

# **Eucharistic Miracles**

*reflection # 10*

**Volterra, Italy (1472)**

Over the centuries numerous, unexplainable Eucharistic wonders have occurred in our world. One such wonder happened in **Volterra, Italy in 1472**. Volterra is a walled city southwest of Florence, Italy.

At this time there was on ongoing war between Florence and Volterra. In 1472 Florence sacked the city of Volterra. In the pillaging that followed a Florentian soldier entered the Cathedral of Volterra and caught sight of a beautiful ivory ciborium in the church's tabernacle. The ciborium contained a number of consecrated hosts.

Upon leaving the church with the ciborium and consecrated hosts the soldier suffered a fit of rage and threw the ciborium against the wall of the church. As the ivory ciborium broke, the consecrated hosts flew out. The hosts were illuminated by a strange light and remained suspended in mid air for a period of time.

The soldier fell to the ground, repented, begged forgiveness and began to weep. A number of townspeople witnessed this event. Among those witnesses was a Franciscan monk whose eye witness testimony today is housed in the archives of St. Francis Church in present day Volterra.

Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist will not be mocked nor held in contempt. As the Florentian soldier was brought to his knees by the miracle of Volterra, St Paul reminds us in his letter to the Philippians:

*"... every knee must bend in the heavens,  
on the earth, and under the earth  
and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God the Father:  
**Jesus Christ is Lord.**"*

**Such is the glory and wonder of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist.**