

The Miracle of the Eucharist and Eucharistic Miracles

by Jad Z.

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www.godisperfectlove.com

77researcher@gmail.com

Background

Carlo Acutis (1991-2006) (beatified on 10/10/2020) would most likely go unnoticed in the history of the Catholic Church if it wasn't for His remarkable devotion to the Holy Eucharist. According to Bishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi Carlo's body was found intact when exhumated, although it was "in the normal state of transformation typical of the cadaveric condition" (Catholic News Agency, 2020).

Many saintly and holy people have died over the centuries without being noticed: many lived a silent life devoted to the faithful fulfillment of their daily duties, they were labelled as 'normal' folks without anything special about them. There are many other saintly Christians who did great works in the service to the Lord and the Church, yet never got recognized on earth through beatification and canonization. While these earthly honors are meaningful on earth, for the greater Glory of God and for the benefit and support of the pilgrimaging Church, they are not essential for a soul in order to enjoy the heavenly bliss of the eternal union of love with God. Yet in His Goodness, God chooses some saints to be raised in the human dignity of a saint on earth for a specific purpose, and for them to be greater intercessors for the Church before God. This greater purpose is certainly detectable with the case of Bl. Carlo Acutis.

Carlo's life was filled with an exemplary practice of Christian virtues: lively faith (daily attendance of the Holy Eucharist and weekly Sacrament of Reconciliation), a close relationship with Jesus in his everyday life ("*Jesus is my friend and the Eucharist is the gate to Heaven*", he used to say), purity of body, mind, and soul, which our Lord values in a special way (as we also learn from the Holy Scripture and St. John the Apostle who saw himself as a beloved disciple of Christ /John 19:26/.

Carlo Acutis compiled and documented the Eucharistic miracles around the world which were officially approved by the Catholic Church. He turned the Internet, on the rise since 1992, into a tool for a godly purpose. His work of love for Christ, manifested by the zealous study and compilation of the Eucharistic miracles, undoubtedly contributed to his growth in virtue and purity of heart. Carlo's work and compilation of the Eucharistic miracles could possibly be seen as a springboard for the current initiative of the Eucharistic Revival 2022-2024.

Jesus made Carlo an example of a Eucharistic miracle – a miracle of incorruptibility of the body as a result of his devotion to the Eucharist and receiving the Holy Communion. He became a Eucharistic miracle through the miracle of the Eucharistic mystery.

By receiving the Holy Communion, we can become Eucharistic miracles of Christ, through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ. This miraculous state flowing from the mystery of the Eucharist is manifested in purity of body, mind, and soul as well as in physical, mental, and spiritual health.

By receiving Jesus' Body and Blood our fragile human bodies become strong and Jesus' Blood flows in our veins. We become pure and holy on the body (*physical health*).

By being occupied with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, our mind becomes pure and holy, undisturbed by unnecessary distractions of this world; no confusion, anxiety, fears, or uncertainty can affect us, while the entire focus is geared towards God and His holy affairs (*mental health*).

Accordingly, purity of mind energizes the soul to seek God alone and to remain in His holiness and sanctity. Ultimately, our intentions become holy, the only desire is to experience Jesus' heavenly peace and love that nothing can ever disturb (*spiritual health*).

Thus, the miracle of the Eucharist of Christ makes us a Eucharistic miracle for Christ.

Into to statistical analyses

The Eucharistic miracles approved by the Catholic Church and archived by Bl. Carlo Acutis occurred in the total of 19 countries around the world in the time span from the 1st century to 2013.

Using descriptive statistics, correlation, and regression analysis, all the 108 cases of Eucharistic miracles were analyzed. While Carlo compiled the miracles, no analysis has been done to better understand these miracles in the geographic, historical, and statistical context, both for specific countries and cumulatively for all documented miracles. This document provides insights into these aspects.

Science can't explain God, but it can be used as a tool to bring us closer to God, to be able to see and praise God's Greatness and power in His creation and creatures.

Figure 1 displays the number of documented and approved Eucharistic miracles by country. Most of the miracles occurred in Italy, Spain, and France, while 10 countries noted only one Eucharistic miracle.

