



Beyond Baptism

Engaging Laity
Empowering Hearts
Sharing the Real Presence



Encounter Christ through the Eucharist



St. Catherine of Siena was born in 1347, and served the sick and poor till her death in 1380. St. Catherine was a great mystic, and was awarded the title of Doctor of the Church, so great were her writings. She was the youngest of 25 children, and from a young age dedicated herself to Christ. So great was her love for Christ that she was in a mystical marriage to the Divine Bridegroom.

Like St. Catherine of Siena, by the light of the holy faith, may we come to know Christ in the Eucharist. May we contemplate ourselves in His Body and Blood, and be nourished in this life as pilgrims on a journey. Never let a moment pass without eating this exquisite food, and growing in virtue. St. Catherine, Pray for us!



The Miracle of the House of Loreto: Blessed Virgin's home

So in love with Christ was Catherine of Siena, as is written in her book *dialogues*, that she conversed with Christ himself on occasion. During such mystical occasion, Christ spoke of the Eucharist. He told Catherine that "You receive all the divine essence of the sweetest Sacrament in the whiteness in the bread. Just like the sun cannot be divided in the whiteness of the Holy Host." and that "The image of God and Man in the Eucharist is present in each part of the bread, even if it were divided into thousands of pieces".

Christ told Catherine that it is in receiving Him through the Eucharist, and the Sacrament of Baptism, we can grow in virtue as much as you like through His divine grace.

Who better stands as a testament to this than Catherine herself, who despite physical ailments responded in joy to God's calling to minister the sick and the poor, her family, and all the world. Catherine, a 3rd order Dominican, traveled all over the world preaching to love God totally. She was involved in politics, and is credited with saving the soul of a condemned political prisoner upon visiting him.

In 1375 she began dictating letters calling for peace and persuaded the Pope who had moved to Avignon to return to Rome. She restored the papacy to Rome and prevented many wars as a delegate of Christ. During the Great Schism, in 1378, she was summoned by Pope Urban IV to Rome. There Catherine spent the remainder of her life working for the reformation of the Church, writing letters to princes and delegates, and serving the afflicted. She had commanded the respect and belief of many for her writings and for her peacemaking during the papal war. It was through the Eucharist that St. Catherine was empowered to bring the love of God to all, and accomplished all of these things.

According to her confessor, Bl. Raymond of Capua, St. Catherine ate nothing but the Eucharist for the last seven years of her life. By a miracle, Catherine was nourished by Christ alone, all while tending the plague stricken and healing the schism in the Church at the time. Many spoke of her vitality and charm, and her infectious joy during this time.

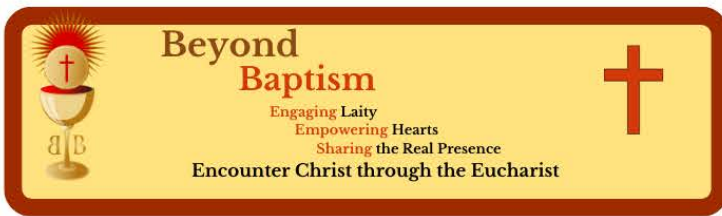
Tradition holds that a small house in Loreto, Italy originated in Nazareth and is the home of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is one room, measuring 13 x 30 feet and made of stone and mortar from Palestine. The design carved onto the stone are of the same style found in other houses consistent with Jesus' time.

Since apostolic times, this house was a place of pilgrimage, but it was not always in Italy. In 313 A.D. Constantine had a basilica built around the house, in order to preserve it, but in 1090 the Saracens destroyed the basilica. Another basilica was built to preserve the holy home, but this too was destroyed this time by Moslems during the crusades in 1263. Again the house was left untouched.

When the Christians were driven out of the holy lands in 1291, the house disappeared from Nazareth and appeared in modern day Croatia. The house was again moved in 1294 when Christians were forced out once again due to Muslim invasion. The final moving site was Loreto. Each time the house moved, it is traditionally written to have been moved by angels, who carried the Holy house to safety.

In this miracle house, the immaculate conception took place, as well as Mary's fiat. Jesus lived in this home until He was 30 and began His public ministry, and St. Joseph traditionally died here.

The East wall contains an altar with the inscription "*Hic Verbum Caro Factum Est*" or "Here the Word Became Flesh". In 2019, a memorial titled "Our Lady of Loreto" based on the House of Loreto, was added to the Roman Calendar.



Eucharistic Miracles & Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy

12 Days October 20 -31st, 2025

Rome Florence Assisi
plus the Eucharistic Miracles of Lanciano,
Loreto, and many more

St. Catherine of Siena

**And by the light of most holy faith
I shall contemplate myself in you.
And I shall clothe myself in your eternal
will,
And by this light I shall come to know
That you, eternal Trinity,
Are table
And food
And waiter for us.
You, eternal Father,
Are the table
That offers us as food
The Lamb, your only-begotten Son.
He is the most exquisite of foods for us,
Both in his teaching,
Which nourishes us in your will,
And in the sacrament
That we receive in Holy Communion,
Which feeds and strengthens us
While we are pilgrim travelers in this
life.
And the Holy Spirit
Is indeed a waiter for us,
For he serves us this teaching
By enlightening our mind's eye with it
And inspiring us to follow it.
And he serves us charity for our
neighbors
And hunger to have as food
Souls
And the salvation of the whole world
For the Father's honor
So we see that souls enlightened in you,
True light,
Never let a moment pass
Without eating this exquisite food
For your honor.**

Our Pilgrimage will be spiritually enhanced
with Msgr Paul Bochicchio and Fr. Ernie Rush
Daily Mass will be celebrated

Our Pilgrimage

We invite you, your family, your friends, and your parish to join us on a transformative journey through the Eucharistic Miracles of Italy. This pilgrimage is designed to deepen your faith in our Lord's precious gift and to set your hearts on fire with love for Him. As you explore the sites of these miraculous events, you will witness firsthand the profound impact of the Eucharist on believers throughout history. This pilgrimage is even more special as it coincides with the Jubilee Year, offering pilgrims the chance to receive a plenary indulgence.

Discover Italy

Italy's stunning landscapes and rich history provide the perfect backdrop for this spiritual journey. From the rolling hills of Tuscany to the serene coastlines of the Adriatic Coast, and from the bustling streets of Rome to the charming villages of Umbria, you will be immersed in the beauty of God's creation. Alongside the Eucharistic sites, you'll have the opportunity to experience Italy's cultural treasures, historical landmarks, and exquisite cuisine.

Let this pilgrimage be a journey of both spiritual and personal enrichment. Discover the divine through sacred encounters, and allow the breathtaking beauty and historical richness of Italy to deepen your connection to our faith. Join us in igniting a renewed passion for Christ within your life and your parish community.

