

Eucharistic Miracle of Alatri  
ITALY, 1228



At Alatri, the Relic of a Eucharistic Miracle which occurred in the year 1228, consisting of a fragment of a Host transformed into flesh, is still preserved today at the Cathedral of St. Paul the Apostle. A young woman, to win back the love of her fiancé, had recourse to a sorceress, who ordered her to steal a consecrated Host to make a love potion out of it. During a Mass, at the time of Holy Communion, the young woman managed to steal a Host, which she hid in a piece of cloth. When she arrived home, she noticed that the Host had been transformed into bleeding flesh. The woman then ran immediately to the sorceress, and together they went to the Bishop to ask for pardon. Numerous documents speak of this Miracle, including a Papal Bull *Fraternitas Tuae* of March 13, 1228, written by Pope Gregory IX in response to the Bishop of Alatri, who asked him how he should act in regard to the two sacrilegious women. The Supreme Pontiff Gregory IX, pardoned the two penitent women, interpreting the incident 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.