



EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES

THE REAL PRESENCE



THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

- Jesus in Capernaum, John 6:53-56



THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

- Mark 14:22-26



THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

- **TRANSUBSTANTIATION:** Philosophical term used by the church to describe a miracle, the mystery of the Eucharist. Only faith assures us of this miraculous change.
- Term first used in the 11th century by the Archbishop of Tours.
- Council of Trent: became authoritative church teaching during 13th session ending 11 October 1551.
- CCC 1376

WHY EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES

- Throughout the history of the Catholic Church, Jesus has proven beyond any doubt that He is truly present in the Holy Eucharist.
- At certain times in history, there were heresies that denied the Real Presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.
- Some priests doubted the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.
- And yet, on other occasions, the Holy Eucharist was abused by believers and non-believers alike.

HISTORY OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES

- The first eucharistic miracles reported in Egypt by the Desert Fathers as early as the 3rd Century.
- Most recently in Argentina, Apr 13, 2017.
- The Church has recognized over one hundred eucharistic miracles.
- Local bishop appoints a team of experts to study the events from every angle, gathering all relevant data. This will include priests, theologians, canon lawyers, medical professionals, and molecular biologists.

LANCIANO, ITALY



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- According to ancient tradition, Longinus, the Roman centurion who pierced the side of Christ came originally from Lanciano.
- Early 700's a Basilian monk was celebrating Holy Mass with a host of unleavened bread.
- He doubted the real presence of the body and blood of Christ.
- After the words of consecration, the host changed into flesh and the wine into blood.
- Parishioners rushed the altar crying for God's mercy.

BOLSENA, ITALY

- In 1263 a German priest, Peter of Prague, stopped at Bolsena, about 70 miles N of Rome, while on a pilgrimage to Rome.
- Described as pious priest, but had doubts about real presence.
- During words of Consecration, blood started to seep from the consecrated Host and spread over his hands onto the altar and the corporal.
- At first he attempted to hide the blood, but then he interrupted the Mass and asked to be taken to the neighboring city of Orvieto, where Pope Urban IV was then residing.

BOLSENA, ITALY

- The Pope listened to the priest's account and absolved him.
- He ordered the Bishop of the diocese to bring to Orvieto the Host and the linen cloth bearing the stains of blood.
- The linen corporal bearing the spots of blood is still reverently enshrined and exhibited in the Cathedral of Orvieto.
- One year after the miracle, in August of 1264, Pope Urban IV instituted the feast of Corpus Christi.
- The Pope also asked Thomas Aquinas to write hymns for the feast and he wrote Tantum Ergo and O Salutaris Hostia.

BOLSENA, ITALY



BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

- On Aug. 15, 1996, the feast of the Assumption of Mary, a woman approached Father Pezet after Mass to report she had found a desecrated Host on a candleholder at the back of the church.
- The priest followed canon law for proper disposal, putting it in a glass of water to dissolve. Instead, the Host appeared to turn into a bloody piece of meat.
- Pope Francis, then-Auxiliary Bishop Jorge Mario Bergoglio, had it photographed on Sept. 6, 1996.

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

- It was placed in a tabernacle; and after three years, with no signs of visible decay, Bishop Bergoglio opened an investigation.
- On Oct. 5, 1999, a sample of the blood was sent for analysis in San Francisco.
- Tissue samples were then sent to Columbia University in New York, to a renowned cardiologist and forensic pathologist. His results on March 26, 2005, identified the sample as human flesh and blood. White blood cells had penetrated the tissue, which indicated “the heart had been under severe stress, as if the owner had been beaten severely about the chest.”

SCIENTIFIC EXAMINATION OF THE MIRACLES

- The host is real flesh and the blood is real blood.
- The blood is the same blood-type as the Shroud of Turin: AB
- AB is prevalent in 15% of people of Middle eastern descent.
- The host consists of the striated muscular tissue of the myocardium, endocardium and vagus nerve.
- Proteins in the same normal proportions (percentage-wise) as are found in fresh normal blood. The following minerals are also found as in normal blood samples: chlorides, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium, sodium and calcium.

The Eucharist is Jesus

- This is our Faith. It supplies what, as we sing the *Tantum Ergo*, “Let faith provide a remedy for the failure of the senses.”
- He comes down to us. We must come up to Him and act as if we are in possession of the greatest treasure available to man.
- To help us believe, God has given us these gifts by allowing visible Eucharistic miracles to appear as an answer to any doubts about his real presence in the Eucharist.
- As with other miracles, such as Marian apparitions, belief in approved miracles is not mandated by the Catholic Church, but they serve to reassure believers of God's presence.

The Eucharist is Jesus

- The significance of flesh being human heart tissue is that the heart pumps the lifeblood of the body, just as Jesus in the Eucharist pours his life into the Church.
- A Eucharistic miracle takes place at every mass when the words of consecration are spoken: bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Jesus.
- May Jesus in the Eucharist always be at the center and heart of our Church, our faith, our parish and in each of our lives
- “O sacrament most holy, O sacrament divine. All praise and all thanksgiving Be every moment thine! “