also wrote a detailed documentation of the miracle. Unfortunately, two years later the bishop’s residence was burned down by the anarchists-communists and the precious document was lost. In 1982, then-Archbishop of Valencia. Monsignor Miguel Roca, started a new canonical process by which he also determined how to officially worship the Sacred Host of the miracle.



Hosts
of the
miracle



Our Lady of the Angels, Silla

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

BLESSED ALEXANDRINA MARIA DA COSTA

GERMANY, 1898-1962

Alexandrina remained paralyzed at age 21 from a dramatic incident in which she fled from the threat of violence. She did not permit herself to be overcome by sadness and by loneliness, but thought: “Jesus, You are a prisoner in the tabernacle as I am here on my bed, so that we can keep company”. Following the physical sufferings from the paralysis, mystical sufferings were added: for four years, every Friday she saw the sorrows of the Passion, and after this period, for another 13 years until her death she was nourished only by the Eucharist. Her life became a continuous prayer for the conversion of sinners.

Alexandrina Maria was born in Balasar, Portugal on March 30, 1904. At age 14, in order to escape an attack by three men and to maintain her purity, she jumped from the window, but did not escape without suffering injury. The consequences were terrible, if not immediate. In fact, several years later, she became bedridden from a progressively increasing paralysis, from which she suffered for the remaining 30 years of her life. Yet, she did not despair, but entrusted herself to Jesus with these words: “As you are a prisoner in the tabernacle and I am a prisoner on my bed for doing Your will, so we can keep ourselves company”. As a result, she began to live through ever more powerful mystical experiences, and from Friday, October 3, 1938 until March 24, 1942, for up to 182 times, she relived the sufferings of the Passion. Beginning in 1942 until her death, Alexandrina was fed only by the Eucharist, and during a period of convalescence at the Foce del Douro Hospital near Oporto, for forty days and forty nights she was under supervision by several doctors in her absolute fast and her condition of anuria (absence of urine). After 10 long years of paralysis which she had offered as Eucharistic reparation for the conversion of sinners, on July 30, 1955, Jesus appeared to her saying: “I have put you in the world so that you may

draw life only from Me, to bear witness to the world how precious the Eucharist is. [...]

“The strongest chain that keeps souls in bondage with Satan is the flesh and the sins of impurity. Never has there been such a spread of vices, wickedness and crimes as there is today! Never has there been so much sin [...] The Eucharist - My Body and Blood - Behold, the Eucharist is the salvation of the world.” Mary also appeared to her on September 12, 1949, with the Rosary in her hand, saying to her “The world is in agony and is dying in sin. My desire is for prayer, my desire is for penance. I have protected with this, my Rosary, all those whom I love and the whole world.” On October 13, 1955, the anniversary of the last apparition of the Blessed Mother at Fatima, Alexandrina was heard exclaiming: “I am happy, for I am on my way to heaven.” She died at 7:30 in the evening on that very day.



