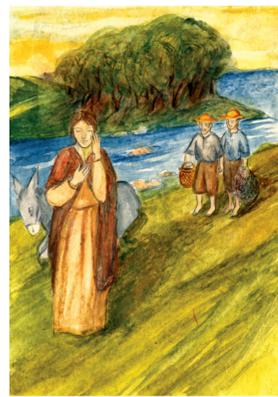


Eucharistic Miracle of ALBORAYA-ALMÁCERA

SPAIN, 1348



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.



Hermitage Church in Alboraya



Commemorative sculpture of the miracle in the city-center



Mosaic on the exterior of the Church



In 1348, in the town of Alboraya-Almácer, a Eucharistic miracle occurred which seemed to recall episodes in the life of Saint Francis that demonstrate how, if men were to fully live in the grace of God, all God's creatures would live in harmony.

A priest, carrying a ciborium containing the Viaticum (Eucharist) destined for some sick people, was crossing a river on mule-back when he was suddenly swept off his mount by a rushing wave. The priest tumbled into the water along with his ciborium, which was emptied of its precious content. The Hosts fell out and were being carried away by the current toward the mouth of the river nearby. The priest, barely saving himself, full of remorse, and lamenting what had occurred as he tried to free himself from the mud and the

waters, was approached by some fishermen who were stunned to have witnessed, in the place where the river water flowed into the sea, three fish, each with a little white disc resembling Communion Hosts, in its mouth.

The priest immediately ran to the church and returned to the river bank with another ciborium. He did everything in such a hurry that he didn't even stop to ask himself if the fishermen's story was believable. 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. He fell to his knees, and extending his chalice, prayed as he had never prayed before in his entire life; and thus, he saw the fish deposit the Hosts in the chalice,

one after the other, and then dive and slither rapidly back into the water to disappear into the sea. Only at that moment did the priest notice that he was surrounded by a group of men and women who had witnessed the entire scene.

Today it is still possible to consult numerous documents testifying to the miracle. There even exists a small church, with two fish sculpted on the door, built on the site of the miracle, and two paintings reproducing the entire event.

Eucharistic Miracle of ALBORAYA-ALMÁCERA

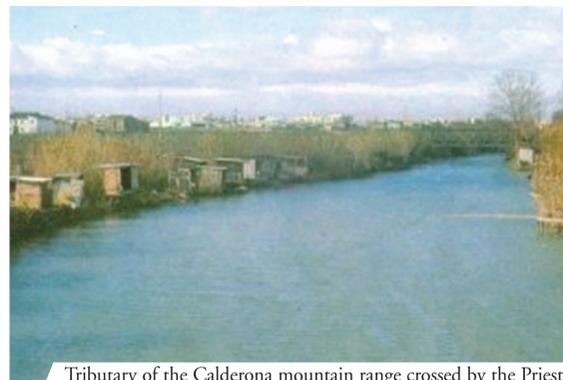
SPAIN, 1348



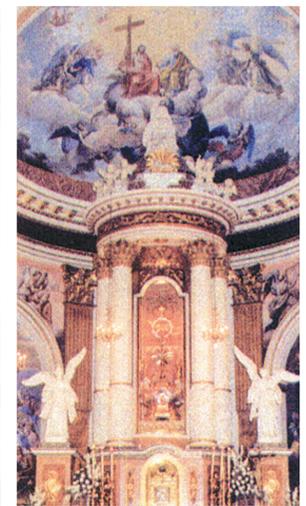
Great was his joy when he saw that the three remarkable fish were there, almost completely out of the water, lifting the Hosts intact with their mouths, like little trophies.



