

Beyond Baptism

St. Juliana of Liège (one of Our Patron Saints),

Happy Sacred Heart Month!

As we celebrate the love of Christ's Sacred Heart this June, we turn to a lesser-known but deeply important saint: **St. Juliana of Liège**, a Norbertine canoness whose faith helped give the Church the Feast of Corpus Christi. Through her mystical visions and persistent devotion, she inspired the Church to honor the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist with this special feast, which continues to bring spiritual renewal to the faithful worldwide.



Born in the late 1100s in what is now Belgium, Juliana was orphaned at age five and raised in a monastery. There, she received a rare education for a woman of her time, and grew in holiness, wisdom, and deep devotion to the Virgin Mary, the Passion of Christ, and—most especially—the Blessed Sacrament.

At sixteen, Juliana began receiving visions, the most famous being of a moon with a dark blemish, which she understood as a sign that the Church lacked a feast dedicated to the Body and Blood of Christ. Though she felt unworthy and prayed for twenty years to be freed from the calling, she eventually confided in her spiritual director and close companions. Her courage and perseverance helped pave the way for Pope Urban IV to institute the Feast of Corpus Christi in 1264, shortly after her death.

Juliana's vision came at a critical moment. Many in the Church—especially among theologians and philosophers—had begun to question the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Her faith helped ignite a Eucharistic revival, supported by St. Thomas Aquinas, who wrote the liturgical prayers and hymns still used for Corpus Christi today.

Juliana also endured intense trials. After being elected prioress, she confronted corruption in Church leadership and was unjustly driven into exile—twice. Though she was later vindicated, she spent her final years in seclusion, far from her convent. Yet through it all, Juliana remained faithful and devoted to affirming Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

Her life is a testimony to the quiet power of obedience, perseverance, and trust in God's will.

May we foster a love so burning for Christ in the Eucharist that we embrace our trials and envelop the world in the flames of His presence. Let us trust in God's plan for us, and have the Grace to accept that plan.

St. Juliana of Liège, Pray for Us

The Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano



The Miracle of Luciano is often considered to be the first and greatest of Eucharistic Miracles in the Catholic Church. In the 700s, in the City of Lanciano (a city in Rome), the monks of St. Basil had established a monastery (traditionally under the patronage of St. Longinus). A monk, who struggled with doubt regarding the real presence, was celebrating the mass when, during the words of consecration the bread turned to flesh and the wine to blood. The nameless monk began weeping joyously and shouting to his brothers "Behold the flesh and blood of our savior!". The Flesh and Blood were preserved through the centuries in reliquaries, and in the 1970s, the most thorough testing was done. They found that the flesh came from the wall of a human heart, and the blood was type AB, a universal receiver.

Countless visitors each year go to witness Lanciano.

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Where the Eucharist Transforms Lives and Hearts.

St. Juliana of Liège Fun Facts

She was an avid reader of St. Augustine and St. Bernard, and memorized by the early church fathers.

She began working with lepers at the age of 13, and did so for many years!

During his Papacy, Pope Benedict XVI wrote an address talking about St. Juliana of Liege. He ended his address with the following:

The Saints never failed to find strength, consolation and joy in the Eucharistic encounter. Let us repeat before the Lord present in the Most Blessed Sacrament the words of the Eucharistic hymn "Adoro te devote": [Devoutly I adore Thee]: Make me believe ever more in you, "Draw me deeply into faith, / Into Your hope, into Your love".



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Thank you for your interest in Highway to Heaven: Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Eucharist. "A Saint in Sneakers!"

We are truly grateful for your support and enthusiasm for this special event.

We're writing to let you know that we have made the decision to postpone the event. This follows the Holy See's announcement that the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis has been delayed due to the recent passing of Pope Francis. Since the canonization is central to the theme of our event, we believe it is most appropriate to wait until a new date is announced.

We are currently planning to reschedule the event for **March or April of 2026**, and will share more details as soon as they are confirmed.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and patience. It is our hope that you will be able to join us next year as we celebrate the life and legacy of Carlo Acutis, especially in light of his upcoming canonization.

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