

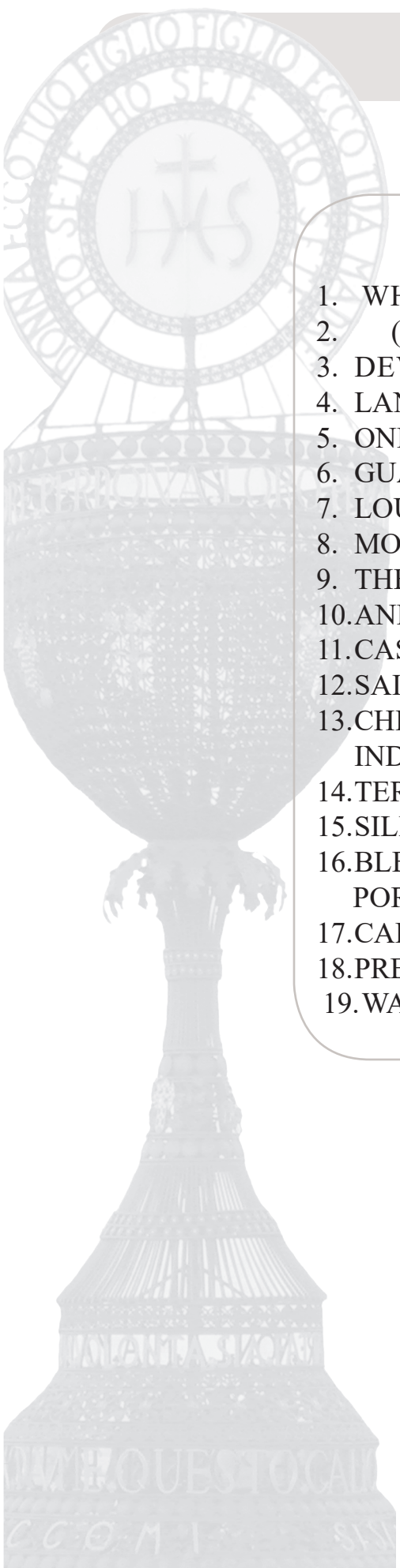


International Exhibition

THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD



Table of Contents

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1. WHAT IS A MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST? *page 3*
 2. (ENGLISH ONLY)
 3. DEvised AND PLANNED BY CARLO ACUTIS *page 5*
 4. LANCIANO - ITALY, 750 A.D. *page 7*
 5. ONIL - SPAIN, 1824 *page 9*
 6. GUADALUPE - MEXICO, 1531 *page 11*
 7. LOURDES - FRANCE, 1888 *page 13*
 8. MONTSERRAT - SPAIN, 1657 *page 14*
 9. THE ANGEL OF PEACE - PORTUGAL, 1916
 10. ANDRÉ FROSSARD - 20TH CENTURY
 11. CASCIA - ITALY, 1330
 12. SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI - ITALY, 1240
 13. CHIRATTAKONAM - ARCHDIOCESE OF TRIVANDRUM,
INDIA, MAY 5, 2001
 14. TERESA NEUMANN - GERMANY, 1898-1962
 15. SILLA - SPAIN, 1907
 16. BLESSED ALEXANDRINA MARIA DA COSTA -
PORTUGAL, 1904-1955
 17. CALANDA - SPAIN, 1640
 18. PRESSAC - FRANCE, 1643
 19. WALLDÜRN - GERMANY, 1330



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 theologica 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. is 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.miracolieucaistici.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 immunological — 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.

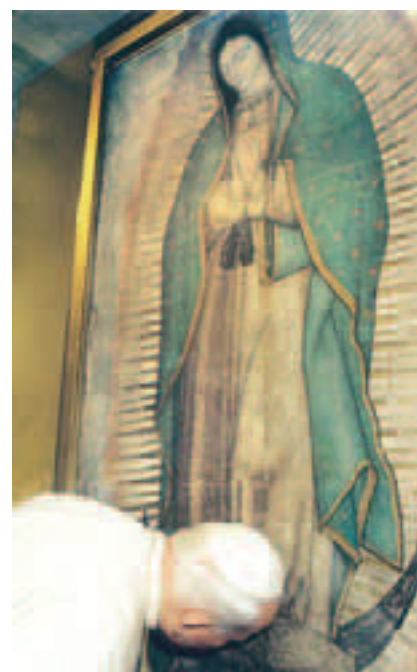


Image of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Like the Shroud of Turin, it is an image created not by the human hand, as scientists J.B. Smith and P.S. Callahan have demonstrated through the analysis of the infrared x-rays. Their conclusion is as follows: “The results of the image of Guadalupe are inexplicable”.

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

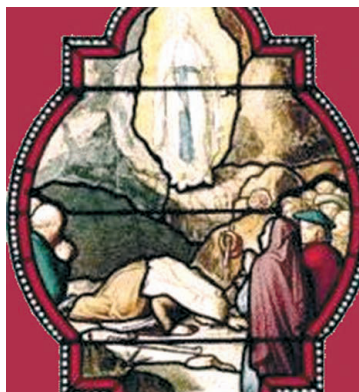
Eucharistic Miracles of The World

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