Table 1 shows the list with the earliest and most recent Eucharistic miracles by country and year. The earliest Eucharistic miracles as listed here is the Holy Grail of Valencia – the chalice believed to be used by Jesus at the Last Supper and the relic of a portion of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus at the Benedictine Monastery at Weingarten in Germany. The most recent Eucharistic miracles happened in the 21st century in Poland, Mexico, and India.

Table 2 lists all Eucharistic miracles in a chronological order since the 1st century to 2013.

Figure 1 Number of documented and approved Eucharistic miracles by country (1st century to 2013)

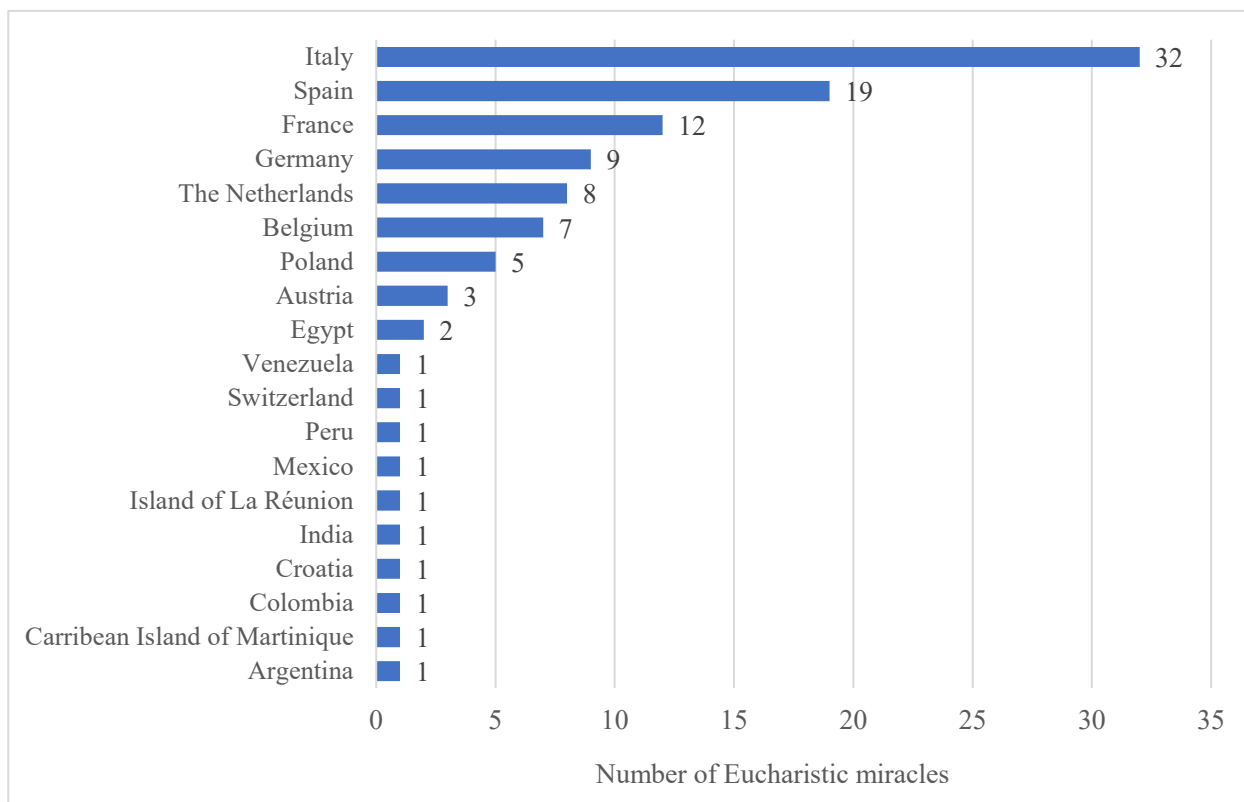


Table 1 The earliest and most recent Eucharistic miracles by country and year

10 earliest miracles			10 most recent miracles		
Country	City	Year	Country	City	Year
Spain	Valencia	33	Poland	Legnica	2013
Germany	Weingarten	33	Poland	Sokolka	2008
Egypt	Scete	3rd century	Mexico	Tixtla	2006
Egypt	Arabian Desert	6th century	India	Chirattakonam	2001
Italy	Rome	6th century	Argentina	Buenos Aires	1992
Italy	Lanciano	750	Venezuela	Betania	1991
Spain	Ivorra	1010	Italy	San Mauro La Bruca	1969
Italy	Trani	11th century	Italy	Rosano	1948
Germany	Bettbrunn	1125	Spain	Silla, Spain	1907
Italy	Ferrara	1171	Colombia	Tumaco	1906

Table 2 Eucharistic miracles in alphabetical order

#	Country	City	Year
1	Spain	Valencia	33
2	Germany	Weingarten	33
3	Egypt	Scete	300
4	Egypt	Arabian Desert	600
5	Italy	Rome	600
6	Italy	Lanciano	750
7	Spain	Ivorra	1010
8	Italy	Trani	1100
9	Germany	Bettbrunn	1125
10	Italy	Ferrara	1171
11	Germany	Augsburg	1194
12	Belgium	Bruges	1203
13	Germany	Benningen	1216
14	The Netherlands	Meerssen	1222
15	Italy	Rimini	1227
16	Italy	Alatri	1228
17	Italy	Florence	1230
18	Spain	Caravaca de la Cruz	1231
19	Spain	Daroca	1239
20	Italy	Assisi	1240
21	Portugal	Santarem	1247
22	Spain	Monestir de Sant Joan de les Abadeses	1251
23	France	Douai	1254
24	Germany	Regensburg	1255
25	France	Neuvy St. Sepulcre	1257
26	Italy	Bolsena	1264
27	Italy	Offida	1273
28	Germany	Kranenburg	1280
29	France	Paris	1290
