

Eucharistic Miracles

Deacon Bob Gignilliat — 2024-01-25

In this year of Eucharistic Revival, Deacon Bob introduced us to some little known Eucharistic miracles, as well as reminded us of some well known ones, always pointing us to the miracle of Christ's most sacred gift to us all in the Eucharist. We began by praying the Lord's prayer, but Deacon Bob stopped us at "Give us this day our daily bread" and informed us that the word "bread" actually translates to "super substantial bread" from ancient Aramaic and ancient Greek. When Jesus originally gave this prayer to His Apostles, they did not know what this super substantial bread was, but we know! Jesus told His followers repeatedly and in no uncertain terms that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood. In the Old Testament, the consumption of blood from an animal was considered the greatest sin. The Jews believed that life was in the blood of animals and persons. So Jesus broke this prohibition, and gave us not only His flesh to feed us, but through His blood, He gave us His very life to be within us. After this short introduction, Deacon Bob introduced us to some lesser known Eucharistic miracles, before spending some time on a Eucharistic miracle, where he was personally acquainted with some of those involved.

SPAIN - In Spain in the 17th Century, a young farmer, Miguel-Juan Pellicer lost his right leg in an accident. He was forced to beg for a living. He went to Mass every day to receive Holy Communion. He also used to take oil from the sanctuary lamp and rub it on his leg. Three years after the amputation, he woke up one morning and his leg was whole again. The miracle was attributed to his great devotion to the Eucharist.

FATIMA CHILDREN - A little known fact is that the Angel of Peace brought the three Fatima children Holy Communion 3 times. Lucia had had her first Communion and so received the consecrated Host. The younger two, Francisco and Jacinta only received the precious blood since they had not yet had their first Communions.

LOURDES EUCHARISTIC PROCESSIONS - These processions started in 1888. A man was instantly cured of ataxia, an involuntary muscle movement disorder. After the miracle occurred, many more people came and participated in Adoration and the processions, and there have been many healings since then.

MIRACULOUS COMMUNIONS - Deacon Bob then told us about some rather unusual Eucharistic miracles occurring in conjunction with Holy Communion, some of them involving some well known saints, including St. Catherine Laboure, St. Jerome, St. Bernard, St. Bonaventure, St. James Montieri, St. Juliana Falconieri, St. Gerald Majella, as well as many others. Some of the miracles involved devout children who were denied Communion because of their young age, some involved saints too ill to consume the Host. For details on some of these unusual miracles, see [Miracle Communion 1](#) and [Miracle Communion 2](#).

CARLO ACUTIS DOCUMENTED MIRACLES - Deacon Bob also had some placards featuring some of the 120 Eucharistic miracles documented by Carlo Acutis. But Carlo does not have all of the miracles, and many more have occurred since his death in 2006. Deacon Bob went over some of the Carlo Acutis featured miracles. In Bordeaux, Jesus appeared in a large Host in a monstrance. He blessed everyone present for 20 minutes. In Poznan, Poland, men stole three consecrated Hosts and stabbed them, and they began to bleed. They could not destroy them, so they threw them into a swamp. The Hosts rose in the air and gave off rays of light. The bishop retrieved the Hosts, and they can be venerated at a church in Poznan. In Fiecht, Italy, a priest doubted a consecration, and the wine became blood and began to boil and overflow the chalice. 170 years later, the sacred blood was still fresh when tested. The blood is preserved in a monastery. In Cascia, Italy, a careless priest put a consecrated Host in the pages of a prayer book rather than using a pyx. When the priest opened the book, the Host had turned into blood. The book is still on display today. In Weingarten, Germany, there are relics of the precious blood of Jesus. In Belgium, during Communion, the consecrated Host turned into bleeding flesh. There are photos of the bleeding Host today. In Trivandrum/Chirattakonam, India, an image of Jesus appeared on a Host in the monstrance, & can be viewed today.

RELATED EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES - Lanciano, Italy: one of the earliest well-documented Eucharistic miracles, occurring in 750. There were earlier ones, going back to the 1st Century, but there is no solid evidence for them. In Lanciano, a priest was experiencing a terrible temptation to doubt the True Presence in the Eucharist. While saying Mass, at the time of consecration, the Host turned into flesh and the wine into blood. In 1970, 1200 years later, the bishop of Lanciano initiated a scientific evaluation of the remains. The study involved several doctors, including some non-Catholics. They determined that the coagulated substance is human type AB blood; the Host is human muscle of the myocardium of the left ventricle of the heart, the ventricle that pumps blood to the body. The flesh appears to be fresh and living tissue, 1200 years later. Tixtla, Mexico: A Host in a pyx started to bleed in October of 2006. In October of 2009 and 2012, the bishop initiated a scientific study of the blood. The study determined that the tissue corresponds to the muscle of the heart, the myocardium, the tissue appears living, the hemoglobin and DNA

