



ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

9135 BANYAN ST. ALTA LOMA CA 91737 | 909.987.9312 | WWW.STPETERSTPAUL.COM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

Mass Times

MONDAY - FRIDAY

7:30AM Mass

SATURDAY

4:00PM

(1st Saturday) 7:30AM

SUNDAY

7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM

1PM (Spanish)

5PM (LifeTeen)

Confessions

Thurs: 5-7PM

Sat: 8:15-9:30AM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday from 8AM-8PM

Friday - 24 hour Adoration at 8AM

Benediction at 7:45AM on Saturday
In the Adoration Chapel, in the Parish Hall

Holy Days Of Obligation

As announced in the Bulletin

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, August 12th

4:00 PM Sophia Benigno
†Souls of the Deceased Priests

Sunday, August 13th

7:30 AM †Ashton Arrellano
†Chuck Lutrell

9:00 AM †Feliciano Manalo
†Nicholas Reese
†Ricardo Garcia

11:00 PM †Fr. Bernard Woniala
†Fr. Manuel Udah

1:00 PM †People of the Parish
†Virgilio Barahona

5:00 PM †Mike Braga
Michael Joseph Enriquez - Healing

Monday, August 14th

7:30 AM Tom Edgington - Happy Birthday
Aubrey Topacio - Happy Birthday

Tuesday, August 15th - Assumption

7:30 AM †Larry & Lucy Herber
Rene & Lilia DiJamco - Thanksgiving

12:00 PM Freddie & Lily Rivera - Happy Anniversary

5:30 PM People of the Parish

7:00 PM †Alfred Ochoa

Wednesday, August 16th

7:30 AM David Anderson
Eve Ontiveros

Thursday, August 17th

7:30 AM Albert Lobo
†Jose Felix Amorado

Friday, August 18th

7:30 AM Bernadette Diamzon - Happy Birthday
†Felicidad de Cassio

Saturday, August 19th

4:00 PM Rene Dijamco - Happy Birthday
Helen Mora - thanksgiving

Sunday, August 20th

7:30 AM Andrew Alvarez
†Linda Oyler

9:00 AM †Anna Won
†Patricia Marie Holder

11:00 PM †Rita Romero
†Richard Romero

1:00 PM †Yrma Davila Villalobos
†Jaime & Angelina Rodriguez
†Fernando Quiroz

5:00 PM People of the Parish
Andy Nguyen



Our Pastoral Clergy / Staff 987-9312

Fr. Henry Sseriiso		Ext. 1101
	hsseriiso@stpeterstpaul.com	
Fr. Andres Rivera		Ext. 1107
	anrivera@stpeterstpaul.com	
Deacon John Barna	john.w.barna1969@gmail.com	
Deacon Louie Chanco		Ext 1203
	lchanco@stpeterstpaul.com	
Deacon Nel Rabe		Ext 1203
	nelrabe@stpeterstpaul.com	
Parish Secretary/ Liturgy Assistant	Carolina Menendez	Ext 1100
Parish Administrative Assistant	Ellie Cabildo	Ext 1103
Coordinator of Pastoral Care	Gloria Rivera	Ext. 1105
IT (Support Specialist)	Jason Cary	Ext. 1106
	jcary@stpeterstpaul.com	
Coordinator of Catechetical Ministries & Marriage Advocate		
	Aileen Gamalinda	Ext. 1115
Catechetical Ministries Admin. Asst.	Irma Mc Gaughey	Ext. 1116
Director of Adult Faith Formation	Jenny Campbell	Ext. 1122
Music Director	Audrey Donaldson	Ext. 1120
YM Administrative Assistant	Elizabeth Scheffer	Ext. 1201
Coordinator of Confirmation & Youth Ministries		
	Daniel Manriquez	Ext. 1202
Youth & Young Adult Minister/ Life Teen Music Coordinator		
	Melissa Acosta	Ext. 1203

During hours the office is closed, call
909-477-3362 for Emergencies requiring a priest

<http://www.stpeterstpaul.com>
<https://app.flocknote.com/spspaltaloma>
www.facebook.com/spspaltaloma