30	Poland	Glutowo	1290
31	Italy	Gruaro	1294
32	Spain	Gerona	1297
33	The Netherlands	Breda-Niervaart	1300
34	Spain	O'Cebreiro	1300
35	Austria	Fiecht	1310
36	Belgium	Herkenrode-Hasselt	1317
37	Germany	Walldurn	1330
38	Italy	Cascia	1330
39	France	Blanot	1331
40	The Netherlands	Stiphout	1342
41	The Netherlands	Amsterdam	1345
42	Poland	Krakow	1345
43	Spain	Alboraya-Almacera	1348
44	Italy	Macerata	1356
45	Belgium	Brussels	1370
46	Spain	Cimballa	1370
47	Belgium	Liège	1374
48	Belgium	Leuven	1374
49	The Netherlands	Boxtel-Hoogstraten	1380
50	Germany	Bad Wilsnack	1383
51	Austria	Seefeld	1384
52	Spain	Moncada	1392
53	Poland	Poznan	1399
54	The Netherlands	Boxmeer	1400
55	Belgium	Bois-Seigneur-Isaac	1405
56	Austria	Weiten-Raxendorf	1411
57	Croatia	Ludbreg	1411
58	Belgium	Herentals	1412
59	Italy	Bagno Di Romagna	1412
60	Germany	Erding	1417
61	Spain	Guadalupe	1420
62	The Netherlands	Bergen	1421
63	Spain	Zaragoza	1427
64	The Netherlands	Alkmaar	1429
65	France	Dijon	1430
66	France	Avignon	1433
67	Switzerland	Ettiswil	1447
68	Italy	Turin	1453
69	France	La Rochelle	1461
70	Italy	Volterra	1472
71	Italy	Salzano	1517
72	France	Marseille-En-Beauvais	1533
73	Spain	Ponferrada	1533
74	Italy	Asti	1535
75	Italy	Morrovalle	1560
76	Spain	Alcoy	1568
77	Italy	Veroli	1570
78	Spain	Grokum-El Escorial	1572
79	Spain	Alcala de Henares	1597
80	Italy	Mogoro	1604
81	France	Favemey	1608
82	Italy	Rome	1610
83	Italy	Canosio	1630
84	Italy	Dronero	1631
85	Italy	Turin	1640
86	France	Pressac	1643
87	Peru	Etén Puerto	1649
88	Italy	Cava Dei Tirreni	1656
89	Spain	Montserrat (Spain)	1657
90	France	Les Ulmes	1668
91	Italy	Asti	1718
92	Italy	Siena	1730
93	Italy	Scala	1732
94	Italy	Patierno (Naples)	1772
95	France	Bordeaux	1822
96	Spain	Onil	1824
97	Caribbean Island of Martinique	Morne-Rouge	1902
98	Island of La Réunion	Saint-Andre de la Reunion	1902
99	Colombia	Tumaco	1906
100	Spain	Silla, Spain	1907
101	Italy	Rosano	1948
102	Italy	San Mauro La Bruca	1969
103	Venezuela	Betania	1991
104	Argentina	Buenos Aires	1992
105	India	Chirattakonam	2001
106	Mexico	Tixtla	2006
107	Poland	Sokolka	2008
108	Poland	Legnica	2013

