

## **Eucharistic Miracles Summations**

### **Miracles~Scientific**

#### **Lanciano** (Italy, 750) part 1

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.

#### **Lanciano** (Italy, 750) part 2

The Flesh and the Blood of Lanciano therefore are just the same as they would be if they had been drawn that very day from a living being.

#### **Santarém** (Portugal 1247) part 1

The Eucharistic miracle of Santarém, together with that of Lanciano, is considered among the most important Eucharistic miracles. Numerous studies and canonical analyses were carried out on the relics. The Host changed into bleeding Flesh and Blood flowed out of the Blessed Sacrament. Both relics are preserved to this day in the Church of St. Stephen in Santarém.

#### **Santarém** (Portugal 1247) part 2

The woman stole the Host and hid the Holy Eucharist in a linen cloth that immediately became stained with Blood.

#### **Bolsena/Orvieto** (Italy, 1264) part 1

In 1263 a German priest, Peter of Prague, stopped at Bolsena while on a pilgrimage to Rome. He was celebrating Mass in the Basilica of Bolsena, and when the moment of consecration arrived, the Host was transformed into Flesh. This miracle strengthened the wavering belief of the priest in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The Sacred Body was inspected by Urban Pope IV and by St. Thomas Aquinas. This miracle helped convince the Pope to extend the feast of Corpus Christi to the universal Church so that everyone could recognize the love God has for those who love and worship Him.

#### **Bolsena/Orvieto** (Italy, 1264) part 2

When the facts were ascertained, the pope ordered the bishop of the diocese to bring the Host and the linen cloth bearing the stains of Blood to him.

#### **Ludbreg** (Croatia, 1411) part 1

During Mass at Ludbreg in 1411, a priest doubted whether the Body and Blood of Christ were really present in the Eucharistic species. Immediately after being consecrated, the wine turned into Blood. Today the precious relic of the miraculous Blood still draws thousands of the faithful, and every year at the beginning of September the so-called "Sveta Nedilja - Holy Sunday" is celebrated for an entire week in honor of the Eucharistic miracle that occurred in 1411.

#### **Ludbreg** (Croatia, 1411) part 2

The relic of the Blood has remained perfectly intact and is kept in a precious monstrance made at the request of Countess Eleonora Batthyany Strattman in 1721.

#### **Cascia** (Italy, 1330)

In 1330, at Cascia, a gravely ill peasant called the priest so he could receive Communion. The priest, partly through carelessness and partly through apathy, instead of taking the ciborium with him in order to carry the Eucharist to the house of sick man, irreverently placed a Host 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.

### **Miracles~Nature**

#### **Tumaco** (Colombia, 1902)

The undersea earthquake in 1906 on the Pacific Coast caused enormous damage in many areas. Fr. Bernardino Garcia of the Conception, who at the time was in the City of Panama, gave the following testimony regarding the terrible cataclysm that struck the area. "Unexpectedly an enormous wave (we refer to them as tsunamis today) crashed into the port, reached into the market area and destroyed everything. Boats that had been drawn up on shore were picked up and hurled long distances away, causing heavy losses". The small island of Tumaco was spared by a miracle thanks to the faith of the people and the blessing with the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Gerardo Larrondo.

**Faverney** (France, 1608)

On the Vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, the monks of Faverney decided to expose the Blessed Sacrament for public adoration. During the night, a fire flared up which destroyed the altar and the sacred furnishings, but not the monstrance containing the Sacred Host. The monstrance was retrieved after a few days while it was suspended in the air perfectly intact. The miraculous Host is still kept today and many pilgrims come every year to venerate it.

**Avignon** (France, 1433) part 1

On November 30, 1433 a small church run by the Gray Penitents of the Franciscan Order was exposing a consecrated Host for Perpetual Adoration. After days of rain the rivers swelled, and surprisingly, Avignon was submerged. By boat, two friars of the Order succeeded in reaching the church where the Holy Sacrament had been left for adoration. When they entered the church, they saw that the waters were divided to the right and to the left, leaving the altar and the Sacrament perfectly dry.

**Avignon** (France, 1433) part 2

The news spread rapidly, and many people, including those in authority, came to the church singing songs of praise and of thanks to the Lord.

