

November 2024 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Arlington-our Golden Jubilee!! We now begin Year 1 of preparation for our Jubilee. Theme for Year 1: "Do this in Memory of Me."



## Eucharistic Miracle: Conversion of

Andre Frossard

Paris, France

June 1935



Born in France in 1915 into a Marxist family, Andrè Frossard was a militant atheist. He was an aspiring journalist and moved among intellectual circles. At age 20, he had a miraculous conversion the instant he was in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Andrè's mother was raised Protestant, but abandoned the faith. His grandmother was Jewish. His father, Louis Oscar Frossard, was a politician and staunch atheist who founded the French Communist Party in 1920. Andrè Frossard had a Catholic friend by the same name, Andrè Villemin who tried in vain to discuss the Faith with him. One day, the two friends were on their way to dinner. Villemin asked to stop at the Catholic church in order to accomplish some quick business.

Frossard grew tired of waiting in the car and entered the church to find his friend. Scanning the church, Frossard's gaze landed upon the Host in the monstrance. Though he had no idea what the Eucharist was, the True Presence seized and penetrated his heart. He said, "At first, the hint of the words 'Spiritual Life' came to me, as if they had been pronounced in a whisper next to me by one who saw what I was as yet unable to see." "What I saw was an indestructible crystal of infinite transparency [from which radiated] a pale blue light of almost unbearable intensity (one degree higher and I would have died)." "I gazed on this new reality and truth and saw the order of the universe. At its summit was the Self-Evident Nature of God who was both Presence and Person. A moment earlier I had denied Its existence. Christians call this Presence 'Our Father.'" "...this reality of God was accompanied by a joy which is the exultation of one rescued from death, the joy of a shipwrecked man at the very moment he is plucked from the seas."

July 8, 1935, Andrè Frossard was baptized at the chapel of the Sisters of Adoration. He joined the French Resistance movement against the Nazis. Captured by Gestapo in 1944, he was sent to Montluc internment camp where Jews were tortured and killed. He survived and went on to become an accomplished writer and journalist. Until he had proven himself in his profession, he had been afraid to share his conversion story for fear he would be seen as a sensationalist. Finally, in 1969, he wrote *God Exisits, I Have Met Him* which became an international best seller. Cardinal Karol Wojtyla read his work and met with him. The two became friends. When Cardinal Karol became pope, Andrè Frossard became the first to interview a pontiff, Pope John Paul II. Frossard also wrote, *36 Proofs of the Existence of the Devil* and *There is Another World*.

He died February 2, 1995. Throughout his life, Andrè Frossard was devoted to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, "...one thing surprised me: The Eucharist! ...it amazed me that Divine Charity would come upon this silent way to communicate Himself, and above all that He would choose to become bread, which is the staple of the poor, and the food preferred by children..."

\*View the display of the Miracle of **Bolsena, Italy** in the vestibule.

\*Please pick up a **Treasures of the Catholic Church Eucharistic Miracles** brochure in the vestibule.