Commemorative tablet of the miracle



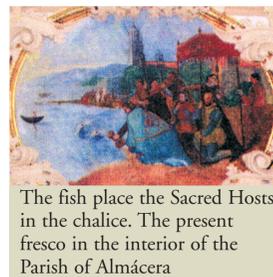
Tributary of the Calderona mountain range crossed by the Priest



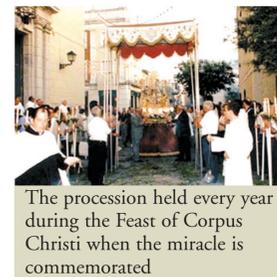
Interior of the Parish of Almácer



Commemorative candle of the fish of Alboraya -Almácer



The fish place the Sacred Hosts in the chalice. The present fresco in the interior of the Parish of Almácer



The procession held every year during the Feast of Corpus Christi when the miracle is commemorated



The fish in the miracle are represented on the entrance door to the Church



Detail of the main entrance to the Church constructed in memory of the Miracle



Eucharistic Miracle of ALCALÁ

SPAIN, 1597



In the year 1597, a thief stole consecrated Hosts along with some precious objects from a church not far from Alcalá, Spain. A few days later, the thief returned full of profound remorse and went to confess his sins at the church of the Jesuits. The priest who heard his confession had him return the Hosts; however, for the sake of prudence, the priest asked him to transport the Eucharist in a silver box, without consuming the Sacred Species. After eleven years the Hosts were still perfectly intact and after careful analysis, both medical and theological, the act was declared miraculous.



Painting depicting a Solemn Procession in honor of the Hosts of the miracle



Jesuit church where the Hosts were brought back



Interior of the Jesuit church



Cathedral where the miraculous Hosts were kept for a time

In 1597, a penitent bandit brought himself to confession at the Jesuit church of Alcalá. He was said to have been part of a band of Moorish gypsies who, after being dispersed from the nearby mountains, had sacked numerous churches and stole monstrances and other sacred objects in different countries, committing many sacrilegious acts. The penitent brought with him some consecrated Hosts that he delivered to the confessor with many tears. The confessor, very moved, went immediately to his superior to inform him. Initially it was agreed to consume the Hosts during a Mass, but later, fearing that the Hosts could be poisoned as had recently been done to some priests in Murcia and Segovia, it was decided to keep the Hosts in a box made of silver and to allow them to decompose naturally. Eleven years later the twenty-four Hosts were

found still intact. The mystic Father Luis de la Palma, in his capacity as Provincial, ordered that the Hosts be placed in a wine cellar along with some unconsecrated hosts. A few months later, the unconsecrated hosts had decomposed from the humidity, while the consecrated Hosts remained intact. Six years later Father Palma decided to make public the miracle of the Hosts that were still intact. New academic and medical tests from the doctor of His Majesty, Garcia Carrera, as well as numerous illustrious theologians, all of whom identified this as a true miracle.

In 1619 ecclesiastical authorities officially authorized the veracity of the Miracle. The Holy Hosts were publicly adored before King Phillip III, who in 1620 presided over a solemn procession in which the whole royal family par-

icipated. When Charles III expelled the Jesuits from Spain, the Sacred Hosts were moved to the magisterial church. In 1936, when the communist revolutionists burned the church, the priests carefully hid the miraculous Hosts prior to being murdered. However, still today the hiding place of the Hosts has not been found. There have been many surveys in the church and in the crypt, but to no avail. Nobody until today had published any news of the twenty-four Sacred Hosts. "God has made a new miracle!" exclaimed the wise biographer of the city, Don Anselmo Raymundo Tornero, who has transmitted this story to us meticulously in his work.

Eucharistic Miracle of ALCOY

SPAIN, 1568



The Eucharistic miracle that took place in Alcoy in the year 1568 regards the miraculous retrieval of some consecrated Hosts that had been stolen. The miracle is still remembered every year by the inhabitants of Alcoy in a festival that is celebrated on the feast of Corpus Christi. The house of the man who committed the sacrilege was turned into an oratory and can be visited to this day.



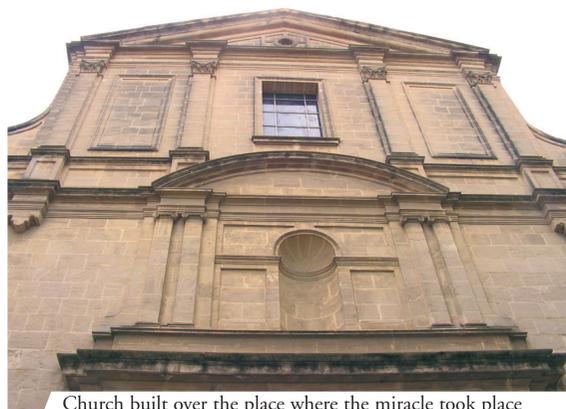
Relic of the Eucharistic miracle



Façade of the Monastery of the Holy Sepulcher where the relics of the miracle are kept