**Miracles ~ Animals**

**Offida** (Italy, 1273-1280)

In Offida, near the Church of St. Augustine, are kept the relics of the Eucharistic miracle which took place in 1273, in which the Host became living Flesh. There are many documents which describe this miracle, among which is an authentic copy on a parchment of the 13th century, written by the notary, Giovanni Battista Doria in 1788. There are also many official decrees of the popes beginning with that of Boniface VIII (1295), to that of Sixtus V (1585), discourses of Roman congregations, Episcopal decrees, communal statutes, votive gifts, memorial stones, frescoes and testimonies of notable historic figures, among whom we recall the Antinori's and Fella.

**Glutowo** (Poland, 1297)

In 1290, due to the invasion of the Lithuanians, a priest from the village of Glutowo buried in a field a silver ciborium plated in gold, with a consecrated Host still in it which he mistakenly missed. The Lithuanian's troops destroyed the village and the church. None of the survivors knew about the hidden Host. Only a number of years later, while plowing the field in the spring, a farmer found it by chance, thanks to the strange behavior of his oxen. They had bowed to the ground in adoration of the Host which was emanating a very bright light.

**Alboraya-Almacera** (Spain, 1348) part 1

In 1348, a priest on his way to visit some sick people in order to bring them Communion, slipped in the waters of a small river that he was crossing and overturned the ciborium which contained some consecrated Hosts. The poor priest, who had by now resigned himself to the loss, heard himself being called by some fishermen a short distance away, asking him to come closer to the shore in order to see several fish with discs in their mouths which appeared to be Hosts. The Hosts were immediately recovered and brought back to the church in a solemn procession in which the whole village participated.

**Alboraya-Almacera** (Spain, 1348) part 2

Great was his joy when he saw that the three remarkable fish were there, almost completely out of the water, lifting the Hosts intact with their mouths, like little trophies.

**Miracles~Intact and Preserved Hosts**

**Blanot** (France, 1331)

The Eucharistic miracle of Blanot took place during the Easter Mass of 1331. During Communion, a Host fell to a cloth that was held below the communicant's mouth. The priest tried to pick up the Holy Eucharist, but it was not possible. The Host had transformed into Blood, resulting in a stain the same size as the Host, on the cloth. That cloth is preserved today in the village of Blanot.

#### **Siena** (Italy, 1730)

In the Basilica of San Francesco in Siena, 223 consecrated Hosts have remained intact for 276 years. (In a sort of scientific experiment to test the preservation of unconsecrated hosts, Archbishop Tiberio Borghese sealed unconsecrated hosts in a tin box for ten years. The scientific commission put in charge when the box was reopened found only worms and rotted fragments.) The Siena event goes against our human understanding of biological law. The scientist Enrico Medi stated: "This direct intervention from God is the miracle [...], accomplished and maintained for centuries, to testify to the permanent reality of Christ in the Eucharistic Sacrament".

#### **Silla** (Spain, 1907)

The Eucharistic miracle of Silla happened in 1907. Some Hosts, stolen in a chalice by unknown thieves were discarded and hidden under a stone in a little garden not far from the city. They were later recovered in perfect condition. Even today it is possible to adore the miraculous Hosts: they remain intact over one hundred years later. The Hosts are preserved in the church of Our Lady of the Angels in Silla (outskirts of Valencia) where it is possible to adore the uncorrupted Hosts.

### **Miracles~Eucharistic Images**

#### **Chirattakonam** (India, 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. The Blessed 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 kept to this day in the church.

#### **Caravaca de la Cruz** (Spain, 1231)

The Eucharistic miracle of Caravaca de la Cruz regards the celebration of a miraculous Mass during which Jesus appeared inside a Host together with a Crucifix. Thanks to this apparition, the Muslim king of Murcia and his family were converted to Catholicism. The most authoritative document describing the miracle is the contemporary testimony of the Franciscan Father Gilles of Zamora, the historian of King St. Ferdinand.

#### **Monacada** (Spain, 1392)

In the Eucharistic miracle of Moncada, Baby Jesus appeared in the Sacred Host to dissipate the doubts of a priest uncertain about the validity of his priestly ordination. In the 14th century when the French cardinals had elected an antipope in hopes he would transfer the Holy See back to Avignon, there was great confusion among the clergy. Many priests started doubting whether they had been validly ordained. One priest, uncertain about the validity of priestly ordination, had his doubts vividly removed. The historian, Fr. Odorico Raynaldi, chronicled the event in his *Anales Ecclesiasticos*. In addition, numerous documents in the archives of the city provide information surrounding the event.