Children's Faith Formation & Baptism
Sacrament of Matrimony
(909) 980-9423

Office Hours: Mon. - Thur. 9 am to 3 pm
or by appointment Closed Fridays

***Please contact us through email so that we may
assist you as soon as possible**

agamalinda@stpeterstpaul.com
imcgaughey@stpeterstpaul.com

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday, August 14th

7:30 AM - Mass - Church
10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl - St. Bernadine
6:00 PM - Boy Scouts - Hall/Library
7:00 PM - Lectio Divina - St. Bernadine
7:00 PM - Meditación Cristiana - Chapel

Tuesday, August 15th- Assumption

7:30 AM - Mass - Church
10:00 AM - Talleres de Oracion y Vida—Bernadine
12:00 PM - Mass (Church)
5:30 PM - Mass (Church)
5:30 PM - Confirmation Catchiest - JP II Bldg.
6:00 PM - A.C.T.S. Missions - St. Bosco
7:00 PM - Mass - Church
7:00 PM - Talleres de Oracion y Vida - Augustine

Wednesday, August 16th

7:30 AM - Mass - Church
8:15 AM - Adoration - Chapel
6:30 PM - A.C.T.S. Missions - Library
7:00 PM - Hispanic Co. Comm. - St. Teresa
7:45 PM - Benediction - Chapel

Thursday, August 17th

7:30 AM - Mass - Church
10:00 AM - Spiritual Motherhood Rosary
for Priests - Chapel
1:00 PM - Flame of Love Holy Hour - Chapel
6:30 PM - A.C.T.S. Missions - Library
7:00 PM - El Rezo del Santo Rosario - Chapel

Friday, August 18th

7:30 AM - Mass - Church
8:15 AM - Adoration - Chapel (24 hours)
7:00 PM - Ministerio Con Pequeñas - Bosco

Saturday, August 19th

7:45 AM - Benediction - Chapel
10:00 AM - Hopeful, Loving Memory Min. JP II
5:00 PM - ACTS Pasta Dinner—Hall

August 13, 2023

Our Parish Financial Corner

08/06/2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$19,901.00
Sunday Plate:	\$4,367.50
Sunday Online:	\$9,288.50
<i>Total Sunday</i>	<i>\$33,557.00</i>

Total Miscellaneous	\$7,329.71
---------------------	------------

DDF 2023

Diocese Goal: \$133,500.00
Pledges Made: \$86,913.00
Gifts Received: \$73,841.27
Donors: 273
Percent of Goal: 55.31 %
As of: Aug 06, 2023 7:00PM

Let us pray for those
serving our country:

Ryker Convento
Kyle Marquez
Robert Wilson
Zackarey Schade
David Messing
Jeffrey Combalecer
William Joseph Wright
Sean Ball Jr.
Michael Rivera
Jeremiah Apodaca
Manuel Juarez

Dear Parishioners,

For your convenience we have provided several ways you can send your offering.



- Safely drop off in the office between the hours 8:30 am to 4:30pm Mon-Thurs. Fri. 9am-12.
- Drop in the mail slot in the Serra Building which is checked daily
- Mail in to St. Peter & St. Paul, 9135 Banyan St., Alta Loma, 91737
- Through your bank
- Online giving via our website (Use our QR Code)



Thank you for your continued support of our parish and we are so grateful to be back in the pews! May God bless you and keep you and your families safe.

In Christ's Service *Fr. Henry*



Romans 9:1-3




Romans 9:1-3

Tagalog Corner

Sa ngalan ni Cristo, ako'y nagsasabi ng totoo. Hindi ako nagsisinungaling. Ang aking budhi ay nagpapatunay na totoo ang sinasabi ko at saksi ko ang Espiritu Santo. Matindi ang aking kalungkutan at di mapawi ang pagdaramdam ng aking puso, dahil sa mga kalahi kong Judio. Mas mamatamin ko pang ako'y sumpain at mapahiwalay kay Cristo, kung ito'y sa ikabubuti nila.

I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie; my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness that I have great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.



