

MIRACULOUS COMMUNIONS



During her stay at Proceno, the Dominican Saint Agnes Segni would go into the monastery garden alone to pray near an olive plant. One Sunday morning, she was immersed in prayer from the break of dawn and only after several hours realized that it was a feast day and that she was obliged to attend, attended Mass in the monastery choir. However, an angel of the Lord came bearing an immaculate Host and gave it to her in Holy Communion. This incident was repeated on other occasions as well.



The biographer of Saint Clare of Montefalco recounts in the acts for her canonization process that “one day Clare came up to Holy Communion without her mantle. Sister Giovanna rebuked her harshly, saying to her, ‘Go away - I don’t want you to receive Holy Communion.’ Hearing these words, Clare realized that she was without her mantle and felt such bitter regret that after she returned to her cell, she wept bitterly. And while she was praying amid her tears, Christ appeared to her and, embracing her, gave her Holy Communion, leaving her deeply consoled.”



Blessed Angela of Foligno recounted that “on one occasion I saw Christ under the guise of a small child, who nevertheless appeared great and majestic, like a king: It seemed that, seated on his throne, he held in his hand something like a symbol of authority [...] Then, when the others knelt down, I did not do so, and I don’t know if I ran up close to the altar or if I could not move from sheer delight and contemplation, and I experienced great regret that the priest put the Host back on the altar so quickly.”



The painting represents Saint Frances of Rome with some of her companions in ecstatic wonder at the Monstrance from which radiant beams of light emanated (Civic Art Museum)



One of the miraculous Masses of St. Gregory the Great, in which Christ appeared Crucified (Diocesan Museum of Tier)



The great mystic St. Teresa of Avila often enjoyed visions of heaven during Holy Mass