In Table 3, the results of descriptive statistics are presented.

The average of all the miracles in all 19 countries comes out to more than 5 miracles per country, with the standard error of the mean equal almost 2 cases (2 miracles more or less per country). The mean is not a useful statistic in this analysis because of the wide dispersion of the data, which is also proved with the Standard deviation of 8. The Standard Deviation shows a wide dispersion of data away from the average, thus indicating that the differences in the respective countries in terms of the number of documented miracles is 8 cases more or less than indicated by the mean value.

The mode shows that the most frequent occurrence of the Eucharistic miracles is one miracle per country. Italy and Spain rank number one and two, with 32 and 19 Eucharistic miracles, respectively.

Skewness equals to 2.3 meaning that the distribution of the cases among different countries is highly skewed, as also noticeable in Figure 1.

Table 3 Descriptive statistics for documented 107* Eucharistic miracles around the world

*(One case was omitted for statistical analyses due to missing data entry)

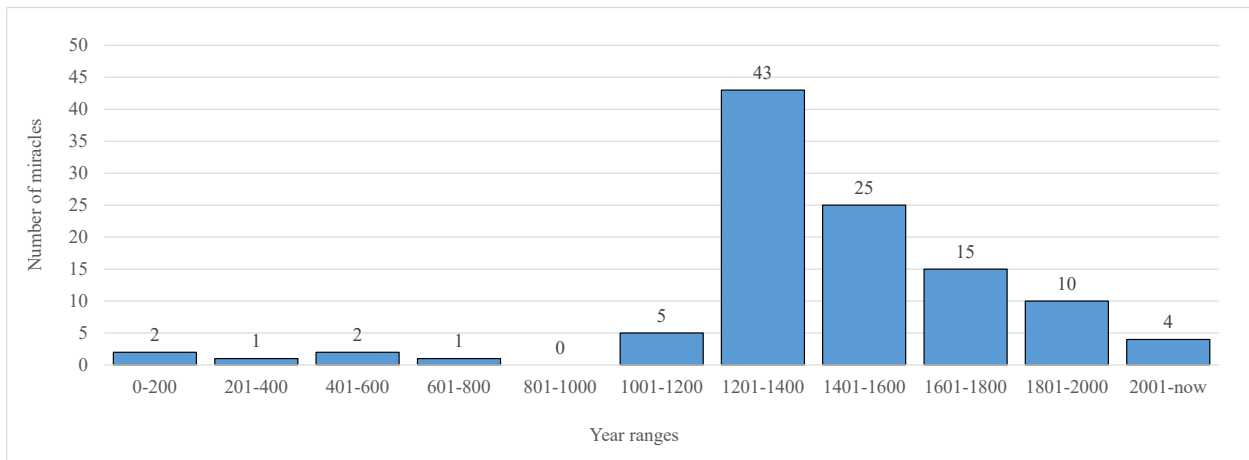
Descriptive statistics	
Mean	5.63158
Standard Error	1.84836
Median	1
Mode	1
Standard Deviation	8.05682
Sample Variance	64.9123
Kurtosis	6.04177
Skewness	2.37157
Range	31
Minimum	1
Maximum	32
Sum	107
Count	19
Confidence Level (95.0%)	3.88326

Figure 2 presents historical differences in the number of documented Eucharistic miracles around the world.

