



Science at the Doorstep to the Holy Eucharist



New Developments in Eucharistic Miracles

- The scientific testing of the Lanciano Host (1971,1981) – Scientist: Dr. Eodardo Linoli.
- Scientific test of Buenos Aires Host (1996) overseen by Cardinal Bergoglio and chief scientist: Dr. Ricardo Castañón Gomez; chief pathologist – Dr. Frederick Zugibe.
- Tixtla, Mexico Miracle (2006) – Approval by Bishop of Chilpancingo-Chilapa – Chief scientist Dr. Ricardo Castañón Gomez and ten specialists/experts.
- Sokolka, Poland (2008) – Still pending ecclesiastical approval – Chief scientists Drs. Maria Elżbieta Sobaniec-Łotkowska and Prof. Stanislaw Solkowski.

The Scientific Test of the Lanciano Host

1. First Eucharistic host to be subjected to scientific testing – Dr. Eodardo Linoli. Purported origin – 8th Century in Lanciano, Italy – Unverified.
2. The problems: unverified chain of custody and age of the host.
3. Notable features:
 - There is tissue growing out of host (as in other Eucharistic miracles).
 - The tissue has muscular striated texture similar to heart tissue (like other hosts).
 - The blood is human blood – AB blood type (like other hosts).
 - Hosts can be verified over one century old without any sign of preservatives in tissue or blood.

The Lanciano Host



The Host of Buenos Aires -- 1996

1. **CONTEXT:** A host was discarded in Buenos Aires Church (Santa Maria Y Callito Almagro). Pastor/sacristan put it in water - validated chain of custody, second inspection of host shows tissue growing out of it. The host is photographed under direction of Archbishop Bergoglio. The host is left in the tabernacle for three years - with no decomposition. Dr. Ricardo Castañón Gomez is asked to oversee the scientific testing.
2. **NOTABLE CHARACTERISTICS:**
 - Absence of decomposition of the tissue and blood. Frederick Zugibe (noted NY pathologist does histopathological exam):
 - Tissue is from heart - upper left ventricle.
 - Presence of living white blood cells in the tissue.
 - This means that heart tissue was alive when tested.
 - White blood cells are embedded in ventricle wall - indicating torture/severe beating around the chest.
 - Blood - human blood - AB blood type (same as other hosts).

THE BUENOS AIRES HOST

WOULD THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAVE SANCTIONED THE TORTURE OF A HUMAN BEING AND HIS SUBSEQUENT MURDER IN ORDER TO REMOVE A PIECE OF LIVING HEART TISSUE WHILE THE VICTIM WAS STILL ALIVE?



THE HOST OF TIXTLA, MEXICO (2006)

- **CONTEXT:** IN 2006, In Tixtla, Mexico, a religious sister who had selected a host for distribution to the sick noticed that it was effusing blood in the pix. She showed it to two priests who had it placed in a tabernacle with a verified chain of custody. The host was so obviously transformed that ecclesiastical authorities contacted Dr. Castañón Gomez right away. He did not wait three years to begin testing (like the Buenos Aires host) and formed a team of scientific experts.
- **THE TEAM:** The scientific commission included several scientists, physicians, and laboratories: an anatomical pathologist, two experts in surgical histopathology, experts in DNA biotechnology, forensic genetics, biochemistry and pharmacy, an expert in legal and forensic medicine, and two computer imaging experts.
- **EXCELLENCE AND THOROUGHNESS OF TESTING:**
 - Unquestioned and brief chain of custody.
 - 13 different analytical and pathological tests with six different laboratories.
 - The presence of living white blood cells and active macrophages was attested to by multiple witnesses.
 - The bishop approved it because scientific tests were so conclusive.