In Memoriam

†Raymond Gallardo †Lupe Ledesma
†Christian Aguirre †Dolores Morgan
†Paul Dorado †Jeff Signor
†Sister Carol Ann Holder, OSU



Pray for the Sick


Brian Dahm, Kevin & Yolanda
Suchoza, Evie Ontiveros,
Suzanne Killingsworth, Henry &
Esther Torres, Naida Fabi,
Natalie Arrellano, Frank Perea,
Lynnette Lobato, Corey Mittwer,
Baby Evelyn Perez, Carol Conway,
Yan Yeskey, Eddie Farias,
Michael Boyington, Ann Davis,
Pat Simpson, Jan Shively,
David Ramirez, Michael Anton,
Jose Zolotoff, Marco Arana,
Angelina Knight, Zenia Payne,
Vince Diamzon, Mariscelle Dehzo

Save the Date

ORDINATION TO THE
Permanent Diaconate

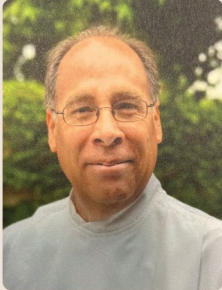
August 26, 2023
10:00 a.m.

Holy Family Church
99741 Avenue, Hesperia, CA 92345



MASS OF THANKSGIVING
Celebrating the Ordination of
Tom Imbruglia

AUGUST 26TH
4:00 p.m



Dinner Reception
immediately following
the Mass in
the church hall.

9135 Banyan St.
Alta Loma CA 91737

‘Ohana Sunday

When we would visit Hawaii, my wife and I experienced what is referred to on the islands, as the ‘Spirit of Aloha’. From the time we got off the plane to the day we left, the feeling of welcome was evident everywhere. Hospitality is something that the island people do very well. Tourism is very important in Hawaii, just like it is in any other resort destination, but the island people seem to express a genuine concern about making their guests feel at home.

One Sunday, we attended Mass at a beautiful little church in Maui. It was a mission church of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. The priest traveled twelve miles from the main church in Lahaina to say Mass for the people in Kapalua. It was obvious that most in attendance were visitors, but the choir, liturgical ministers and the priest were all ‘locals’. As we recited together, the prayers of that Sunday in Ordinary Time, and sang hymns that we sing here at St. Peter & St. Paul, we immediately felt like we were with family. We were at home in a Catholic church over three thousand miles away. We knew that the same prayers were being said back home in Alta Loma with our parish community.

When it came time for the closing prayer and blessing, the priest told us that in Hawaii, the first day of the week was referred to as ‘Ohana Sunday, meaning it was ‘coffee and donut Sunday’. After we all had a good laugh, he shared with us the true meaning of the word. In Hawaiian culture, ‘Ohana’ means family in an extended sense of the term, including blood-related, adoptive or intentional. It emphasizes that family and friends are bound together and members must cooperate and remember one another. In other words, nobody gets left behind or forgotten. This is a day when work is put aside, and time is spent with family and friends, enjoying each others company and participating in the beautiful world that God gave to us.

I have to admit that while on the island, I felt very relaxed and comfortable. Of course the sandy beaches, deep blue water and beautiful sunsets *did* help in fostering my attitude. Actually, what we did, was create beautiful memories of which we will always be able to go back and reminisce. We don’t necessarily have to review the photos or videos on our phone, because the memories are instilled in our hearts. We were blessed to spend time with close friends, as well as making new friends, during this trip. The special moments that we shared as family will always be kept close to my heart.

Yes, we may be three thousand miles from Maui, but the spirit of aloha can be practiced everywhere. “Home is where the heart is” and our hearts *always* yearn for love. God *gives* us that love every Sunday as we receive His Son in the Holy Eucharist. We are then sent forth to take Jesus, our brother, out into the world to share Him with the rest of our ‘family’. Mahalo!

Dan Centurioni
Director of Liturgy

Ministry Contact List

Liturgical Ministries

A&E Coordinator	Vivian Imbruglia	260-1108
Altar Servers	Gabe & Maria Parisi	239-4139
AV Coordinator	Melissa Acosta	x1203
Children's Liturgy Coordinator	Aileen Gamalinda	x1115
Eucharistic Ministers	Ryan Beck	472-2675
Live Stream Coordinator	Zaki Mustafa	234-5148
Master of Ceremonies	Nel Rabe	215-3000
Minister's of Hospitality	Kofi Obeng-aponah	904-5316
Music Director	Audrey Donaldson	x1120
Readers Coordinator	Joseph Dennett	694-6102
Director of Liturgy	Danny Centurioni	987-7971