#### **Walldürn** (Germany, 1330)

One of the most complete documents about the Eucharistic miracle is told of the Eucharistic miracle of Walldürn Germany in the year 1330 and was written by the Monk Hoffius in 1589. During the Mass, a priest accidentally overturned the Sacred Species of the consecrated Wine onto the corporal. The Sacred Blood formed an Image of the Crucified Christ on the corporal. The relic of the corporal with the Blood is preserved today, placed on the side altar in the minor basilica of Saint George in Walldürn. Every year, several thousand pilgrims visit Walldürn to venerate the sacred relic.

### **Miracles ~ Sacrileges**

#### **Alatri** (Italy, 1228)

In Alatri's Cathedral of Saint Paul the Apostle, there is kept even today the reliquary of the Eucharistic miracle that occurred in 1228 and consisted in a fragment of the Host turning into flesh. A young woman, in an effort to regain the love of her sweetheart, consulted a sorceress who ordered her to steal a consecrated Host to make a love potion. During Mass, the young woman hid a Host in a cloth. When she got home, she realized that the Host had been transformed into bleeding flesh. This miracle has extensive documentation, including from Pope Gregory IX.

**Pozan** (Poland, 1399)

In 1399 in the City of Poznan, some desecrators stole three consecrated Hosts and out of contempt, pierced the Sacred Species with pointed instruments. At once, Blood began dripping from the Hosts, and every attempt to destroy the Hosts was to no avail. So as not to be found out, the scoundrels decided to throw the Holy Eucharist into a swamp. The Hosts rose in the air, giving off powerful rays of light. Only after ardent prayer was the bishop able to recover the Hosts, which people venerate to this very day in the Church of Corpus Domini in Poznan.

**Trani** (Italy, 11<sup>th</sup> century)

Aided by some of her Christian friends, a non-Christian woman who did not believe the true Catholic dogma of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, managed to steal a consecrated Host during the celebration of a Sacred Mass. As if daring God, the woman put the consecrated Host into a frying pan of oil. Suddenly the Host spilled out masses of Blood, which poured to the floor and out the door of the house.

**Bettbrun** (Germany, 1125)

In the Eucharistic miracle of Bettbrunn, a very pious farmer in an excess of zeal stole a sacred Host which he brought to his farm in Viehbrunn. One day the Host accidentally fell to the ground, but no one could pick up the Sacred Species. Everything was tried and finally the Bishop of Regensburg intervened. The Bishop was able to pick up the Host only after promising the Lord that he would build a church in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. The report of the miracle spread rapidly and attracted a large number of pilgrims.

**Turin** (Italy 1640)

During the invasion by Count Harcourt's army, the soldiers entered the Church of St. Maria del Monte and killed many civilians. The lives of the Capuchin friars, however, were spared. A French soldier succeeded in opening the tabernacle which contained a ciborium with several consecrated hosts. Flames of fire miraculously blazed out to envelop him - burning his face and his clothing. The door of the tabernacle which is adorned with agate and lapislazuli or blue stones still shows the imprint of the soldier's scorched hand.

**Miracles~Saints and Mystics**

**St. Satyrus** (4<sup>th</sup> Century)

In his work, *De excessu fratris Satyri*, St. Ambrose himself describes this Eucharistic miracle in which his brother Satyrus played a key role. St. Satyrus was able to save himself from shipwreck thanks to the Eucharist.

**Teresa Neumann** (Germany 1898 – 1962)

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.

**The Servant of God, Marthe Robin** (France 1902-1981)

Marthe Robin: "She was a peasant of the French countryside, who for thirty years took neither food nor drink, nourishing herself instead on the Eucharist alone, and every Friday she relived the pains of the Passion of Jesus through her stigmata. A woman who perhaps was the most unusual, most extraordinary and disconcerting of our age, but whom even in the age of television remained unknown to the public, buried in a profound silence... From our first meeting, I understood that Marthe Robin would have been a 'sister of charity,' always, as she was for thousands of visitors."

**Blessed Alexandrina Maria da Costa** (Portugal 1904-1955)

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.

