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# Saint Pius Calling You... To His True Body and Blood

## EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES

by Blandina Lecce

Roman Catholics approach heaven at every Mass. This statement is not false or an exaggeration but is a reality. This reality is borne out of Sacred Scripture, early Church writings, and yes, even science itself regarding the Holy Eucharist. You might be familiar with Sacred Scripture due to Mass attendance and/or reading at home. You may or may not be familiar with early Church writings depending on your level of interest to study them. You might, however, be blown away by the science that has emerged from the careful study of Eucharistic miracles.

Beginning with this newsletter and for perhaps a few more, that startling opening statement will be demonstrated

using articles that link Sacred Scripture, early Church writings, and yes, even the science.



Additional articles will include the realized fruits of Eucharistic Adoration from fellow parishioners' testimonies; and you will read about a teenager

who especially loved the Holy Eucharist. Of course, all of this is under Fr. Josh's oversight!

Back in October 2022, EWTN and Real Clear Opinion Research revealed that only 50.3% of Catholics believe in the Real Presence of the Eucharist. This means that when you next attend Mass, possibly either you or the person sitting next to you will not believe in Jesus' final covenant with us.

This is a soul-wrenching problem. Please continue reading, and as always feel free to send questions/comments to [spx1newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:spx1newsletter@gmail.com) or to Fr. Josh directly at [FrJCavender@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:FrJCavender@hbgdiocese.org)

## CHURCH FATHERS AND THE EUCHARIST

by Blandina Lecce

Pope Saint John Paul II had a way with words. In his 2003 *Ecclesia de Eucharista*, he wrote, "because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation." He didn't write this in a vacuum but rather reiterated what has been known since the time of Christ, and even since Old Testament



times. From the Book of Genesis, where the Holy Eucharist is foreseen, to the Book of John, where the Holy Eucharist is

made real, we learn about God's final covenant with His people.

For example, Genesis 3:22-24 depicts Adam and Eve's final punishment of expulsion from Eden. Note that this was to happen before they ate from the tree of life, which is a point we might breeze through without realizing its meaning: "...and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" -

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## CHURCH FATHERS AND THE EUCHARIST

From page 1

*therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden...he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.*

Their expulsion from Eden was in reality a show of great love, because their eating from the tree of life while in a state of sin (separation from God) would have cemented their death for eternity. They had no way to effectively repent. We can see in this story that God is eternal life, and the tree of eternal life represents Jesus on the cross.

The ultimate Old Testament prefigurement of the Holy Eucharist is found in Exodus 12, the Passover account. This critical saving event required sacrifice of a lamb without blemish, its blood spread on doorposts and lintels, and its meat eaten. Our critical New Testament saving event culminates in John 6:51 when Jesus says, *I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he*

*will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is My flesh."* Jesus is our bread from heaven; He is our tree of life in the garden of Eden from which we may now eat.



Since the very first century, Church fathers have taught, affirmed, and reaffirmed the Real Presence of the Eucharist. For example, in A.D. 110 Ignatius of Antioch wrote, *I have no taste for corruptible food nor for the pleasures of this life. I desire the bread of God, which is the flesh of Jesus Christ...and for drink I desire his blood, which is love incorruptible.*

(Letter to the Romans 7:3.) He went on to say, *they who deny the gift of God are perishing in their disputes.*

Skipping forward 138 years, Origen wrote in A.D. 248, *Formerly, in an obscure way, there was manna for food; now, however, in full view, there is the true food, the flesh of the Word of God, as He Himself says: 'My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink' [John 6:55].*

Pope Saint John Paul II's message at the top of this article resonates with Revelation 19:9, *And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are the words of God.'*

Future articles will include other Scripture passages and early Church writings, with the purpose of showing that the Catholic Church's teaching about the Holy Eucharist is and always has been this unchanging truth: The consecrated Eucharist is the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ. (CCC paragraphs 1322-1419)

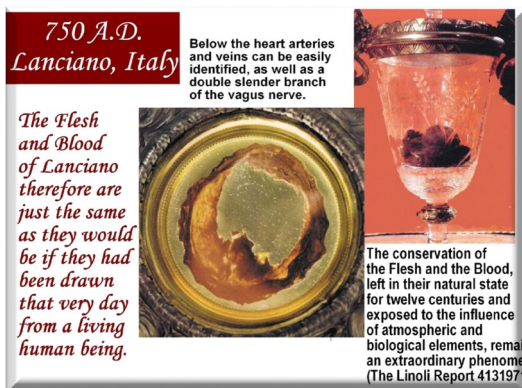
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## MIRACLE OF LANCIANO ITALY

edits by Joyce Seno

*This article was originally written by Jeannette Williams and published April 13, 2020 and November 3, 2021. This is a reduction and summary of that article along with some additional comments.*

