

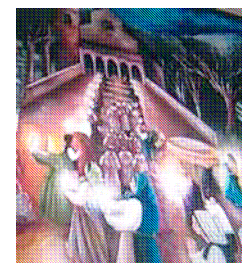
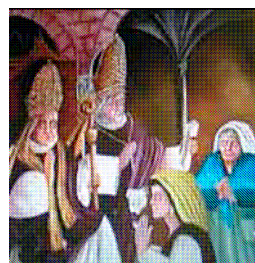
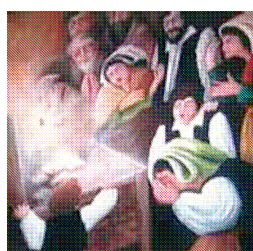
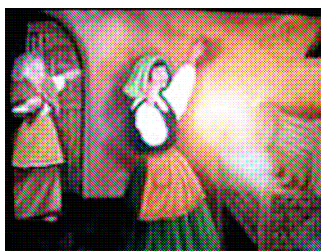
ITALY, 1228

## Eucharistic Miracle of Alatri



At Alatri, the Relic of the Eucharistic Miracle which occurred in 1228, consisting of a fragment of the Host turned into flesh, is still preserved today at the Cathedral of St. Paul the Apostle. A young woman, to win back the love of her boyfriend, had recourse to a sorceress, who ordered her to steal a consecrated Host in order to make a love potion from it. During the Mass, at the time of Holy Communion, the young woman succeeded in stealing a Host, which she concealed in a piece of cloth. When she arrived home, however, she noticed that the Host had been transformed into bleeding flesh. The woman then ran to the sorceress and together they made their way to the Bishop to ask forgiveness. Numerous documents recount this miracle, among which is the Papal Bull *Fraternitas Tuae* (March 13, 1228) written by Pope Gregory IX in response to the Bishop of Alatri, who asked him how he should deal with the two women who committed the sacrilege. The Supreme

Pontiff Gregory IX pardoned the two repentant women, interpreting the episode as a sign sent by the Lord in response to the various heresies concerning the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist which were circulating at that time.



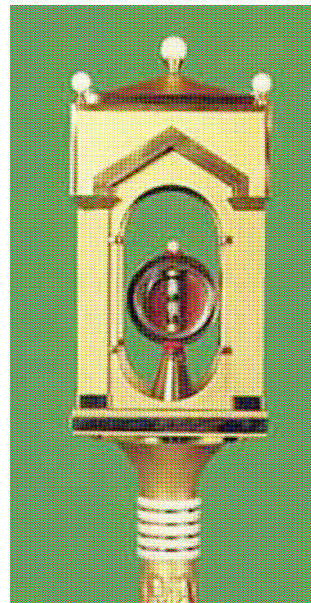
(1) Paintings in the Cathedral of Alatri which depict the various phases of the Miracle



(2)



(3)



(4)

(2) Cathedral of St. Paul at Alatri

(3) Chapel where the Host turned into flesh is exposed

(4) Monstrance where the Relic of the Miracle is preserved