### **Miraculous Communion part 1**

Faced with trials and challenges, 10 of the 18 short stories contained on one panel, describe the men and women across the ages who have greatly desired Holy Communion. However, there being no obstacle too great for the Lord to overcome, these remarkable encounters prove God's love and desire to meet all of His children in the Eucharist.

**Blessed Emilia Bicchieri** was the foundress of the Dominican Third Order Regular and always nurtured a great love for the Blessed Sacrament. One day while she was taking care of a fellow Sister who was very sick, she lost track of the time and so arrived at the end of the Holy Mass, thus missing Holy Communion. At that point, she began to express her regret to the Lord for not having been able to receive Him, and suddenly an angel miraculously appeared to her and gave her Holy Communion.

**Saint Maria Francesca** of the Five Wounds, in the last years of her life, was prevented from participating at Holy Mass because of a severe illness that left her bed-ridden. There were many episodes in which some of the priests, especially Father Bianchi, saw a particle of the consecrated large Host and a small amount of the consecrated wine disappear during their Mass; it was the saint's Guardian Angel who brought her Communion.

**Blessed Imelda Lambertini**, from childhood, already showed a great love for the Eucharistic Jesus but the chaplain reminded her that she could only receive Communion when she turned 14. Nevertheless on May 12, 1333 (Ascension Vigil), she went to Mass and presented herself to receive Holy Communion. The priest ignored her completely but the Lord wished to grant the desire of little Imelda. A Host radiating light rose up in flight, and stopped in front of Imelda. After she received the Body of Christ, her pure white soul flew straight up to heaven. Blessed Imelda is Patroness of First Communions.

**Saint Juliana Falconieri** was always most devoted to the Holy Eucharist. In the last days of her life, a stomach ailment which had afflicted her for a long time, became more acute, preventing her from receiving Communion. Before her death in 1341, she asked that a consecrated Host be placed on her chest. As she recited a prayer, the Host disappeared and left a violet mark, as if the mark had been branded there. She was beatified in 1678 and canonized in 1737.

In earlier times, eight years old was too young an age to receive the Eucharist, but St. Gerard Magella could not resign himself to the fact and would weep with such desolation that Heaven itself was moved to pity. One night, Saint Michael approached him, placed a white Host on his tongue like the one the priest had refused to give him, and vanished from sight. The following morning, happy and triumphant, Gerard admitted candidly: "The priest refused me Holy Communion, but last night St. Michael the Archangel brought Holy Communion to me."

**Saint Bonaventure** receiving Communion from the hand of an Angel, Hieron Museum.

**Saint Bernard** exorcising a woman with the Blessed Sacrament, Hieron Museum.

**Saint Secondo**, before dying, receiving Holy Communion brought by a Dove, Hieron Museum.

One of the miraculous Communion of **Saint Jerome**

**Blessed James of Montieri (Giacomo da Montieri)**, lived for long periods of time being nourished only by the Eucharist. Jesus Himself gave him Holy Communion on various occasions. An early 16th-century painter depicted the miracle in a well-proportioned picture in which Jesus can be seen giving Holy Communion to Blessed James.

### **Miraculous Communion part 2**

**Blessed Angela of Foligno** recounted that “on one occasion I saw Christ under the guise of a small Child, Who nevertheless appeared great and majestic, like a king: It seemed that, seated on His throne, He held in His hand something like a symbol of authority [...] Then, when the others knelt down, I did not do so, and I don’t know if I ran up close to the altar or if I could not move from sheer delight and contemplation, and I experienced great regret that the priest put the Host back on the altar so quickly.”

### **Eucharistic Miracles for Children**

These Eucharistic Miracles have been beautifully illustrated and adapted to suit children of all ages.

#### **Trani (Italy 11<sup>th</sup> Century)**

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#### **Meerssen (Holland, 1222 -1465)**

In the small town of Meerssen, in 1222 and in 1465, two important Eucharistic Miracles were confirmed. In the first Miracle, during Holy Mass, from the big consecrated Host, living Blood poured out which stained the corporal. In the second Miracle, in 1465, a peasant succeeded in saving the Relic of the Miracle from a fire which destroyed the entire church. This episode was remembered by the inhabitants with the name of “the Miracle of the fire.” Despite the fire, the church was immediately rebuilt, and in 1938, Pope Pius XVI elevated it to the status of a Minor Basilica.