Alexandrina Maria da Costa

Cha Emanuel Vilar, một trong những người linh hướng của bà

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

CALANDA

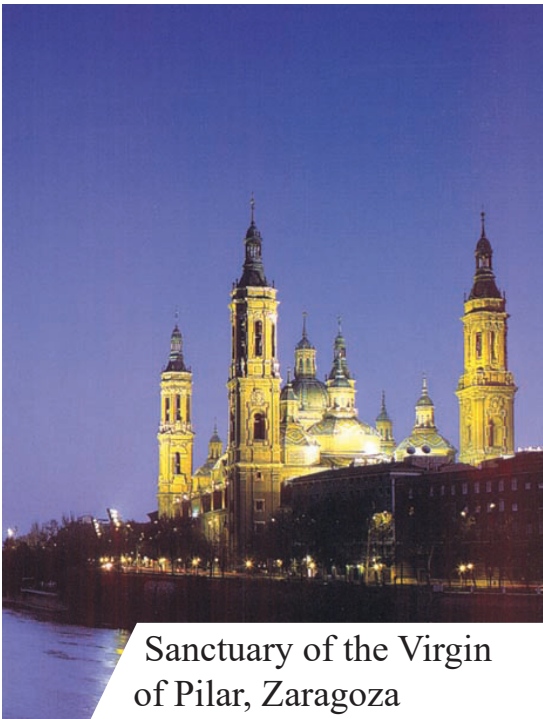
SPAIN, 1640

Young Miguel-Juan Pellicer had his leg amputated due to an accident. Thanks to his great devotion, the young man nurtured himself through the most Holy Sacrament and the Virgin of Pilar. A great miracle came upon him, which was immediately recognized and approved by the Archbishop of Zaragoza who presided over the canonical process. In his clear judgment he wrote that “Miguel-Juan Pellicer of Calanda was miraculously given back his right leg, which was amputated years prior and it was not a natural occurrence but a miraculous one”.

Miguel-Juan Pellicer was born in 1617 to a poor family of farmers in Calanda, a village about 100 kilometers from Zaragoza. At 19 years of age, he decided to go to work for an uncle near Castellon de la Plata. One day, while working in the fields, he fell under a wagon full of grain and the wheels fractured his right leg. Miguel-Juan was immediately taken to the local hospital in Valencia. Realizing that it would be impossible for the doctors to cure him, he decided to discharge himself and begin a 13-kilometer trip towards Zaragoza to ask the Madonna of Pilar for help. He walked with crutches, leaning the knee of the fractured and now infected leg on a piece of wood. He reached Zaragoza in October 1637, waning and feverish. He dragged himself to the Sanctuary of Pilar where he made his confession and received the Holy Eucharist. He was immediately sent to recover at Royal Hospital of Grace. Given the status of his gangrene, the doctors established that the only way to save his life was to amputate his leg, so the limb was cut off with a saw and scalpel slightly below the knee and cauterized with red hot metal.

A young practitioner, Juan Lorenzo Garcia, took the amputated limb and buried it in the cemetery next to the hospital. From that moment, Miguel-Juan was forced to beg for his livelihood near the Sanctuary

of the Virgin of Pilar. Every morning he went to Mass and prayed with fervor before the Holy Sacrament. It was customary for him to rub his mutilated leg with oil from the tabernacle lamp. After three years away from home, he decided to return to his family, who lovingly welcomed him back. In March of 1640, after a vigil in honor of the Virgin, Miguel-Juan, feeling very tired, went to rest in his customary spot and as usual rubbed his leg with oil from the tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Pilar. When his mother went to check to see if her son was okay, she saw him sleeping, and discovered that from beneath the blanket stuck out not one, but two feet. Miguel-Juan had miraculously recovered his lost limb, which was buried three years prior by the practitioner Mr. Garcia. According to the eyewitnesses present and the canonic process, “the leg was pale, smaller in size and muscular mass, but perfectly vital and allowed him to walk.”



Sanctuary of the Virgin of Pilar, Zaragoza



Eucharistic Miracles of The World

PRESSAC

FRANCE, 1643

In the Eucharistic miracle of Pressac, a chalice in which a consecrated Host had been placed was completely fused after a fire in the parish church. The only thing remaining of the chalice was the foot of the chalice on which had formed a tin bubble under which the Host was found completely intact. The Miraculous Host was consumed the day after, but there are many documents which testify to this miracle still in existence today. Among these documents are the windows of the church of Pressac which depict the different phases of the miracle.

The miracle occurred on Holy Thursday, 1643. After having celebrated Mass and everyone had received Communion, the people of the town returned to their jobs and the priest placed the chalice back into the repository. This was near the altar dedicated to the Blessed Virgin which had four pillars of wood supporting a marble slab on top of which was a corporal. Behind the altar there was a depiction of a Eucharistic scene. A veil covered the chalice and two large candles were lit at the foot of the repository. It was mid-day and the sacristan closed the door of the church. Two hours later, those nearby noticed thick, black smoke coming from the windows of the church. Since the windows had inadvertently been left open, this probably fanned the flames of the candles and accelerated the fire. The people called the sacristan to open the doors and they all entered to assess the damage. The repository and the painting were destroyed. What was left were the marble slab, the corporal and the foot of the chalice. The report would later say that almost the entire cup was transformed into “drops of tin.”