are of human type AB blood, identical to Host of Lanciano and shroud of Turin. Buenos Aires, Argentina: On August 18, 1996, a woman found a desecrated Host on the back of a candle holder in a church. The priest placed the Host in water to dissolve since it was too dirty to consume. He placed it in the tabernacle. A few days later, on August 26, the Host had transformed into blood. The priest informed the auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires, Jorge Bergoglio, now known as Pope Francis, about the Host. The Host was professionally photographed. The event was not publicized. After 3 years, the bloody tissue had not decomposed. On October 5, 1999, a sample was taken to New York City for scientific inquiry. A team of 5 scientists, including a renowned forensic pathologist, examined what was to them a sample of unknown origin. They concluded:

- The material is a fragment of the human heart muscle, the left ventricle, the myocardium.
- The muscle is in inflammatory condition, containing a large number of white blood cells, indicating the heart was alive when the sample was taken. White blood cells die when exposed to air - they must be in a living organism.
- White blood cells had penetrated the tissue indicating the heart was under severe stress.
- The donor was a male, mid thirties with AB blood.
- The blood and the tissue have not decomposed to this day.

These results are consistent across many Eucharistic miracles, and with findings from the Shroud of Turin and the Facecloth of Jesus in Oviedo, Spain.

AUDREY SANTO - This Eucharistic miracle is one near and dear to Deacon Bob's heart, because he is familiar with several priests involved, and it occurred in his home town of Worcester, Massachusetts. Audrey Santo was born in 1983, and at age three, she was found face down in a pool. She was resuscitated and was brought to a hospital. She was completely paralyzed, unable to move except for her eyes. She spent the rest of her life in bed. She died in 2007. People started noticing that prayers were being answered around her. Word got out that something spectacular and unexplainable was happening around her.

Over the course of twenty years, eight Eucharistic miracles occurred around the home of Audrey Santo.

1. In 1992, Bishop Vernon Flanagan, known personally to Deacon Bob, was saying Mass in the home of Audrey Santo. When he lifted the Host for consecration, it started to bleed. He put it down. Reverend George Joyce, a good friend of Deacon Bob, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington DC. retired in 1987, and moved back to Massachusetts where his family lived. He became the unofficial chaplain of Audrey Santo and her following.
2. In May of 1996, he was saying Mass at her home, and as he elevated the Host, it started to bleed.
3. A few days later when Fr. Joyce was saying Mass, a similar miracle occurred. The original Hosts were sent to the bishop, but one was kept in the tabernacle in Audrey Santo's home.
4. On June 5, 1996, once again, the Host began to bleed at the elevation during the Mass. This time, there were some additional priests from other dioceses present, and all were shocked. The Mass was also being filmed, and the cameraman was so shocked, he dropped the camera.
5. A miracle occurred when Fr. Joyce was saying Mass on May 7, 2004, eight years later. The Host once again began to bleed.
6. As Bishop Riley was saying Mass on March 12, 2010, the Host began once again to bleed. The Bishop determined that the Host should be kept at the house of Audrey and be available to pilgrims to pray before. The tabernacle had not been opened for a while. When it was opened, blood began to leak out, and the cloth under the tabernacle was soaked with blood.
7. A Host was stained with blood & found in a tabernacle, though no one remembered putting it there.
8. This Host, the "angel Host" was found in 2012 by Fr. Joseph Ianuzzi, a mystical theologian and Vatican exorcist, who was staying in Audrey's home. He and others saw a Host in the tabernacle, standing on its edge, leaking some kind of oil. They did not know how it got there. They put it in a small bowl to capture the oil.

Bishop Riley commissioned a study in 1999 of all that was going on. The results of the study were that there was no explanation for all that happened, though there was a basis for the theological interpretation of what happened. The oil was analyzed as olive oil, the type found in the Middle East. The oil is still coming from the Host today. Scientists say "this is a mysterious occurrence." Family was not seeking any financial or other gain from this. The church is not ready to acknowledge these miracles. The church says that Audrey was a victim soul, that she had accepted her lot, and that she had offered up her life. Her cause for sainthood has been initiated.

CONCLUSION - In last 20-30 years, Eucharistic miracles are happening more frequently. Is it because of better worldwide communications, or is something more essential being communicated to us, namely the reality of the Eucharist: Jesus Christ is real in the Eucharist, body, blood, soul and divinity, and we receive His flesh to nourish our spiritual life, and we receive His blood so that His spirit lives within us. May we always remember this profound truth.