

Of Seeds and Flowers

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SO, WE MIGHT BELIEVE, IN AN AGE OF DOUBT, and moral confusion!

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE IN BUENOS AIRES In 1996, when Pope Francis was auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires, a remarkable Eucharistic miracle happened. The results are truly astounding.

At 7pm on August 18, 1996, Father Alejandro Pezet was celebrating Mass in a church located in the center of the city. As he finished distributing Holy Communion, a woman came up to him and said that she found a host that someone had thrown away at the back of the church. Father Alejandro went to the place in the church and picked up the very soiled host. The host was so soiled that he couldn't consume it, so he placed it in a small container of water which he put in the tabernacle.

On Monday, August 26th upon opening the tabernacle, to his great surprise he saw that the host had become a bloody substance. He informed Bishop Bergoglio, (later, Pope Francis) who gave instructions that the host was to be professionally photographed. The photos, which were taken on September 6th show clearly that the host, which had become a fragment of bloody flesh, had greatly increased in size. The host remained in the tabernacle for several years. The whole affair was never publicized. Since the host showed no visible sign of decomposition, Bishop Bergoglio decided to have a scientific analysis done on the host.

On October 5, 1999, in the presence of representatives of Bishop Bergoglio, Dr. Castanon removed a sample of the bloody fragment and sent it to New York for analysis. Since he did not want to influence or corrupt the results of the tests, he did not reveal the origin of the sample to the team of scientists doing the testing.

One of these scientists was the acclaimed cardiologist and forensic pathologist, Dr. Frederic Zugiba. He determined that the substance being analyzed was true flesh and real blood containing human DNA. He stated that, "The analyzed material is a fragment of the heart muscle found in the wall of the left ventricle close to the valves. This muscle is responsible for the contraction of the heart. It should be kept in mind that the left cardiac ventricle pumps blood to all parts of the body. The heart muscle is in an inflammatory condition and contains a large number of white blood cells. It is my contention, wrote Dr. Zugiba, that the heart was alive, since white blood cells require a living organism to sustain them, or they will die outside of a living organism. Thus, their presence indicates that the heart was alive when the sample was taken. What is more, these white blood cells had penetrated the tissue, which

"PANIS ANGELICUS"
is Latin for *"THE BREAD OF ANGELS"*



further indicates that the heart had been under severe stress, as if the owner had been beaten severely about the chest."

Two Australians, journalist Mike Willesee and legal expert Ron Tesoriero, were witnesses to these tests. When they became aware of the origin of the sample that was tested, they were staggered by Dr. Zugiba's declaration. Mike Willesee asked Dr. Zugiba how long the white blood cells could have remained alive if they had come from human tissue that was preserved in water. Dr. Zugiba answered that the white blood cells would have ceased to exist after a few minutes. The journalist only then revealed to the doctor that the substance from which the sample had come had first been preserved in ordinary water for a month and, following that, had been preserved in a receptacle containing mineral water for three years and that it was only after this time that a sample had been taken for analysis. Dr. Zugiba was at a total loss to explain this fact. He declared that there was no way of explaining this fact scientifically.

Dr. Zugiba then asked him, "Please, can you explain something to me. If this sample was taken from a dead person, then how can it be that while I was examining it, the cells in the sample were in motion and pulsating? If this heart comes from someone who died in 1996, how can it still be alive?" Only then did Mike Wallace reveal to Dr. Zugiba that the analyzed sample came from a consecrated host (white, unleavened bread), which had mysteriously been transformed into bleeding human flesh. Stunned at hearing this, Dr. Zugiba answered, ***"How and why a consecrated host (white, unleavened bread) can change its character and become human flesh, and blood will remain an inexplicable mystery for science - a mystery completely beyond its competence."***

After this, Dr. Ricardo Castanon Gomez arranged for the laboratory reports, written about the Buenos Aires miracle, to be compared to similar reports produced after a similar Eucharistic miracle that took place in Lanciano, Italy. Again, without revealing the origin of the test samples. The experts who conducted the comparison concluded that the two laboratory reports had analyzed test samples taken from the same person. They further pointed out that the two samples revealed an "AB positive" blood type. This blood carries characteristics of a man who was born and lived in the Middle East.

