

Corpus Christi 2021

My beloved brothers and sisters, today, we are celebrating two miracles inherent in the celebration of the Eucharist: The God who reconciles us to Himself in an everlasting Covenant which He has sealed with His own Blood; and the miracle of the transformation of simple bread and wine, into the Sacred Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, given to us as food for Eternal Union with Him in His Sacred God-head!

This feast day has been celebrated since the year 1264, in commemoration of a Miracle of the Eucharist, when a priest, doubting the reality of the Real Presence and the change of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ at the Consecration, as he elevated the host, saw it begin to bleed all over the Corporal, the white cloth centered on the Altar. I have seen it many times. The Blood Stains are still clearly visible; and the corporal is kept in a reliquary in the Chapel of the Basilica in Orvieto, Italy, about 40 miles north of Rome. Since then, there have been many, many Eucharistic Miracles, in which the bread and wine, after Consecration have turned to human flesh or bled. Another Eucharistic Miracle I have seen with my own eyes, happened about the same time in Santarem, Portugal, in which the host turned to human flesh, and bled. It is kept in a monstrance above the Tabernacle. In all of the Eucharistic miracles, it is the same, very rare blood type, the same DNA, and in the case of the Tissue, it is human cardiac tissue, from the ventricle of the heart, which shows extreme stress and agony.

The miracles of the 13th century took place during a time in which many learned people, like today, were denying the reality of the Transubstantiation. I have no doubt that the Lord Jesus permitted these miracles, because the gift of the Eucharist is of such paramount importance, that Jesus, the Lord, wanted to reinforce the constant belief of the Church in His radical self-giving!

The first miracle is of supreme importance for us today, because so many do not believe the Lord's own words; however, it is also essential for us to understand, that the miracle of the Transubstantiation is incomplete without the other part of the miracle: The Son of God, become Son of Man, become the Eucharistic Body and Blood, has eternally sealed the New Covenant in His own Blood and renews that Covenant in each and every Mass for the forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation of sinners to Himself.

The people of the Old Testament, and the Apostles in the Upper Room understood the language of Jesus at the Last Supper. They understood that the Blood bears the life of the animal or the person; and when it leaves the body, the life of the person also ebbs away. They understood that the Blood was sacred to God, because it bears the life of the person. Almost a year ago, because of the covid infection, I received a number of infusions, because my blood count was so very low. I thoroughly understand the meaning of the Blood. Jesus Himself said to the crowds: "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you can have no life within you... Whoever eats the flesh of the Son of Man and Drinks His blood, will have life for all eternity..." By our eating the flesh of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, which also contains His blood, we are already sharing in the Eternal life of the Son of God, and with Him and with each other, we become: One Flesh and One Body with the Lord!

This is not merely symbolic language. That is why St. Paul in Corinthians says: "If you fail to discern the Body...he eats and drinks damnation unto themselves..." This is the most precious gift that the Lord has given to us, and we need to honor His gift with Adoration and Holy Worship! Do not ever receive unworthily, for if you do, you dishonor the Son of God, and His sacrifice for us!

(After the 10:30 Mass, we will have a Eucharistic Procession around the Church followed by Benediction, if you would like to come to honor the Lord!)