

# WHAT DO WE MEAN BY "MIRACLE"?

A miracle is a direct intervention by God in the natural order which causes something extraordinary to occur. God's miracles never occur for their own sake, but rather to show us that God is real, to deepen our faith and to help us to see even more how real God's love is. Can you name some miracles that Jesus worked in the Gospels?

#### TRANSUBSTANTIATION - BIG WORD. EVEN BIGGER REALITY!

What do Catholics believe happens at Mass with the bread and the wine? The "substance" (deepest reality) of bread and wine are changed by the Holy Spirit to the "substance" of Christ's Body and Blood. The "accidents" (appearance or physical attributes) of bread and wine remain. (see CCC 1376) This is known as transubstantiation. What looks like bread and wine is actually, in reality, the Body and Blood of Christ, not a mere symbol, but His full true presence, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity.

### WHAT HAPPENED IN LANCIANO?

Did you know that over 100 Eucharistic Miracle,s from all over the world, right across the centuries, have been investigated and approved by the Catholic Church? The most famous of these miracles occurred at Lanciano, Italy in the 8th century, when a Basilian monk who was beginning to seriously doubt the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist witnessed an incredible transformation in the bread and the wine while celebrating Mass. Not only did the substance change to become the Body and Blood of Christ, but the accidents, the physical appearance changed also.



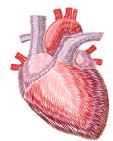
## WATCH <u>"Greatest Eucharistic Miracle of the Catholic Church"</u> for a 3.19 minute synopsis



#### **SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS**

Almost thirteen centuries later, the Miraclulous Host and Blood is still preserved in Lanciano, despite being left in their natural state and exposed to the action of atmospheric and biological agents for almost twelve centuries. The most recent investigations occured in 1970-71 and 1981 by experts in the field of anatomy, Pathological Histology, Chemistry and Clinical Microscopy. The reports state:





The Host is real flesh. The Blood is real blood. Both are human in species and the flesh originates from muscular tissue in the heart. The flesh is a "heart" complete in its essential structure e.g. in the flesh we see present in section the myocardium, the endocardium, the vagus nerve and also the left ventricle of the heart. Blood type AB is present in both the flesh and blood. Blood type AB is extremely rare, with approximately 5% of the entire world's population possessing it, and is most predominant in the Middle East. The Blood contains the same proteins in the same normal proportions as fresh blood. One globule of Blood weighed on its own weighs the same as all five globules together (15.85g).

CHECK OUT MORE STORIES OF EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES COMPILED BY BL. CARLO ACUTIS IN HIS LIFETIME