WHY ALL THIS??? God wants us to be certain that He is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. He wants to awaken in us a deep faith in the Eucharist. The Eucharist: What an ingenious way to be remembered!! Not by leaving a library, museum, university or airport but by leaving Oneself behind as living food. Such intimacy, such power! The LAST SUPPER NOW!! Overwhelming generosity! GET LOVED!

"I myself am the living bread come down from Heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he shall live forever; and the bread I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world. Let me solemnly assure you, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His



"One communion well received could make you a saint."

- St. Theresa of Avila.

I have celebrated or participated in the Eucharist over 7000 times in my lifetime and I ask myself, ***"Why have I not become a saint?"*** How about you? One time, well done, could do it!! ***HOW CAN YOUR HEART AND LIFE NOT MISS THIS? YOU are meant for this!***

*blood you have no life in you. He who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day. **For my flesh is real food and my blood real drink. The man who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. John 6: 31-36.*** How do YOU deal with these words?

This is the reason Catholics celebrate the Eucharist every Sunday, indeed every day. -or have hours of adoration before the blessed Sacrament or just visit the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. -and one of the moving reasons why so many protestant pastors and their families are coming back to the Catholic church.



The Coming Home Network International Newsletter

reports in its Joyful Journey Updates Section: From a former reformed church pastor: "In May of 2023, I began studying Catholicism in depth so that I

could better understand a friend of mine who had gone from Protestant pastor to Catholic convert in 2017. I had no idea that this deep dive would end up not just informing me but transforming me. Long held biases and objections dissolved, and a newfound appreciation for the doctrines and history, and the life and liturgy of the Catholic Church took their place. My journey culminated at the 2025 Easter Vigil, when I too went from Protestant pastor to Catholic convert, along with my wife and two children. We're grateful for all of our supporters and cheerleaders along the way, not the least of which has been the Coming home Network. "Glory to God in the highest!"

From James, a former Lutheran pastor: "Being a pastor, I thought I knew all there was to theology. But the more I studied the Catholic Faith, the more truth and beauty I saw, like a flower unfolding its petals in April. Whenever I share my story or a new nugget of Catholic doctrine, people say they can see and hear my excitement in my face and voice. I cannot contain it."

At a very awkward time in the Catholic Church in the last 20 years and yet over 2000 Protestant pastors and their families have joined the Catholic Church. A little bit of study, history, honesty and getting beyond the false information, and God and grace takes over.

God is REALLY, NOT SYMBOLICALLY, present in the Eucharist.



"The danger when men stop believing in God is not that they'll believe in nothing; but that they will believe in anything."

G. K. Chesterton

BY DANIEL BENDANDI - in Contemplative Outreach News. "I am Italian and was born and raised in a rather unusual environment. My parents and most people around me were not Catholics but atheists, very politically minded, and highly sensitive to social issues. I thoroughly imbibed their ideas and sentiments and became politically active at a very young age. Our view of Christianity was that it stood in the way of true progress, and the only good thing we could say about it was the Jesus was a leftist. Apart from that, we pitied those "dumb" Christians.

This all changed when I had a near death experience. (NDE). IT was a total reset. Upon returning to my body, I felt thoroughly humbled. All my previous ideas appeared as nothing, as extremely short-sighted and shallow. From then on it was very difficult to engage with any ideology or party line, on any side. I had seen the big picture, so to speak, and everything else looked kind of "dumb", the same as I used to think about religion. DEATH WILL DO THAT!! Being or becoming a Christian is almost ALWAYS about not knowing or knowing about things that are NOT TRUE! - or taught to be true since you are a child. OR FEELINGS, OR FEELINGS!!! Those feelings!!!! Always causing problems.

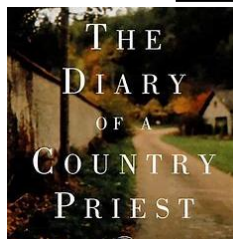
So many reject Christ because of Christians. We have always been a messed-up bunch, and somehow God has survived the embarrassing things we do in His name. So often, the Gospel, the Christian message is not just about going up when we die but about bringing God's Kingdom down. Christianity spreads best not through force but through fascination, however, over the last few decades our Christianity, at least here in the U.S. has become less and less fascinating. We have given the atheists less and less to disbelieve."

