Eucharistic Miracles

reflection # 4 **Tixtla, Mexico** (2006)

What church officials today describe as a "Eucharistic phenomenon" occurred on October 21, 2006 in the small southwestern Mexican town of **Tixtla** *{pronounced Teese-La}*, **Mexico**.

The parish of St. Martin of Tours was conducting a spiritual retreat for 600 parishioners. As two priests and a religious sister were distributing Communion, the Sister turned to one of the priests with eyes filled with tears. The host she had taken to give as Communion to a parishioner had begun to effuse a reddish substance.

Scientific research has been conducted on the Host between October 2009 and October 2012 that resulted in several conclusions. The most noteworthy findings indicated that the substance was blood of human origin, that the source of the blood originated from inside the host (and was not placed on the host from the outside), and that a study of tissue material revealed it to be tissue from the heart.

In 2013 the bishop of that diocese concluded the *'supernatural nature'* of what happened, qualifying it as "a divine sign" and "a true miracle." The succeeding bishop decided to do his own investigation and consulted the Vatican, who have since called it a "Eucharistic phenomenon". In the mean time the final diocesan processes are being concluded and will be sent to Rome, where a final decision by the Pope could declare it to be an official Eucharistic miracle.

Phenomena like Tixtla *{teese-la}*, Mexico belongs to a long list of extraordinary events reminding us of God's abiding presence in our midst.

No presence is more present, nor more real than his Real Presence in the sacrament of the Eucharist.