

People say the age of miracles is past, but we have a miracle every time Mass is celebrated: the bread and wine on the altar become the Body and Blood of Christ.

It is not a spectacular miracle as far as the visual effects go. It would seem much more impressive if a blind man could see or a lame man could walk, but the visual is not everything.

In fact if there were a miracle of healing it would probably make the papers and be the subject of much interest. Much as we would welcome that we have an even greater miracle daily, yet it passes unnoticed.

Why do the papers not report that Jesus Christ became present on the altar of such-and-such church yesterday? Because it is not a visible miracle, and visible is everything to a materialistic society. As Jesus said *Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believe.*

This miracle of the Eucharist is greater than any other that might happen around us.

Other miracles demonstrate some aspect of God's power, but the Eucharistic miracle brings His whole being before us. Instead of a particular miracle we have the worker of all miracles.

To have God present with us is to have a pervading presence that affects every part of our lives – the way we think, speak, act; the way the world runs.

It is up to us to take advantage of this miracle and let it achieve what God wants it to achieve.

Being a greater miracle it needs a greater response from us. We need to have our antennae up to receive what God is saying and doing in our midst.

This is why prayer in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is necessary and helpful.

When we are in His presence He makes Himself known to us in the depths of our soul. The more time we give Him, and the more attention, the more we drink in of His presence.

In the same way when we come to receive Him in Holy Communion the more prepared and attentive we are, the more effect it has on us.

Not everything can be instant, nor should be. Some things work better slowly, taking time to permeate. God's presence is like that. If we let Him enter our hearts and take control we will benefit greatly.

May Our Lady help her Legion to value and make known this priceless gift of the Eucharist.