Service Ministries

A.C.T.S. Missions	Mike Moore	acts.spsp@gmail.com
Boy Scouts	Ross Scott	909-331-6541
Couple for Christ	Jigz or Pauline	626-354-8905
Cub Scouts /Pack 655	Jack Shropshire	(760) 554-2292
	Travis Ruiz	641-1997
Divorced, Widowed & Separated Support Group	Judy Nelson	815-2819
	heartmngn@verizon.net	
Filipino Community	Dr. Juanito M. Garlitos OFS	(951) 552-3426
	jmgarlitos6159@gmail.com	
Grief Support	Andrea Woore	261-3487
Heart of Mary (HOM)	Teresa Rosales	(714) 883-5177
Hopeful Loving Memory Ministry	Deborah Waters	(951) 203-8287
Library Ministry	Maggie Smits	987-9312
Marriage Everlasting	Lito and Evelyn Hidalgo	605-3951
Mary's Table	Elaine Hein	auntielaine1124@aol.com
Saint Joseph's Covenant Keepers	Chuck Dinise	(714) 292-6201

Councils/Committees

Finance Council	Dan Warden	987-9312
Pastoral Council	Arlene Chanco	987-9312
Hispanic Coord. Comm.	Isaac Mendoza	(760) 694-3553

Prayer Groups

El Rezo del Santo Rosario	Alejandra Boxler	518-7575
Rosary Group	Alice Chavez	987-0812
Talleras de Oracion y vida	Maria Galvan	560-7178
	mlupitagalvan@gmail.com	
Eucharistic Adoration	Karen Hein	karenhein@charter.net
Spiritual Motherhood Sodality	Rose Aytona	rjaytona@hotmail.com
Ministerio con Pequeñas Comunidades	Raquel Aguilar	740-5644

Support Ministries

Pastoral Care	Gloria Rivera	987-9312
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Mary Jo Kunkel	731-3313
Quinceañeras	Janette Valenzo	323-632-2622
Wedding Coordinator	Holly	987-9312
Respect Life	Andrea & Brad Giles	251-9311
Rosary Making Group	Cay Kim	980-4248
Women's Cancer Supp. Grp.	Judy Nelson	815-2819
Military Prayer Ministry	Gloria Rivera	987-9312
Altar Guild	Cheryl Harshman	973-8766

Organizations/Clubs

Catholic Daughters	Yvette Weilacker	921-4142
Cursillo in Christianity	Dennis & Aileen Gamalinda	843-5888
Knights of Columbus	Larry Gillen	921-4418
St. Vincent De Paul Society	Helpline	(800) 716-0646
World Apostolate of Fatima	Joan Combs	605-3050

COMITE COORDINADOR HISPANO

Isaac Mendoza | 760 694 3553
Presidente | img100gdl@yahoo.com

Myrna Abarca | Vice-Presidente
Winston Zamora | Tesorero
Maria Mendoza | Secretaria

MINISTERIOS/GRUPOS PARROQUIALES

■ MINISTERIO DE MUSICA (CORO)	Maria Hernandez	(909) 815-4763	mariah@classiccontainers.com
■ MAESTROS DE CEREMONIA	Raquel Aguilar	(909) 740-5644	migvicsmom@msn.com
■ LECTORES	Henry Abarca	(650) 892-4638	mmhabarca2022@yahoo.com
■ MINISTROS DE HOSPITALIDAD (UJIERES)	Fidela Mortz	(909) 456-0496	Zag91730@hotmail.com
■ MONAGUILLOS	Cristina Gomez	(909) 642-5230	cardecris@gmail.com
■ MINISTROS EXTRAORDINARIOS DE LA SANTA COMUNION	Ana Campos	(909) 702-0989	Smiling_ana17@yahoo.com
■ MESC ENFERMOS / CONFINADOS	Dora Mauriz	(909) 843-0173	titamauriz@yahoo.com
■ PEQUEÑAS COMUNIDADES DE FE	Raquel Aguilar	(909) 740-5644	migvicsmom@msn.com
■ TALLERES DE ORACION Y VIDA	Maribel Barajas	(909) 261-6087	maribelnsd@yahoo.com
■ EL REZO DEL SANTO ROSARIO	Alejandra Boxler	(909) 518-7575	AlejandraBoxler@yahoo.com
■ GUADALUPANOS	Comite Coord. Hispano	(760) 694-3553	img100gdl@yahoo.com
■ RESPETO POR LA VIDA	Maria Kitchen (Vocera)	(626) 676-4203	intelligentserv@hotmail.com
■ COMITE DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCION	Karla Quezada	(909) 731-0521	kaquesada1@hotmail.com
■ MEDITACION CRISTIANA	Clarisa Arostequi	(626) 823-0351	clarisa329@outlook.com

