Father Ilio Carrai St. Clement Institute

## **Eucharistic Miracles and Saints**

Illustrations by Roberta Boesso, Mark and Rosa Pellicioni





"He who eats My flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." John 6:54

St. Clement Editions



## One day Jesus said:

"Let the children come to Me"....



Jesus loves us infinitely and has proved it by choosing to remain with us at all times unto the end of the world. To stay with us, Jesus humbled Himself to the point of being hidden under the lowly forms of bread and wine. Dear children, let us begin right away by talking about bread and wine... You most likely are familiar with bread; a little less with wine, but surely you know something about it.

What does Jesus wish to tell you about bread and wine? Something very interesting. Something amazing and marvelous. A true surprise, one of its kind!

Listen well.

At the Last Supper, a few hours before His Passion, Jesus took bread and wine and gave It to those at table with Him.

## But...He added:

"Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is My Body, which will be given up in sacrifice for you."

"Take this, all of you, and drink of it, for this is the chalice of My Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be shed for you and for all, for the remission of sins. Do this in memory of Me."





This is My Body



This chalice is the New Covenant in My Blood

And Jesus promised:

"He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood, has eternal life."



But what is all this? It is the Eucharist.



"He who eats My flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." John 6:54

Do we wish to speak of it?

You have been told and will be told that the Eucharist is Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, and that Jesus becomes really present in the white Host and in the consecrated Wine during the Mass.





How can all this be? In what way does all this happen? The words of consecration "**transubstantiate**" the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of the Jesus. What a long and difficult word!

**Transubstantiate** means to pass from one substance to another. After the consecration, the form or external appearance of the bread and wine remain unchanged, but their substance does change, becoming that of the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Let us explain the words. Substance: from the Latin word **substantia**. Substantia: **sub** means *under*, **stantia** means *that which stands*. Substance is something which stands under. It can't be seen, but it's there.

You also have something in you that can be seen and something that can't be seen. We can see your body, your head, your hands, and so on. But your soul, your intellect, and your thoughts can't be seen.



In each of you there is the substance and there are also the forms or appearances. The substance is your body and your soul.

The species are your color, your height, your health, and so on.



The substance of bread and wine also can't be seen.

The substance of Jesus can't be seen. Before the consecration, there is the substance of bread and wine, but after the consecration, there is the substance of Jesus. However, the forms or appearances of bread and wine remain unchanged.

Forms, appearances, accidents: let us explain these words.

**Species:** comes from the Latin word **aspicio**, meaning "to look at," and therefore means something you can see and touch.

Appearance: is something that appears, is outside, and can be seen and touched.

Accident: is something that happens, that takes place, but not in a permanent way. It's here today but tomorrow it might not be.



Therefore:

Substance: is something that stands under but cannot be seen.

Species or appearance or accident: is something that stands above and can be seen and touched.

1 **Before the consecration,** we have the bread and wine with their substances and their species or appearances or accidents: quality, smell, taste, color, quantity.

2 After the consecration the substance of the bread and the substance of the wine are no longer present, for they have become the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, but the species or appearances or accidents remain unchanged.





In the Eucharistic species, Jesus is really present, With His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity

His presence is

True

Substantial

Real

## How did this happen?

By the authority of Jesus, the priest celebrating the Mass **transubstantiates**, which means, he changes the bread and wine into the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ.



God is omnipotent and is able to do this. God is omniscient and knows how to do this. God is the only Being who can create from nothing, for He can do everything!

Why should we prohibit God from doing it? We adults are really strange. But you are not! We adults assume that powerful and wise people can do incredible things, but not God. When transubstantiation takes place, the priest says: The Mystery of Faith. In other words, not all doubts are wiped out, nor that all confusion disappears.

To review:

In the Eucharist Jesus Christ, True God and True Man, is present. He is present under the species or appearances of bread and wine.

Once you have consumed the Host, Jesus stays in your body for about fifteen minutes.



He stays, this means that He is really present as He was in Palestine during His public life. He is present but hidden under the species or appearances of bread.

A quarter of an hour is fifteen minutes, which is 900 seconds. Take advantage of this time! And then, the Communion wipes away your venial sins. And Grace becomes multiplied as long as you remain in the state of grace and do not commit a mortal sin.



Here is the message for you from Jesus:



You are all intelligent, you have a memory and imagination, and in the future you will be very capable men and women. But the most important thing is to receive Holy Communion as often as possible!