When we think about Eucharistic miracles, we may be tempted to think that most of them are unsubstantiated stories that only happened in the "old days" and couldn't happen today in our age of science. The last few decades, however, have seen a surge in Eucharistic miracles, which cannot be explained by science. And in most of these recent miracles, the Eucharist turns into human flesh and blood. We hope to explore some of these mira-



cles starting with Lanciano Italy, the first documented Eucharistic miracle.

In 750 AD, a priest experienced a terrible temptation to doubt the True Presence while he was saying Mass. As he pronounced the words of consecration, the host and the wine

transformed into what appeared to be flesh and blood.

The consecrated Eucharist has undergone four investigations throughout history, beginning with the first objective, quantitative study in 1574 by Archbishop Antonio Gaspar Rodríguez. (remember, this study happened 824 years after the actual transformation) He conducted a study that weighed the five globules of blood in the chalice.

Despite being different sizes, all weighed the same amount. Still more, each individual globule, regardless of size, weighed the same amount as all five of them weighed together, or any other combination. Each weighed exactly 15.85 g, and all parts together also weighed the same 15.85 g. This is

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## From page 2 MIRACLE OF LANCIANO ITALY

considered the “miracle of the weights,” and the testing has been repeated at each subsequent investigation with the same results.

In 1970, more than 1,200 years later, the archbishop of Lanciano, with Rome’s approval, requested a thorough scientific examination of the miraculous relics by Dr.

Edward Linoli. He was the director of the hospital at Arezzo and professor of anatomy, histology, chemistry, and clinical microscopy. His report, submitted on March 4, 1971, detailed the following results:

- The coagulated substance is human blood, AB blood type, with the same protein distribution as found in normal, fresh blood.
- The host is human muscular striated tissue of the myocardium, left ventricle (heart); arteries, veins, branch of vagus nerve, and adipose tissue all can be identified.
- Like the blood, the flesh is also fresh, living tissue, because it “responded to all the clinical reactions distinctive of living beings” as if the flesh and blood samples had been taken that day. Histological tests revealed no sign of preservation techniques of any kind.

How is that possible? This is a substance that is 1,200 years old and is truly REAL and FRESH. And there are more miracles to explore... in 1992, the miracles started happening again. 1992 1996, Buenos Aires, Argentina; 2006, Tixtla, Mexico; 2008, Sokolka, Poland; 2013, Legnica, Poland.



Why has the Lord suddenly multiplied Eucharistic miracles in the last few decades? Are we, like Doubting Thomas, refusing to believe unless we see, touch, and feel for ourselves? Jesus in his love for Thomas condescended to let him see, touch, and feel his wounds in order to believe. Perhaps he is now doing the same

for us.

So many young people have rejected religion as “unscientific.” So, here’s the science to prove our faith. Others say they don’t believe in religion because it’s just opinion or contrary to “reason.” Here’s quantifiable, measurable, physical evidence. The Church teaches: “in the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, *the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.*” CCC 1374

In the original writing of this article, Jeannette Williams commented that “it is as if Jesus, by transforming into a human heart, is crying out to us, I’m here! I love you! My heart yearns for you! Was not my crucifixion enough to prove my love for you? See, then, and believe. I have remained hidden in the Eucharist for these two thousand years that I may remain close to you. Please, approach me. Receive me. Quench my thirst for your love.”

Hard to believe? How do you explain the science? Here is a link to a video of the Lanciano Miracle and the tests that were done.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PJ8BORx1p8>

Follow us for more Eucharistic Miracles in future newsletters. We will look at Argentina, Mexico and Poland and see how they relate to Italy.



## BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS

by Rachel Dock

Carlo Acutis was born in London in 1991. His family moved to Milan, Italy when he was still a child. He was an only child and very loved by his family. Like any child and teenager he was very active in sports such as basketball, skiing, karate and canoeing. He also had a keen interest in computers. Carlo's parents did not attend regular Mass when Carlo was young, but he was very devout at a very early age and loved Our Lord immensely. The influence seems to have come from his Polish nanny and his nursery school.

