

Saved by the Eucharist from drowning

SAINT SATYRUS

4TH CENTURY

It is the same Saint Ambrose who describes for us this Eucharistic miracle of which the main character, brother Satyrius, in his work *De excessu fratris Satyri*. Saint Satyrius saves himself from a capsized boat thanks to the Holy Eucharist.



Saint Satyrius and The Eucharist



Saint Ambrosio writes about his brother, Satyrius: “What need I say about his faith in God? One fact would be enough. Before he was even completely initiated to the sublime mysteries (receiving his First Holy Communion), he nearly drowned. The ship upon which he was traveling hit a reef, and the rocks ripped open the bottom of the boat, but he did not fear death, he feared only one thing, to abandon this life without the nutrition of the Sacred Mysteries. Therefore, he asked those whom he knew had consecrated the Divine Sacrament of the faithful; certainly not to look into their curious eyes for something mysterious, but rather to obtain help from the Faith. He hid it (the Host) in a handkerchief and tied it to his neck. Then he threw himself into the sea, found a table which detached from the deck of the ship, and he held on.

He did not swim to save himself, but rather he searched for the arms of the faith: considering himself sufficiently protected and defended, he desired no other help.

Therefore, we contemplate together the strength of his spirit: in the throws of capsizing, he didn't grab onto a table to save him, as a man drowning would do, but rather he held onto the courage within himself; he did not abandon his hope, and his conviction did not betray him. Then, as soon as he was rescued and back on land, he recognized the Superior to whom he was entrusted. As soon as he was saved and found out that all of the other servants were saved as well, without lamenting about all of the goods that were lost at sea, he went directly to the church of God to thank

him for their rescue and to take part in the Eternal Mysteries, declaring that there is no greater duty than that of acknowledging gratitude. Satyrius experienced the great help of the Celestial Mysteries wrapped up in a handkerchief, what a grand thing it would be to receive them on the tongue and embrace them deep in the heart!”