Above what was left of the chalice there formed a bubble of tin under which the Host was found completely intact having withstood the flames and the fusion of the metal. The vicar, Simon Sauvage, came to the place of the miracle and carried the damaged chalice to the

main altar for all to see. The Host, light red around the edges, was consumed the next morning during the Divine Office of Good Friday. We should remember that the Liturgy back then held that only one of the consecrated Hosts should be reserved in the ciborium and placed in a chalice covered by a simple veil. The Abbot of Availles-Limouzine, François du Theil, recorded all of the testimony and gave it to the Bishop of Poitiers, Henri Louis Chastagnier de la Roche-Posay who authorized the cult of the miracle with a solemn act which states: “The Sacred Mysteries are incomprehensible, if the splendor of grace does not illumine the spirit in order to elevate it to the highest understanding of the wondrous effects of the power of God and to obligate all men to adore Him, who is owed their adoration. The ineffable goodness of God is manifested at times in extraordinary ways, working miracles in the Church in order to confirm the Catholic Faith and to confound the errors of the unfaithful spirits.”



View of Pressac



Church of St. Just, Pressac



Depiction of the chalice as it appeared after the miracle of Pressac next to the account written by François du Theil, curate of Availles-Limouzine in the year 1643.



Sculpted mask on the door of the Church of St. Just at Pressac

Eucharistic Miracles of The World

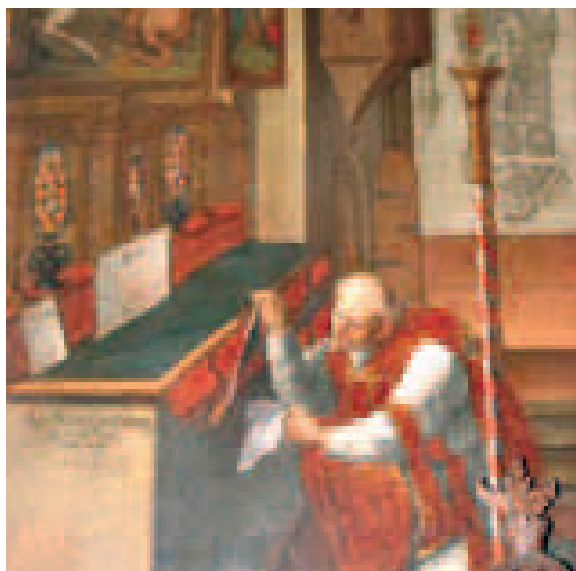
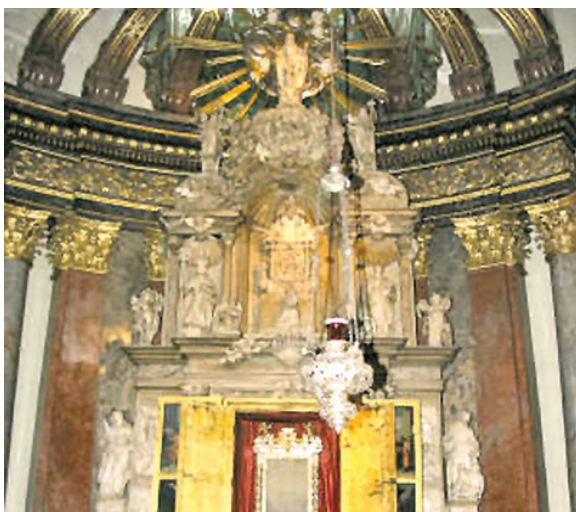
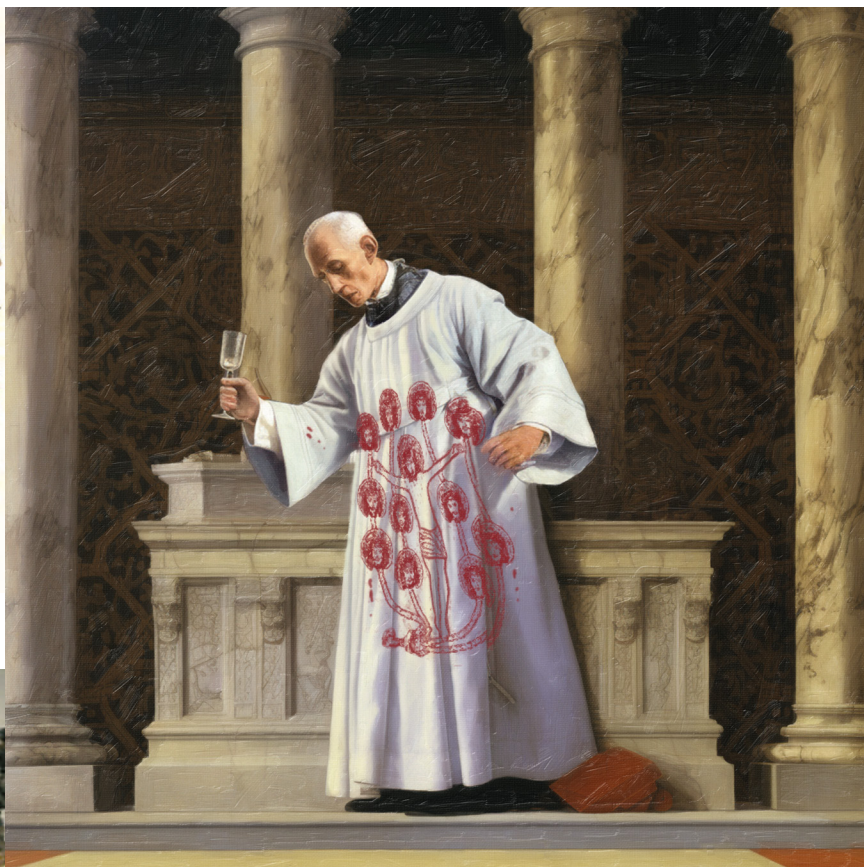
WALLDÜRN

GERMANY, 1330