Carlo received Holy Communion at the age of 7 and from that moment on he went to daily Mass to be able to receive the Eucharist. He also prayed the Rosary daily and he was devoted to Eucharistic Adoration. Carlo knew his Bible and Catechism so well, that he taught younger children the Catechism. He was only 11 at the time!

When he showed interest in learning to program computers, his parents helped him get the textbooks he needed to learn how to do programming. He became very proficient at this and also videography. Carlo decided to use this knowledge to help spread the Catholic Faith. He developed a list of all 196 Eucharistic miracles from around the world. This he made into an exhibit which now travels around the world. Other exhibits he has done are of Our Blessed Mother Mary, purgatory and angels and demons. The website of his local parish in Milan, was created by Carlo.

Carlo understood that the computer could become an addiction and would limit the time he spent playing on his PlayStation to 1 hour per week. He believed that happiness came from turning to God and not from pleas-

ure. He was very humble and never put himself first. When his "Eucharistic Miracles" went on display at the Vatican, he asked that his name not be put on the exhibit.

One thing that upset Carlo very much was how people could spend so much time at a concert or other form of entertainment and then the Church with



our dear Lord was empty. He prayed constantly for sinners and for their redemption. His devotion to the poor came from St. Francis of Assisi. He would spend his allowance on blankets and sleeping bags for them and bring them hot food and beverages. At his school, he always looked out for kids who would be bullied and would help others with their homework. He had many friends, but not so he could be popular. He just wanted to help whoever he could.

When he was 15 years old, he was diagnosed with acute leukemia and he died very soon after the diagnosis. He let his parents know he was offering all his sufferings and pain up for the Pope and the Church. There were so many people at his funeral that his parents did not know, whom Carlo had befriended. People right away were calling for him to become a

Saint. Miracles started to happen almost right away after his death. One woman who could not get pregnant became pregnant soon after his funeral, while another woman was cured of cancer at the funeral.

The miracle that led to his beatification approved by the Vatican was of a young boy from Brazil, who was born with a rare congenital anatomic anomaly of the pancreas which made him not able to eat solid food. In 2013 the boy's Parish and pastor started a novena to Carlo. The boy was asked what he was praying for. He asked to be able to stop vomiting. three days later he was able to eat solid food. The doctors examined him and found that his pancreas had been healed. Carlo was beatified in Assisi on Saturday Oct 10, 2018.

Many people all over the world have started praying for Carlo's intercession. Many have come back to the faith through his exhibits and learning about him. He is a wonderful witness to our young people and why it is so important for them to practice their Faith. He has touched so many young people's hearts and shows them that we all have the ability to become saints.





## SAINT PIUS X

by Joyce Seno



Who is that man in the apron at the front of the church holding up the Eucharist? He is our patron Saint Pius X. Why is he holding up the

Eucharist? Pope Pius X was head of the Catholic Church from August 1903 to his death in August 1914.

He placed an increased liturgical emphasis on the Eucharist, saying, "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven." To this end, he encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion. This also extended to children who had reached the "age of discretion". He also emphasized frequent recourse to the Sacrament of Penance so that Holy Communion would be received worthily. Pius X's devotion to the Eucharist would eventually earn him the title of "Pope of the Blessed Sacrament", by which he is still known among his devotees.

Pius X is known for vigorously opposing modernist interpretations

of Catholic doctrine, and for promoting liturgical reforms and scholastic theology. He initiated the preparation of the 1917 Code of Canon Law, the first comprehensive and systemic work of its kind.

He restored use of Gregorian Chant and in 1910, he issued the decree *Quam singulari*, which changed the age at which Communion could be received from 12 to 7 years old, the age of discretion. The pope lowered the age because he wished to impress the event on the minds of children and stimulate their parents to new religious observance. When people would criticize Pius X for lowering the age of reception, he simply quoted the words of Jesus, "let the little children come to me".

## Pastor's Corner

by Father Josh

This entire year is being focused on a Eucharistic Revival. The Second Vatican Council stated that the Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of the entire Christian life. While this translation has nice alliteration, the Latin is the 'fons and culma' which could more directly be translated as the 'fount and culmination' of the Christian life. So, the Eucharist is the fount or source from which the entire Christian life springs as well as the highest point to which it builds. Another way of saying this is that the Eucharist is the beginning and end of the entire Christian life; the alpha and omega. This is a rather bold claim. This claim could be more easily imagined standing in the middle of the most beautiful churches at the Vatican at a Mass celebrated by the pope, but this claim that the Eucharist is the fount and culmination of the Christian life is no less true when we sit in the early hours of the morning in the adoration chapel here in Selinsgrove.