Statue of the Child Jesus that pointed to the place where the sacred Hosts, stolen by Juan Prats, were located



Church built over the place where the miracle took place



Dance of the Paloteig that takes place during the procession of the *Jesuset of the Miracle*



Procession in honor of the miracle



View of Alcoy



Altar where the miraculous little statue of the Child Jesus of the miracle is kept



On the 29th of January in 1568, a citizen of Alcoy by the name of Juan Prats, a man of French origin who needed money, secretly entered the parochial church and stole many sacred objects, among which was a precious silver box containing three consecrated Hosts. Juan Prats consumed the three Hosts immediately and then hid the box in his stable underneath a pile of wood. The next day, the parish priest, Don Antonio, found out about the sacrilegious theft. Distressed, he sounded the church bells to let the people know of the horrendous act. Soon after, all of the people of Alcoy were assembled in prayer in front of the church. The searches began immediately, but were in vain. Near Juan Prats' house lived a pious widow, María Miralles, who had a statue of the Holy Child. The woman, profoundly disturbed by the profane act, began to

pray intensely in front of the statue of Jesus, pleading for the consecrated Hosts to be returned to the citizens of Alcoy. Few hours had passed when she started her fervent prayer when María saw the little hand of the statue of Jesus point its finger to the house of her neighbor, Juan Prats.

The woman, suspicious, decided to tell the civil authorities of what had taken place. In that moment the pastor of the church, moved by a mysterious force, went to the garden of the house of Juan Prats and entered the stable. He rummaged through the pile of wood and immediately recovered the silver box with the three consecrated Hosts. Juan Prats, not understanding how the three Hosts were inside the silver box again, (as he remembered consuming them) repented deeply and confessed the mis-

deed. The documents relative to the miracle and the statue of Baby Jesus are still kept today in the monastery of the Holy Sepulcher of Alcoy.

Eucharistic Miracle of 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.



Interior of the Church of Santa Cruz



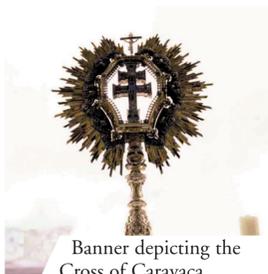
Fresco of the church



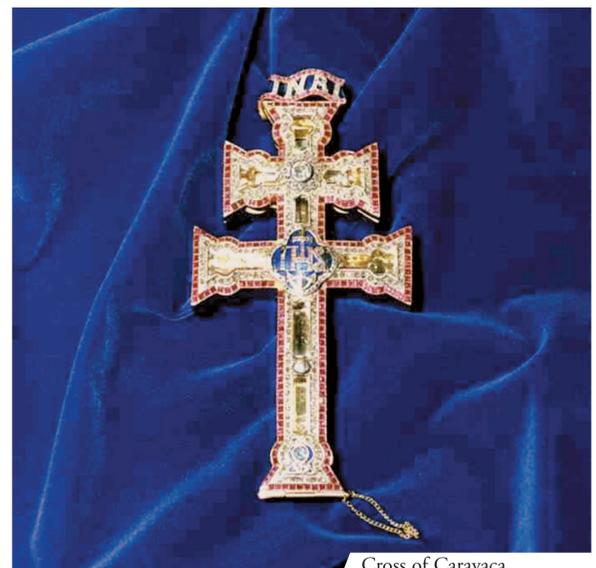
Church of Santa Cruz built where the miracle took place



Ancient painting in the interior of the Church depicting the miracle



Banner depicting the Cross of Caravaca



Cross of Caravaca

Amongst the many documents that report this miracle, the most authoritative is that supplied by King Saint Ferdinand's historian of the time, Father Gilles de Zamora. We know with certainty that a Christian priest, Don Gines Pérez Chirinos de Cuenca, traveled amongst the Moors of the Kingdom of Murcia with the purpose of preaching the Gospel. He was captured, however, and brought to the presence of the Moorish King Zeyt-Abu-Zeyt who asked him some questions about certain aspects of the Christian faith. The king particularly wanted to deepen his understanding of the Mass. The priest went into detail explaining the importance of the Mass and the king, fascinated by the preaching of the priest, ordered him immediately to celebrate a Mass. Since the priest did not have the necessary equipment for the celebration, the king ordered some of his

men to get them from the nearby country of Cuenca, in Christian territory. But still, the Cross, which needed to be present on the altar during a Mass, had been forgotten. The priest began to celebrate the Mass but, at a certain point, realized the absence of the Cross. He became troubled and stopped.

