

Eucharistic Miracle of

ROME

ITALY, SIXTH - SEVENTH CENTURIES



This Eucharistic Miracle, whose relic is still preserved in the Benedictine Monastery of Andechs, Germany, is verified by numerous written sources. The authentication took place in Rome in 595 during a Eucharistic celebration presided by Pope St. Gregory the Great. At the moment of receiving Holy Communion, a Roman noblewoman began to laugh because she had doubts about the Real Presence of Christ in the consecrated Bread and Wine. The Pope, troubled by her disbelief, decided not to give her Communion and then the Bread turned into Flesh and Blood.



The shrine that contains the Host of the miracle which is preserved to this day in Andechs



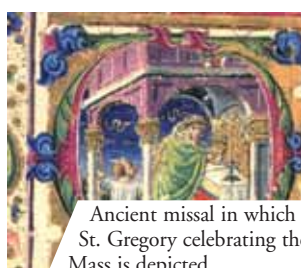
The Miraculous Mass of St. Gregory the Great by Domenico Cresti (1559-1638)



The chapel in Andechs that houses the shrine



The miraculous Mass at which St. Gregory freed numerous souls from purgatory



Ancient missal in which St. Gregory celebrating the Mass is depicted



Mass of St. Gregory. Museum Hiéron, Paray-le-Monial



The church of the Benedictine monastery in Andechs

Among the most important works, in which this Eucharistic miracle that occurred in Rome in 595 is mentioned, is *Vita Beati Gregorii Papae* written by the Deacon Paul in 787. It was customary in those times to have the Eucharistic bread prepared by the parishioners. The Pope St. Gregory the Great was a direct eyewitness to this prodigy.

One Sunday, while celebrating the Sacred Mass in an ancient church dedicated to St. Peter, the Pope was distributing Communion and saw among the faithful in line was one of the women who had prepared the bread for the consecration and she was laughing out loud. Troubled, the Pope cornered her and asked her to explain her behavior. She justified herself by saying that she could not believe that the bread



she made with her very own hands could become the Body and Blood of Christ during the consecration. St. Gregory denied her Communion and asked God to illuminate her. Having just finished praying, he saw that part of the bread, prepared by the woman, become Flesh and Blood. The woman repented, knelt on the ground and began to cry. To this day, part of the relic of the miracle is housed in Andechs, Germany, near the local Benedictine monastery.



Adrien Ysenbrandt, 16th century. The apparition of Jesus with the signs of the Passion during the Mass of St. Gregory