One of the most complete documents about the Eucharistic Miracle is told of the Eucharistic Miracle of Walldurn Germany in the year 1330 was written by the Monk Hoffius in 1589. During the Mass a priest accidentally overturned the species of the consecrated wine onto the corporal it then transformed into Blood and formed an image on the corporal of the Crucified Christ. The relic of the corporal with the Blood is preserved today, placed on the side altar in the minor basilica of Saint George in Wulldurn. Every year, several thousands of pilgrims visit Walldrun to venerate the sacred relic.

It seems the priest, Heinrich Otta, was celebrating the Holy Mass when he mistakenly overturned the chalice containing the species of the consecrated wine that had been transformed into the Blood of Christ. Immediately upon spilling, it formed on the corporal the image of the Crucified Christ, surrounded by eleven equal images of the head of Christ crowned with thorns. The priest did not have the courage to reveal the miracle and for many years he kept the corporal hidden under the altar. It was only near the point of his death, that he confessed then told the story of the event and revealed the corporal. From the beginning, the reliquary of the corporal has had much veneration, and many conversions and miraculous recoveries are attributed to this. Pope Eugene IV confirmed the miracle in 1445 and granted some indulgences. The miracle was famous across Europe and for centuries was depicted by many artists.

The actual basilica was constructed between 1698 and 1728 by Franz Lothar von Schonborn, the Archbishop of Mainz. In 1962, Pope John XXIII elevated the church to a minor basilica. Augustinian monks have protected the basilica since 1938.



The Crucified Christ is clearly distinguished under ultra violet lighting