The king asked him why he was so disturbed and the priest told him that he needed a Cross. The king however immediately responded, "Wouldn't that be it?" In fact, at that moment two angels were placing a Cross upon the altar. The priest was deeply moved and gave thanks to the Lord. He then continued with the glorious celebration. The miracle continued. At the moment of the consecration, the Muslim king saw a beautiful Baby in the

place of the Host Who gazed on him endearingly. After having witnessed the miraculous event, the king and his family converted to Christianity and were baptized. Zeyt-Abu-Zeyt took the name of Vincent and his wife took the name Elena. From that day, the 3rd of March 1231, the country is called Caravaca de la Cruz. Recently, in the jubilee year, the Holy See allowed Caravaca de la Cruz to be the fifth city in the world, after Santiago de Compostela, Santo Toribio de Liebana, Rome and Jerusalem, to celebrate the Perpetual Jubilee (one holy year every seven *in perpetuum*) in the Sanctuary where the Holy Cross is kept.

Eucharistic Miracle of CIMBALLA

SPAIN, 1370



In the year 1370, the pastor of Cimballa was assaulted during the Mass with a strong doubt about the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Host transformed into Flesh, and Blood began to flow onto the altar linens. The episode re-enforced the wavering faith of the priest who penitently retired to a monastery, dedicating himself to a life of penance and prayer. Every year on the 12th of September, the memory of the miracle in the parish church is celebrated where, even now, the relic of the corporal soaked in the Blood is kept.



Portion of the relic of the Blood-stained corporal



Church of Santa Maria in Cimballa



Panorama of Cimballa



Large relic of the Blood-soaked corporal



Interior of the church

The “Most Holy Doubtful Mystery” is what they call the Eucharistic miracle that took place in Cimballa in 1370, in the Church of the Purification of Our Lady. The pastor of the church, Don Tommaso, had been for many months plagued by doubt concerning the true presence of Christ in the sacrament of the Eucharist. During the celebration of Holy Mass on Sunday, after having pronounced the words of the consecration, Don Tommaso saw Blood flowing from the Host which had transformed into flesh; so much that the altar-linens were saturated.

The penitent priest began to weep from remorse. The faithful, seeing how he was troubled, quickly looked to the altar and saw the miracle. The relic was then taken in procession and the news spread everywhere. There were

many miracles attributed to the “Most Holy Doubtful Mystery” and since then has always been a great object of devotion on the part of the faithful. The relic of the altar linen soaked in the Precious Blood has been exposed on the 12th of September every year; the anniversary of the feast of the miracle of the Precious Blood.