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us for this
Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, August 15th

Mass Times

7:30 AM

12:00 PM

5:30 PM (Spanish)

7:00 PM

August 13, 2023

YOUTH MINISTRY



Registration for the 2023-2024 year is now open. All registration forms can be found on our website stpeterstpaul.com



High School Confirmation

Year 1 begins Sept. 10th/12th
Year 2 begins Sept. 17th/19th



Middle & High School 1st Communion Prep.

Parent Meeting - Sept. 21st @ 5:30pm
Classes Begin - Sept. 28th



Middle School Ministry

Parent/Teen Meeting - Sept. 7th
Kick-Off - Sept. 18th



High School Ministry

FEAST - Oct. 4th



Young Adult Ministry

Thursdays 7:30pm-8:30pm

August 24th - Mass

Follow us on Instagram @renewedspsp



Upcoming Events

Volunteer Training Sessions

August 22nd

6pm-8pm - Upstairs in JP2

Catechist Meeting

August 15th at 6pm - JP2

Mon 10:30AM - 4PM | Tues/Wed 10:30AM - 5:30PM | Thurs/Fri CLOSED | Sun 2PM-4PM

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL ♦ WHERE FAITH MEETS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE!

CALENDAR / OFFICE HOURS

- 8/14: CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING**
8/15: CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING
8/16: OPEN 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
8/17: OPEN 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
8/18: CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING
8/21-25: OPEN 10:00 AM—2:00 PM
8/24: BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT
-  **Welcome Back to School**
- 8/28: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (K-8)**
8/29: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (PRESCHOOL M-F & T/TH)
8/30: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (PRESCHOOL M/W/F)



ADMINISTRATION

Diana Armenta—Principal
 Lisa Frank—Preschool Director
 Laura Onopa—Business Manager
 Maria Trujillo—Administrative Assistant

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE! #SPSPSAINTS



JOIN OUR TEAM

WE'RE HIRING!

- Elementary Teacher
- Middle School ELA/Religion Teacher
- STEAM/Art Teacher
- Extended Care

APPLY NOW



SEND YOUR RESUME TO:
darmenta@sbdiocese.org

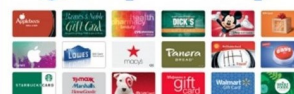
Faith + Knowledge + Service

BUY GIFT CARDS & SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Use your gift cards for coffee, gas, groceries, department stores, gifts, and more. Gift cards are available for many local and online retailers.

All are welcomed to buy Scrip in our school office this summer. Please contact us for more information.

 ShopWithScrip®



All gift card purchases supports our school.

REGISTER ONLINE WITH

 **Food4Less** NPO#: HV407

 **Ralphs** NPO#: SB279

Community Rewards

All your shopping @ Ralph's & Food4Less could raise money for our school.

Visit "Support Us" on our website for detailed instructions.

IT'S EASY

JUST SET IT & FORGET IT!



Smaller Class Sizes

- Preschool Classes = 12
- Avg. in Grade School Classes = 16:1

Co-curricular Subjects:

- Computers • Art
- Spanish • Choir
- Physical Education
- School Library

WCEA/WASC Accredited

- Diocesan & CA Common Core Standards
- Credentialed Teachers
- Weekly School Mass

Accelerated Reader & Math

- ICSSL Sports Program
- Before & after school care 7 a.m.—6 p.m.
- Catered hot lunch program

Renovated classrooms

- S.T.E.A.M. Lab
- 100 Mile Club®
- AHA Kids Heart Challenge
- Community Service & Outreach

**9135 BANYAN STREET
 ALTA LOMA, CA 91737**

WWW.STPETERSTPAULSCHOOL.COM
SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI | 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

**TEL: (909) 987-7908
 FAX: (909) 987-6779**

August 13, 2023

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Registration for Grades 1-5
are open until August 16th.