"Among all my patients in the second half of life, that is to say, over 35, there has not been ONE, whose problem in the last resort was not that of finding a religious outlook on life. It is safe to say that every one of them fell ill because he had lost that which the living religions of every age have given to their followers, and NONE OF THEM HAS BEEN REALLY HEALED WHO DID NOT REGAIN HIS RELIGIOUS OUTLOOK." Carl Jung, "Modern Man in Search of a Soul"

VISION AND REALITY: A new philosophical idea in the world is a 50-cent word called **"Postmodernism"** or what we commonly hear as **"WOKE"** or **"My Truth"**. This new philosophy deeply believed by our "modern" culture, denies the existence of objective truth, and teaches that EVERYTHING is changeable. If something doesn't seem good and yet you want to do it, you should do it and call it good. There is no Natural Law, conscience, limits, or boundaries. Everyone is a law unto themselves. If it FEELS GOOD, do it! If it doesn't feel good don't do it and deny that it exists. If we could label it, it could well be called a **"POST TRUTH"** orthodoxy.



"We need to separate Jesus Christ from the failure of those who work for Him!" - Shane Claiborne



"It is difficult to suffer for the church; impossible to suffer from the church."

Tucker Carlson interview with Bishop Barron - A 3-credit course in reality. A must see!!

Personal truth=moral standards discarded!! -And college professors continue to churn out more moral relativists like themselves. 80% of Catholics leave the church by age 25. Lapsed Catholics are the second-largest religious denomination by far.

The true and tested central question, the century's old, **tested** philosophy asks the correct question: WHAT IS THE GOOD, THE RIGHT THING TO DO? The central question in the "new philosophy" is, "**How do you get it done?**" And if you ask, "*Get what done?*" The answer you get back is, "**WHATEVER YOU WANT, WHATEVER MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD AT THE MOMENT.**" And we wonder why we are in the mess we are in. Everyone (media, politicians, professors etc.) becomes their own moral and legal code. VERY DANGEROUS!!! "OOPS, MY BAD" can turn a serious crime into an act of virtue. We live in confusing, dangerous, and serious times. The consequences, IF FOLLOWED, are catastrophic. WOKE is like egotism/ political correctness ON STEROIDS. And so says the leader of Russia. We are so slow!

You are not a human being in search of a spiritual experience. You are a spiritual being immersed in a human experience.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

If there is one thing I have learned from liberals and conservatives, it's that you can have great answers -OR NOT- and still be MEAN.

"Nada te turbe, nada te espante, todo se pasa, Dios no se muda, la paciencia todo lo alcanza, quien a Dios tiene nada le falta. Solo Dios basta." - Let nothing disturb you; Let nothing frighten you; All things are passing away; God never changes. Patience in all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.

These words were found in the prayerbook of St. Teresa of Avila after she



One day in my Latin class I had a little Chinese girl raise her hand and ask, "*My mother keeps saying to me that I am like a frog at the bottom of a well. What do you think she is saying?*" I thought for only a second. "This is one teachable moment I won't let get away." I drew two vertical lines on the board to

represent a deep well and a little frog at the bottom. "*What do you see?*" I asked. She answered, "*A bit of the sky (reality) and much well wall.*" Then I moved the frog halfway up. "*What do you see?*" "*Less wall and more sky,*" she replied. "*Oh, now I get it!*" Then I moved the frog to the top of the well. "*Oh, now I really get it!*"

How many people, institutions, leaders do you know are like a frog at the bottom of a well? They see only a bit of the truth, reality, NONE of the future consequences, and in ignorance rest at the bottom saying and thinking they are in touch with reality, -the GOOD. Truth has no versions! There is no RIGHT WAY TO DO THE WRONG THING!!! Everyone knows that we are at a pivotal moment, that the last four years were a governmental nightmare and all we want, and need is truth and justice from a culture that seems to celebrate only evil -and call it good. The good news is that more Americans are realizing the emptiness of the world's answer.

Is it allowed, legitimate, OK, to be for country, God, church, right order, truth morality, the law? WHY NOT?

The forest was shrinking, but the trees kept voting for the axe, for the axe was clever and convinced the trees that because his handle was made of wood, he was one of them.

Turkish proverb

Hard times create strong men. Strong men create good times. Good times create weak men. And, weak men create hard times.

May 11th was the 63rd anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood; On September 7th I was married 49 years, and I have 6 children. I am a father, husband and priest and any one of these vocations makes me better at the other two.

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