Eucharistic Miracle of DAROCA

SPAIN, 1239



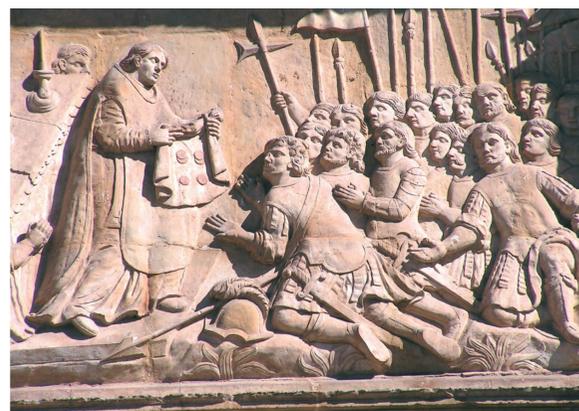
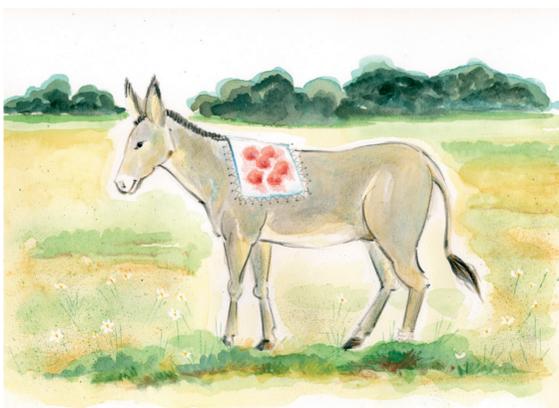
The Eucharistic miracle of Daroca was verified shortly before one of the numerous battles sustained by the Spanish against the Moors. The Christian commanders asked the priest in the field to celebrate Mass, but a few minutes after the consecration, an improvised enemy attack obliged the priest to suspend the Mass and hide the consecrated Hosts amid the sacred linens of the celebration. The Spanish left the battle victorious and the commanders asked the priest to communicate the Hosts previously consecrated. However, they were found completely covered in Blood. Even today, it is possible to venerate the Blood-stained linens.



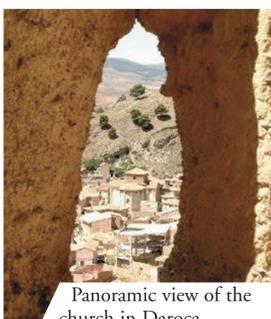
Relic of one of the two Blood-stained corporals preserved in the church of Daroca



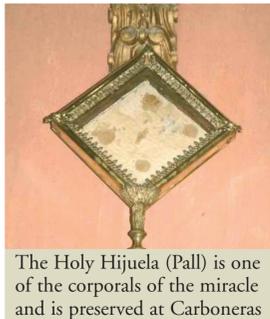
Carta de Chiva document describing the miracle, preserved at the collegiate church



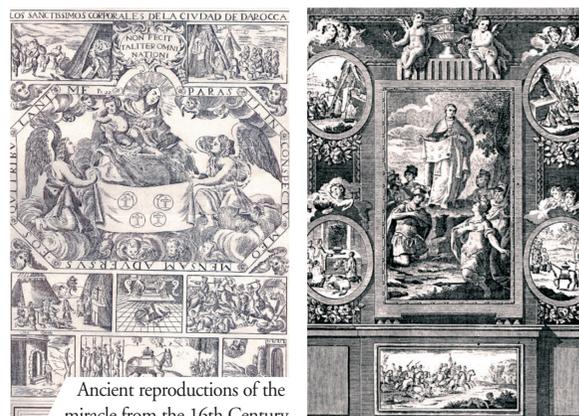
Frescoes in the Chapel of Santa Hijuela, Carboneras



Panoramic view of the church in Daroca



The Holy Hijuela (Pall) is one of the corporals of the miracle and is preserved at Carboneras



Ancient reproductions of the miracle from the 16th Century

In 1239, the Christian cities of Daroca, Teruel and Calatayud (in Aragon) allied themselves to reconquer the walls of the castle of Chio Luchente. Before the first battle, the chaplain, Don Mateo Martínez of Daroca, celebrated the Holy Mass, during which he consecrated six Hosts designated for Communion for the six captains who led the troops: Don Jiménez Pérez, Don Fernando Sánchez, Don Pedro, Don Raimundo, Don Guillermo and Don Simone Carroz. An improvised attack of the enemy obliged the chaplain to immediately suspend the Mass, and coil the six consecrated Hosts in the corporal and to hide them under a rock. The enemy troops had been forced back and the commanders begged the priest to permit them to receive Holy Communion in thanksgiving for the obtained victory. Don Mateo brought

them to the place where he had hidden the corporal and they found the Hosts drenched in Blood. The commanders interpreted this event as a great sign of predilection on the part of God and of good auspices. They received Communion and tied the Blood-stained corporal to a spear to make a banner. In this way, they brought the banner into battle against the castle walls and reconquered the Castle of Chio, obtaining a miraculous victory.