Visit our parish website for
application forms and email them to
Irma at Imcgaughey@stpeterstpaul.com

Questions? Please call the CFF office at
(909) 980-9423 or email Aileen Gamalinda at
agamalinda@stpeterstpaul.com

Upcoming Events

Catechist Meeting - Aug. 21st @ 5:30pm - JP2
Parent Meeting - Sept. 7th @ 6:30pm - Zoom

Office Hours | Monday - Thursday 9AM to 4PM | Friday 9AM to NOON



It Begins With You!

Members of a welcoming and evangelizing
community take seriously Jesus' call to
"Go out into the whole world and proclaim
the Gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA)
is a place to ask questions and seek understanding.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ◆ Not baptized, or | Start Date: Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023 |
| ◆ Baptized as a non-Catholic | Time: 7:00 to 9:00 PM |
| ◆ At least 18 years old | Location: JP2 Pastoral Center,
Our Lady of Guadalupe Room |
| ◆ No pressure | Coordinator: Jenny Campbell, M. A. |
| ◆ Inquire—Learn
about the Faith—
Reflect—Pray—
Discern | Phone: (909) 987-9312 ext 1122
Email: jcampbell@stpeterstpaul.com |

Come be a part of our RCIA Team!

Share your love for Jesus, learn more about your faith and
deepen your own spirituality. Contact Jenny for info.



SAVE THE DATE!

PASTA DINNER to support ACTS

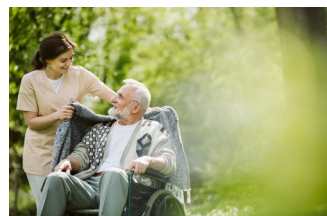
Saturday, August 19th, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.

St. Peter and St. Paul Parish Hall

\$10/person – \$30 Family Package

Join us for an evening of food and fun!

SILENT AUCTION and
OPPORTUNITY BASKETS



HOPEFUL, LOVING, MEMORY MINISTRY

HLMM- "How Love Moves Many"

*Please join the Hopeful Loving Memory
Ministry every third Saturday of the month @
10am in the JP2 Building, for a Spirit filled
meeting of sharing and uplifting conversation
for the caregivers of a memory impaired loved
one.*

*Be Blessed, Heard and Loved at
our next meeting on August 19th*

For Info Contact; [Deborah Waters \(951/203-8287\)](tel:9512038287)
or [Josie Urquizu \(909/244-9050\)](tel:9092449050)

"Important" Please leave a return # & brief message
when you call and we will get back to you asap.

Thank you & God Bless You!

Eucharistic Miracle of MEERSSEN

NETHERLANDS, 1222-1465



In 1222 and 1465, two important Eucharistic miracles took place in the town of Meerssen. The first occurred during Holy Mass, when living Blood dripped from the large Host and stained the corporal. The second occurred in 1465, when a farmer was able to rescue the relic of the miracle from a fire that had destroyed the whole church. The church was later rebuilt, and in 1938 Pope Pius XI raised it to a minor basilica. Numerous pilgrims come every year to Meerssen to venerate the relic of the miracle.



Heilig Sacrament
Meerssen



Panoramic view of
the basilica



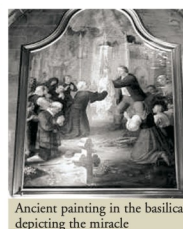
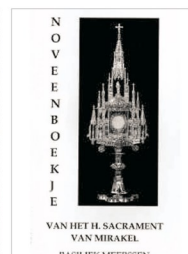
Basilica of the Blessed Sacrament, Meerssen



Interior of the basilica



Altar of the miracle



Ancient painting in the basilica
depicting the miracle



Medals commemorating the miracle

With the help of Gerberga of Saxony, wife of the French King Louis IV of Outremer, the ancient chapel was enlarged in the mid tenth century and became an important church. In 1222 an important Eucharistic miracle occurred in this church and was recognized by the ecclesiastical authorities. During the celebration of Sunday Mass, the priest consecrated the Eucharistic species, and living Blood started to drip from the large Host, staining the Mass corporal.

In 1465 a huge fire broke out and destroyed the church, but a farmer managed to rescue the relic of the Blood-stained Host, which remained completely unharmed. The townspeople remember this episode as the "Miracle of the Fire." Despite the fire, the church was immediately

rebuilt, and in 1938 Pius XI raised it to a minor basilica. Today it is still a major pilgrimage center in the Netherlands, and the precious relic of the miracle is carried in procession each year on the octave of Corpus Christi.