How could we possibly make this claim that the Eucharist is the fount and culmination of the faith? How

can everything from the great works of mercy to the witness of the martyrs, from the most beautiful church architecture to the volumes of knowledge produced by the Church all flow from the Eucharist and build up to the Eucharist? This bold claim can be made for one, and only one reason. What is the source of the life of the Christian life? Jesus. What is the goal of the Christian life? Eternal life in unity with Jesus. What is the Eucharist? Jesus. Not a mere symbol of Jesus, but really and truly Him.

In this sense, it is somewhat improper to ask "what is the Eucharist" and more proper to ask "who is the Eucharist" since Jesus is more of a who than a what. However, it is important to note the 'what' of Jesus. What is He? He is fully God and fully man. Therefore, if the Eucharist is Jesus and Jesus is fully God and fully man, then the Eucharist is truly God in human flesh that looks like bread.

Let's return to the original point of this year of Eucharist revival. This is not a movement or a program. In 2017, the Church in the US came to a

harsh realization when a Pew study found that 69% of self-identified Catholics did not believe that the Eucharist is truly Jesus, but a symbol of Jesus. Lack in this fundamental Eucharistic reality is not merely a matter of a lack of knowledge or belief, but that a large number of the Church was not centered on Christ himself. So, this year is not just a program to boost teaching in an important belief, it is about recentering the Church on how Christ most regularly presents himself to his people. If we are not connected to the fount from which the Christian life flows or to the culmination to which it builds, how are we connected to the Christian life? This year, we will be focusing on how to recenter on Christ as our God and Savior. This year, build a deep love of our Lord in the Eucharist so that we can be connected to the entire Christian life.



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### Our Mission

We the members of Saint Pius X Christian Community seek Christ who is our life and has revealed Himself to us.

We praise Him by providing a spiritual environment so that all may follow in His footsteps. The realization of the Body and Blood of Christ through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is the most important part of our journey. To be one with Christ through the Holy Eucharist is the ultimate expression of the faith.

Visit our Web Site for  
more information.  
[www.stpiusXparish.net](http://www.stpiusXparish.net)

## Prayer to the Servant of God Carlo Acutis

Dear Father,  
Who has given us the ardent testimony  
of the young Servant of God, Carlo Acutis,  
who made the Eucharist the core of his life  
and the strength of his daily commitments  
so that everybody may love You above all else,  
let him soon be counted among  
the Blesseds and the Saints in Your Church.

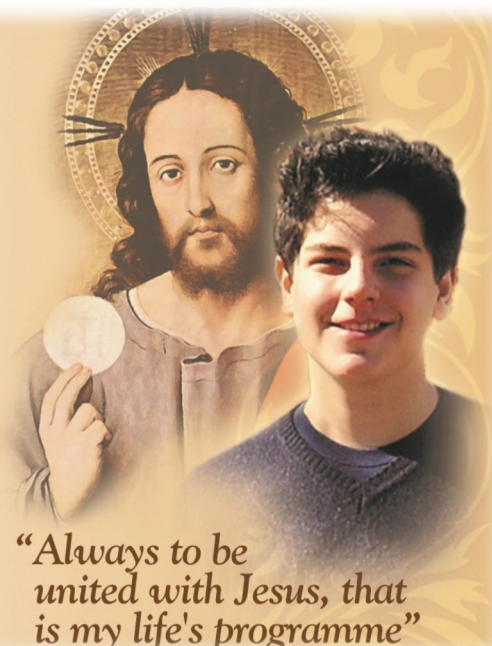
Confirm my Faith,  
nurture my Hope,  
strengthen my Charity,  
in the image of young Carlo,  
who, growing in these virtues,  
now lives with You.

Grant me the grace I really need....

I trust in You, Father, and your Beloved Son Jesus,  
in the Virgin Mary, our Dearest Mother,  
and in the intervention of Your Servant, Carlo Acutis.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

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*"Always to be  
united with Jesus, that  
is my life's programme"*

## WORD SEARCH FUN

by Rachel Dock

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