

Eucharistic Miracles

reflection # 17

Buenos Aires, Argentina (1996)

28 years ago in August a powerful Eucharistic marvel happened in **Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1996**. This all took place while our present Pope Francis was the auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese of Buenos Aires.

During a Mass on August 15th celebrating the Holy Day of Mary's Assumption in heaven, a consecrated host accidentally fell on the floor of the church during the distribution of Communion. According to protocol the host was placed in a small container of water to dissolve and placed in the church's tabernacle.

A few days later when the tabernacle was opened the host had transformed into a bloodied substance. Over the course of the next 20 years forensic pathology and DNA testing have been conducted.

A leading New York medical examiner and forensic pathologist testified that *"the analyzed material is a fragment of the heart muscle found in wall of the heart's left ventricle."* In addition the analyzed 'heart muscle tissue' is inflamed and suggests it has suffered from some trauma and been beaten severely about the chest. This doctor concludes by saying, *"How and why a consecrated host would change its character and become living human flesh and blood will remain an inexplicable mystery to science – a mystery totally beyond her competence."*

Eucharistic miracles such as this speak about supernatural reality beyond the power of science and technology. Life is more than the physical and the material. Yet God uses and transforms the physical and material to open our hearts and minds to mysteries of faith.

The Eucharist and Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist is one of his greatest mysteries of faith.