This triumph was attributed to the Eucharistic miracle. The six commanders went to all the different regions of Spain and each of them began to maintain that the corporal must go into his own city. This began an open discussion. Three times, the city of Daroca was chosen to be the custodial place of the miracle. They arrived

at a compromise. They decided to place the corporal on the back of a mule to be left to freely wander about. The city where the mule would stop would be the place chosen by the Divine Will to be custodian of the corporal. The mule traveled for 12 days, walking about 200 miles, until exhausted. It collapsed in front of the Church of Saint Mark in Daroca. Afterwards, a church dedicated to Our Lady was constructed along with a precious reliquary where, even today, it is possible to venerate the Blood-stained corporal.

Eucharistic Miracle of DAROCA

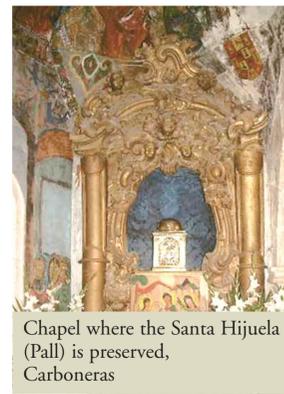
SPAIN, 1239



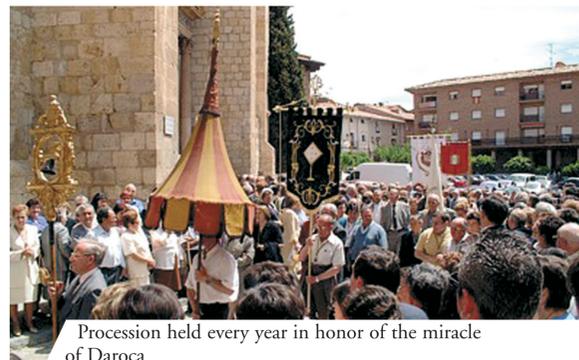
Don Mateo brought them to the place where he had hidden the corporal and they found the Hosts drenched in Blood.



Main altar of the church of Daroca



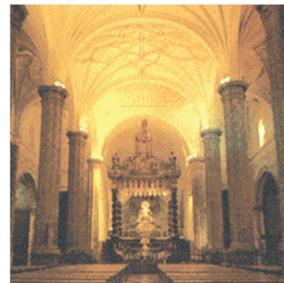
Chapel where the Santa Hijuela (Pall) is preserved, Carboneras



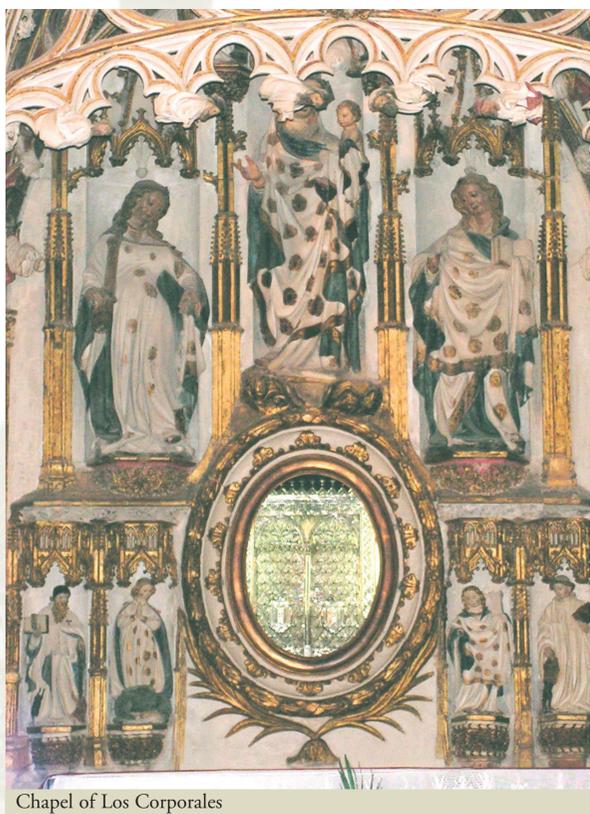
Procession held every year in honor of the miracle of Daroca



Santa Maria Basilica, Daroca



Interior of the church



Chapel of Los Corporales



Ancient pictures depicting the miracle



Wall paintings in the Chapel of Los Corporales describing the miracle

Eucharistic Miracle of **GERONA**

SPAIN, 1297



In the Eucharistic miracle of Gerona, during the celebration of the Mass, a priest doubted the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. But when the time for Communion arrived, the priest did not succeed in swallowing the Host, which had transformed into Flesh in his mouth. Unfortunately the relic of the Host transformed into Flesh was destroyed in 1936, during the civil war.



