

SPAIN, 1824

Eucharistic Miracle of Onil

On November 5, 1824, the monstrance which contained the Blessed Sacrament and several liturgical objects were stolen from the church in Onil by Nicolás Bernabeu, who as a child had been an altar boy in that very church. News of the sacrilegious robbery spread quickly through the whole region. When Nicolás tried to resell the stolen objects in Alicante, a merchant there



became suspicious and decided to inform the authorities. Nicolás Bernabeu was arrested, but did not want to reveal where he had hidden the monstrance, which still contained the Blessed Sacrament. The faithful and the civil authorities looked for several days around the countryside, but it was in fact in a nearby town, at Tibi, where the thief had settled down to live, that a woman named Teresa Carbonell, on November 28, 1824, recovered the stolen monstrance in the part of the town called “la Pedrera.” The woman immediately brought it back to Onil, where it was received with great festivity. Exactly 119 years later, on November 28, 1943, Father Guillermo Hijarrubia, the delegate of the Archbishop of Valencia, confirmed the authenticity of the miracle, verifying that the Host contained in the stolen monstrance had been preserved incorrupt. Today, at the parish church of St. James the Apostle in Onil, one can

still adore the miraculous Host, which has remained intact after almost two centuries. Each year, the Feast of Our Lord “Robat” (“Stolen”) is celebrated in commemoration of the Eucharistic Miracle and the recovery of the Host.

(1)



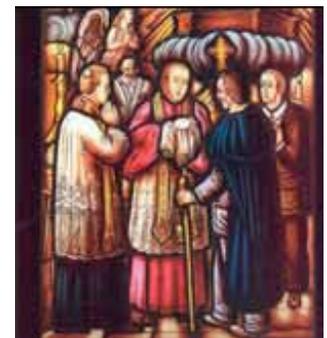
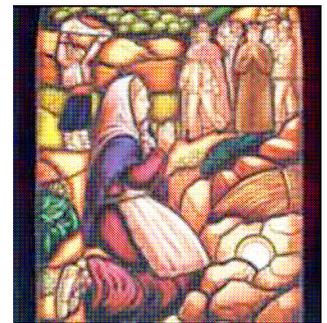
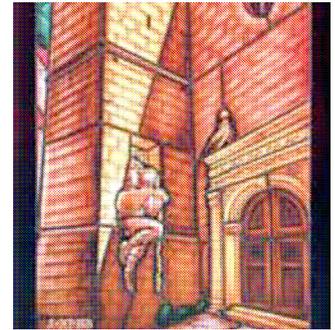
(2)



(3)



(4)



(1) Reliquary of the Host which is preserved intact

(2) Relic of the Miraculous Host

(3) The Feast in honor of the Miracle called the “Pedreria” to commemorate the place where the Host was recovered

(4) Stained glass windows in the Church of St. James in which the scenes of the Miracle are depicted