

Eucharistic Miracles

reflection # 5

Daroqa, Spain (1239)

On a number of occasions throughout history unexplainable events have occurred that bolster the Church's teaching of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist. One of these events happened in **Daroqa, Spain** in 1239.

At that time there was an ongoing battle between the Spanish and the Moors, who were Arabic-speaking tribes of north Africa and who had invaded the Iberian peninsula. Just before the first battle a priest had consecrated six hosts during Mass to be given to the six captains leading the Spanish troops. Suddenly a sneak attack was initiated with the commanders called into battle before receiving Communion. The priest placed and covered the consecrated hosts in a white linen cloth, called a corporal, and hid them under a rock.

Once that attack had been repelled the commanders begged the priest to receive Communion in thanksgiving for their victory. Upon retrieving the corporal with the consecrated hosts, the hosts were bleeding and the corporal was blood-stained. Interpreting this as a sign of God's favor, the commanders received Communion and tied the blood-stained corporal to a spear. This '*new make-shift banner*' was carried into battle and won a decisive victory for the Spanish troops. The victory was attributed to this '**miraculous happening**'.

Since each of the 6 commanders were from different parts of Spain, a dispute arose about where to house this blood-stained corporal. A plan was agreed to house '*the miracle*' at the Church of St. Mark in Daroqa. Soon a church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary was constructed and now houses a precious reliquary containing this blood-stained corporal. To this day the reliquary containing the blood-stained corporal is available for public veneration. Modern tests confirm the blood on this corporal to be of human origin.

Christ promised to be with us until the end of the ages. As he made himself present in Daroqa, Spain Christ becomes preeminently present at every Mass when bread and wine are consecrated and become the Real Presence of his Body and Blood. Blessed are they who believe.