Cathedral of Gerona



The miracle happened in the church of an ancient monastery of the Benedictines of San Daniele where, until the past century, a precious reliquary was preserved containing a cloth spotted with Blood, that the people called the "Sant Dubt", the "Holy Doubt". In 1297, while they assisted at Mass in their chapel, the nuns noticed that at the moment of consuming the consecrated Host, the celebrant was impeded and demonstrated bewilderment. A nun that followed the rite from above the altar saw the priest remove something from his mouth, and afterwards wrapped it in the corporal and placed it on the corner of the altar. After the Mass, the nun went immediately to the altar to verify what the priest had hidden in the white cloth and with great amazement discovered that it contained a small piece of Flesh, dripping with Blood.

Questioned, the priest confessed to doubting the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. And just as he put the Holy Host in his mouth, the size increased to such a volume and consistency that he was not able to swallow the Sacred Species.

This is why he had wrapped the Eucharist in one of the corporals and left the Sacrament on the altar. The little Particle which was changed into Flesh was then placed in a reliquary. Unfortunately, many of the relevant documents to the miracle became lost. The reliquary containing the Incarnate Host and the Blood-soaked corporal were destroyed during the civil war of 1936.



The monstrance which contained the Blood-stained corporal, museum of the Cathedral of Gerona

Eucharistic Miracle of

GORKUM-EL ESCORIAL



NETHERLANDS-SPAIN, 1572

The relic of the Eucharistic miracle can be venerated even today in Spain. It is kept in the Royal Monastery in El Escorial, but the miracle was verified in Holland. Some Protestant mercenaries entered into the Catholic church in Gorkum and plundered it. As a sign of insult, one of the mercenaries trampled a consecrated Host with a spiked boot, which broke the Blessed Sacrament into three pieces. Live Blood immediately began to drip from these piercings, which in the Hosts formed themselves like three small wounds in the shape of a hoop that is possible to contemplate even today.



Courtyard of the Church of the Royal Monastery "Escorial"



The altar where the painting recounting the Sagrada Forma is kept



Detail of the painting by Claudio Coello



Procession in honor of the miracle - Dignitaries of Court in Adoration before the Sagrada Forma



The "Sagrada Forma"



King Filippo II



Painting by Claudio Coello commissioned by Carlos II



View of the Royal Monastery of the Escorial



The Church where the miracle happened in Holland



Gothic temple designed by Vincente Lopez

The "Sagrada Forma" (Sacred Form) is kept intact and venerated even today in the sacristy of the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo in El Escorial (near Madrid). It was desecrated in Gorkum (in Holland) in 1572 by followers of Ulrich Zwingli called the "Sea Beggars" who were paid by the Prince of Orange.

After invading the city, the conquerors began to desecrate it, not sparing even the cathedral. In fact, as soon as they entered, they began striking the tabernacle with bolts of iron, and seized from it the monstrance that contained the Blessed Sacrament. The Host was then thrown onto the ground and trampled with a spiked boot which broke the Host into three Pieces. One of the profaners, penitent and upset by the sight, warned the Canon Jean van der Delft,

who succeeded in making the Hosts safe. The relic, after having passed through various dangers, was given to King Philip II of Spain in 1594, who then placed the Holy Eucharist under the care of the Monastery of San Lorenzo in El Escorial. Above the altar where the miraculous Hosts are preserved, the Italian artist, Filippo Filippini made four bas-reliefs in marble and bronze that represent the phenomenal events. The painting by Claudio Coello (1621-1693) represents the inauguration of the magnificent tabernacle commissioned by King Carlos II specifically to contain the Precious Relic. In El Escorial on September 29th and October 28th, there are solemn festivities in remembrance of the miracle in which there are moments where the precious Host, known by the name of "Sagrada Forma", is exposed and carried in procession.