#### **Angel of Peace, Fatima (Portugal, 1916)**

The Angel appeared three times to the shepherd children at Fatima to prepare them for future apparitions of the Blessed Virgin and to raise them to the supernatural state with Holy Communion. During the third apparition, the Angel gave Holy Communion to Lucia with a Host from which some drops of Blood fell and were collected in a chalice. Francisco and Jacinta, who had not yet made their First Communion, were instead given Communion with the contents of the chalice. In this apparition, the Angel said to them: “Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and which has endured such outrage from ungrateful men. Make reparation for their offenses and in this way you will console your God.”

#### **First Apparition of the Angel**

“We began to see, at a certain distance, a light that was whiter than snow, with the shining countenance of a young man, more resplendent than a crystal penetrated by the... as he drew near, we began to discern his features: a young man of 14 or 15 years, with great beauty. We were surprised and almost in rapture. We did not say a word. As he approached us, he said ‘Do not be afraid. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me.’ Kneeling on the ground, he bowed his forehead to the earth. Moved by a supernatural power, we did the same and repeated the words we heard him pronounce: ‘My God! I believe, I adore, I trust and I love Thee. I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not trust, and do not love Thee. Pray in this way. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary will listen to the voice of your pleading.’ The Angel disappeared. The supernatural atmosphere which surrounded us was so intense that we hardly took notice of our own very existence for a long period of time...”

#### **Second Apparition of the Angel**

“The Angel said to us: ‘What are you doing? Pray! Pray more! The Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary have merciful designs regarding you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High.’ How should we make these sacrifices, I asked. ‘In every way possible, offer to God in sacrifice an act of reparation for sins by which He is offended and an act of supplication for the conversion of sinners. In this way, you will draw peace down upon your country. I am your Guardian Angel, the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept and endure with humility the suffering which the Lord sends you.’ And the Angel disappeared...These words of the Angel were engraved on our spirit, like a light which made us comprehend who God was: how He loved us and wished to be loved; the value of sacrifice, and how it was pleasing to Him; and how, through sacrifice, He would bring about the conversion of sinners.”

#### **The Third Apparition of the Angel**

“We saw the Angel with a chalice in his left hand and a Host suspended above it, from which some drops of Blood fell into the chalice. Leaving the chalice and the Host in mid-air, the Angel prostrated himself on the ground next to us and repeated three times the prayer: ‘Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore

Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the precious Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifferences by which He is offended. Through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.’ Then, getting up, the Angel again took the chalice and the Host into His hands, and then gave the Host to me, and then gave the contents of the chalice to Jacinta and Francisco to drink, saying at the same time: ’Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, which has endured such outrage from ungrateful men. Make reparation for their offenses and so console your God’ ...and the Angel disappeared.”

**San Mauro la Bruca** (Italy, 1969)

On the night of July 25, 1969, some thieves secretly came inside the parish church of St. Mauro la Bruca intending to steal its most precious objects. After forcing open the tabernacle, they also stole from it the ciborium containing several consecrated Hosts. Just after they left the church, the robbers threw the Hosts onto a small path. The following morning, a small child noticed a small pile of Hosts at the corner of the path, and after gathering them up, immediately delivered them back to the pastor. Only in 1994, after 25 years of thorough analysis, did Most Reverend Biagio d’Agostino, Bishop of Vallo della Lucania, officially recognize the miraculous preservation of the Hosts and approved their veneration. From the analysis carried out by scientists and chemists, we now know that normally, unleavened flour is heavily damaged already after six months, and at a maximum of a few years, is reduced to pulp and then to dust.

**Cava dei Tirreni** (Italy, 1656)

At Naples, in May of 1656, a terrible epidemic of the plague broke out because of the invasion by Spanish soldiers from Sardinia. The epidemic spread quite rapidly in the villages and in the surrounding countryside, arriving also in the small town of Cava dei Tirreni. There were thousands of victims, both in the city and in the countryside. Inspired from on high and defying every danger, Father Paolo Franco, one of the few spared by the plague, called the people together. He directed that a procession of reparation be made to Mount Castello (a distance of a few kilometers). When they arrived at the top of the mountain, Fr. Franco blessed Cava dei Tirreni with the Blessed Sacrament. The plague miraculously ended and even today, each year in the month of June, the people of Cava march in solemn procession in commemoration of the miracle.