THE HOST OF TIXTLA, MEXICO (2006)

▪ NOTABLE FEATURES:

- **HUMAN LIVING BLOOD:** Blood is human – specifically human hemoglobin, whole blood, immunoglobulins, active red blood cells and active white blood cells, and macrophages engulfing lipids, blood type AB (same as other hosts). Thus, the blood is fresh and living.
- **FLOW OF BLOOD:** There is living tissue seamlessly integrated in the center of the host in which there is a hole in which fresh blood is being produced and pushed from the interior of the host to the exterior of the host. There is no doubt that fresh blood is being produced and the flow is from the interior to the exterior.
- **LIVING HEART TISSUE:** Though it is difficult to directly identify striated cardiac muscle fibers, the presence of elongated cells (typical of striated cardiac muscle fibers) and other discoveries from the microscopic-molecular analysis, strongly suggests that it is heart tissue. Furthermore, the heart tissue is living – as implied by active red blood cells and active white blood cells (showing dynamic activity) in the tissue.

THE TIXTLA, MEXICO HOST



“Technical reliefs and scientific studies highlight the authenticity and reality of an event far from any natural cause that science can explain.. Science ensures the reliability of the results by keeping them away from any type of natural artifact of human manipulation.. Therefore, the Bishop of Chilpancingo-Chilapa has pronounced [that the event is attributable] to a supernatural causality.”

THE HOST OF SOKOLKA, POLAND (2008)

- **CONTEXT:** On October 12th, 2008, the host was dropped at the Church of St. Anthony in Sokolka, Poland. After examining the host, the priest gave the host to the sacristan to place in water to dissolve it. One week later the sacristan checked the host in the tabernacle and found that the host had not dissolved and that there was a red crescent growing out of it that was later identified to be living heart tissue. The priest left the host in the water in the tabernacle for another 41 days (48 days total), and still the host had not dissolved. The Archbishop of Sokolka asked that the host be removed and put onto a corporal and put back into the tabernacle. After three years, the host and the tissue had not degenerated. The Archbishop then requested a histopathological series of tests from the Medical School at the University of Bialystok. Two physicians were put in charge of independent examinations – Dr. Maria Łotkowska and Dr. Stanislaw Sulkowski. (Chain of custody very controlled but there was a 3-year time lapse before testing began).

THE HOST OF SOKOLKA, POLAND (2008) cont.

- **NOTABLE FEATURES:**
 - **NO NOTABLE DECOMPOSITION:** The host did not experience notable decomposition after 48 days in water.
 - **SUBSTANCE OF HEART TISSUE GROWING OUT OF SUBSTANCE OF HOST - SEAMLESS INTERMINGLING:** The substance of the host is seamlessly intermingled with the substance of living heart tissue in an exceedingly refined way. Electron microscope analysis shows that the intermingling extends to the thin filaments of the myofibrils with only a few microns of separation. This exceeds the best technologies we have today.
 - **HEART TISSUE:** The tissue has inserts, the cellular structure of contraction nodes, and other morphological indications of heart tissue.
 - **LIVING TISSUE IN PROCESS OF DYING:** The tissue is living, but in a state of dying as indicated by segmentation and fragmentation of the type which occurs only in non-necrosis fibers - tissue that is still alive, but in the process of death.

THE SOKOLKA, POLAND HOST



CONCLUSION

1. SCIENTIFICALLY INEXPLICABLE FEATURES COMMON TO ALL THREE HOSTS:

- Absence of notable decomposition.
- Living human blood with AB blood type—white blood cells are present and active.
- Living heart tissue intermingled with and growing out of substance of host.
- Heart tissue has been traumatized (and in case of Sokolka) is in the process of dying—red and white blood cells are living and active.

2. SCIENTIFICALLY INEXPLICABLE FEATURES ONLY IN THE TIXTLA HOST:

- Production of fresh blood in the center of the host.
- Blood is being pushed from the center of the host to the exterior of the host.

3. THE DNA PROBLEM:

- Genetic materials were found, but when attempts were made to amplify them to obtain a profile through Polymerase Chain Reaction, no DNA profile could be identified - on both the Buenos Aires host and the Tixtla host. Strangely, the Tixtla host was subject to genetic testing only a short time after Dr. Castañón Gomez was asked to investigate. Moreover, the tissue is patently alive with active macrophages *how decomposed could the sample be?*