The "Sagrada Forma" exposed in the gothic temple

Eucharistic Miracle of GUADALUPE

SPAIN, 1420



During the celebration of the Mass, a priest saw numerous drops of Blood fall from the consecrated Host. The miracle contributed to strengthening the belief of the priest and many of the faithful, among whom was also the King of Castile. There are numerous documents that testify to the miracle. The relics of the marvel had been exhibited for the veneration of the faithful during the Eucharistic Congress of Toledo in 1926 and even today are the objects of deep devotion to the whole of the Spanish people.



Francisco de Zurbarán, re-creation of the miracle



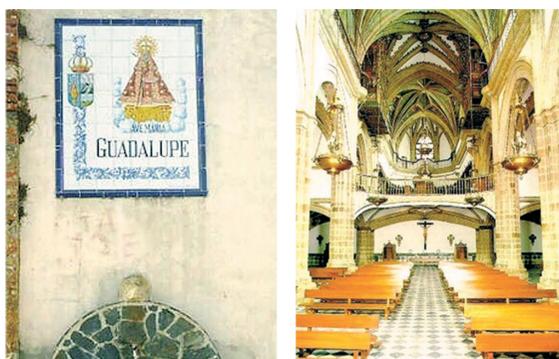
View of Guadalupe



Relic of the Blood-stained corporal



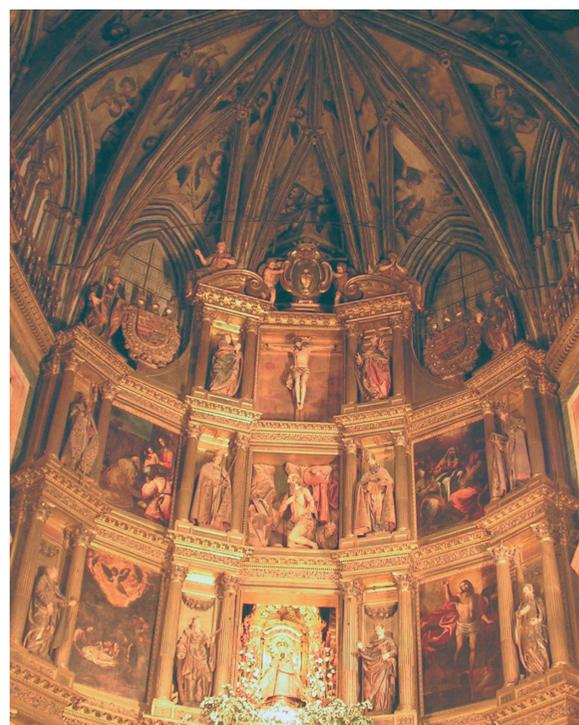
Church of Nuestra Señora of Guadalupe



Even today in the sanctuary of Guadalupe, it is possible to admire the precious relics of the corporal and of the bloodied pall (the pall is the small rigid linen cloth of square shape that serves to cover the chalice and the paten), used during the miraculous Mass from the Venerable Don Pedro Cabañuelas, in the region of Toledo. He was always distinguished for his deep devotion to the Holy Eucharist, and he spent many hours in adoration, both night and day, before the Blessed Sacrament. He had been brutally tempted to doubt the reality of *transubstantiation*, but in 1420 all of his doubts had disappeared. As he had been accustomed to do daily, Don Pedro began to celebrate the Holy Mass: at the moment of the consecration he saw a dense cloud come down from above and settle itself above the altar. He could not see any more. Then the priest began

to implore the Lord to remove his doubts. Slowly the cloud began to reduce itself and presented this sight: the Host was lifted above the chalice and abundant drops of Blood began to fall that immediately replenished the chalice and even overflowed pouring onto the corporal and on the pall. At that point, the priest heard a voice that said: "Finish the Holy Mass, and for the moment reveal to no one what you saw".

The miracle was later published by the brothers of Don Pedro and the news was spread in all of Spain until it reached the King of Castile, Don Juan II and the Queen, Lady Maria of Aragon, who became so devoted to the miracle that they asked to be buried near the body of the Venerable Father Pedro Cabañuelas.



Retablo of the Madonna of Guadalupe