In the first 1,000 years AD, the number of Eucharistic miracles was very low with 1-2 miracles in each two-century time bracket. The years 1001-1200 indicate the first bracket with the greatest numbers of observed miracles (5 cases) since Christ. In the following years, the numbers of documented Eucharistic miracles rose exponentially to reach the peak of 43 miracles in 1201-1400 AD. Since then, the numbers have been declining each period of the defined two-century time brackets, with 4 Eucharistic miracles documented since the beginning of the current century.

It is interesting that at the beginning of the 1st millennium (1001-1200) the number of the Eucharistic miracles (4) was similar to the current number of 5 cases at the beginning of the 2nd millennium (2001-now).

Figure 2 Number of Eucharistic miracles throughout centuries (cumulative for all countries around the world)



While analyzing these trends, we might be curious to ask ourselves why the miracles occurred in these specific countries, while some countries experienced more miracles than others. This is of course the greatest mystery of God’s Wisdom and Divine Plan. To utilize science one step further, statistical correlations and the regression analysis were used to look for possible impact variables (GDP, population, Catholic population, and % of youth in the total population) and the relationship with the number of documented cases of Eucharistic miracles in each country. Table 4 displays the Pearson correlation coefficient showing that no significant correlation exists between most of the analyzed variables. Only the number of Catholics in a country is moderately positively correlated with the number of the miracles. This means that with the growing numbers of Catholics in a country, the number of observed miracles was higher also.

Table 4 Correlation analysis

Variables	Correlation coefficient
GDP (2021 million \$)	0.438039999
Population (thousands)	-0.117803274
Catholics (total numbers)	0.554841117
% of youth in total pop	-0.276230278

Similarly, the regression analysis (Table 5) shows no significant relationships between the dependent and independent variables. The R square coefficient (0.46) is low meaning that only 46% of variability is explained by the regression model. The model is statistically not significant (Sig. $F > 0.1$) which means that GDP, population, number of Catholics in the analyzed countries, and the percent of young population in the total population in these countries have not assisted in predicting the number of Eucharistic miracles. Similarly, the p-values for all independent variables are > 0.05 , thus indicating that the tests are statistically insignificant. This means that none of the analyzed variables can explain or describe the numbers of miracles in the analyzed countries (i.e., no effect of the independent variables can be found on the dependent variable).

Table 5 Regression analysis

<i>Regression Statistics</i>									
Multiple R	0.679434443								
R Square	0.461631163								
Adjusted R Square	0.237310814								
Standard Error	7.169676014								
Observations	18								
ANOVA									
	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>				
Regression	5	528.9267281	105.7853	2.05791	0.141892985				
Residual	12	616.8510497	51.40425						
Total	17	1145.777778							
	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95.0%</i>	<i>Upper 95.0%</i>	
Intercept	2.26239678	7.391992805	0.30606	0.764803	-13.84337198	18.36816554	-13.843372	18.36816554	
	487227.34	2.03835E-06	2.49419E-06	0.817242	0.429718	-3.39601E-06	7.47271E-06	-3.396E-06	7.47271E-06
	45808.75	-6.92772E-06	7.83413E-06	-0.8843	0.393908	-2.39968E-05	1.01414E-05	-2.3997E-05	1.01414E-05
	28770000	2.41228E-07	1.62841E-07	1.481371	0.164283	-1.13572E-07	5.96027E-07	-1.1357E-07	5.96027E-07
	0.685	-1.643333972	9.574637857	-0.17163	0.866586	-22.50467777	19.21800983	-22.5046778	19.21800983
	16.1	-0.075434922	0.221830671	-0.34006	0.739692	-0.558762435	0.40789259	-0.55876243	0.40789259