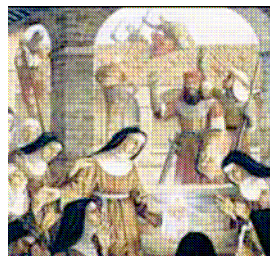
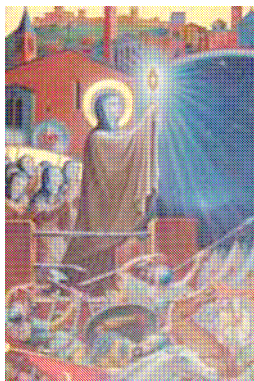


ITALY, 1240

Eucharistic Miracle of Assisi



St. Clare of Assisi's great faith in the Eucharist brought about this Eucharistic Miracle, which is described by Thomas of Celano in the *Legend of St. Claire, Virgin*, contained in *Franciscan Sources*. In 1240, Saracen troops employed by Frederick II of Swabia, known for their savagery and cruelty, were assembled at the monastery of San Damiano, where St. Clare and her fellow sisters resided. St. Clare, filled with trust in the Eucharistic Jesus, with great courage took the Blessed Sacrament and went out with it to face the Saracen troops, begging God to spare the life of her sisters and to protect the city of Assisi. The Lord heard the fervent prayers of St. Clare and immediately the Saracens, as if repelled by a mysterious force, moved away from the monastery of San Damiano and departed from the city of Assisi, which did not suffer any damage.



(1) Icon present in the Basilica of St. Clare, Assisi. Clare's faith in the Son of God and Son of Mary, hidden in the poverty of the Eucharistic bread, reduced to nought the power of her enemies

(2) *Saint Clare and the Saracens*, fresco by Piero Casentini, at the Holy Cross Monastery in Pignatore Maggiore



(3) The Monastery of St. Damiano in Assisi