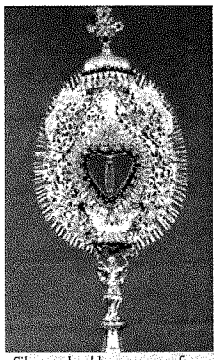
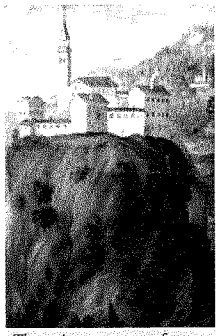
Eucharistic Miracle of FIECHT

AUSTRIA, 1310

The little village of St. Georgenberg-Fiecht in the Inn Valley is very well known - especially because of a Eucharistic miracle that took place there in 1310. During the Mass, the priest was seized with temptations regarding the Real Presence of Jesus in the consecrated Elements. Right after the consecration, the wine changed into Blood and began to boil and overflow the chalice. In 1480, after 170 years, the Sacred Blood was "still fresh as though coming out of a wound," wrote the chronicler of those days. The Precious Blood is preserved intact to this day and is contained in the reliquary in the Monastery of St. Georgenberg.



Silver and gold monstrance from 1719 in which the Precious Blood of the miracle is preserved

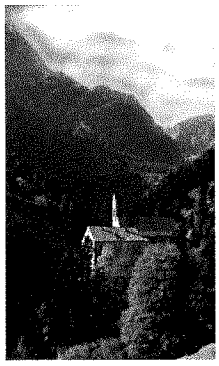


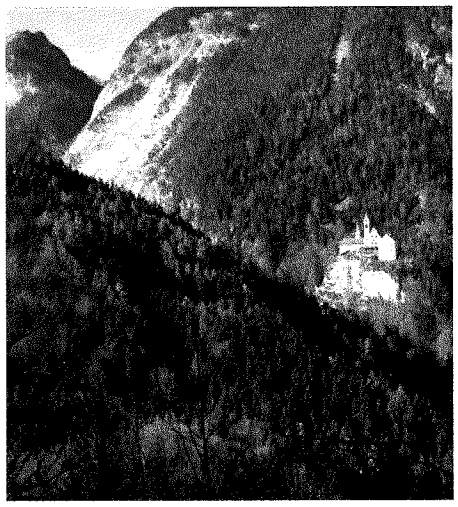
The ancient monastery of St. Georgenberg developed in two complexes, one on the mountain and the other in the valley

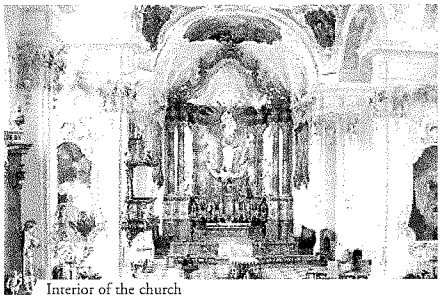




A painting depicting the miracle







Interior of the church





Near the side altar of the monastery church there is a documentary tablet that says: "In the year of grace 1310, under Abbot Rupert, a priest was celebrating Holy Mass in this church dedicated to the holy martyr George and the holy apostle, James. After consecrating the wine, he was seized with a doubt as to whether the Blood of Christ was really present under the species of wine. Suddenly the wine changed into red blood that began to boil in the chalice and overflow it. The abbot and his monks, who happened to be in the choir, and the numerous pilgrims who were present at the celebration, approached the altar and realized what had happened. The priest, terrified, was unable to drink all the Holy Blood, and so the abbot placed the remainder in a vessel in the tabernacle of the main altar near the cloth with which the chalice was wiped. As soon as news of this miraculous event began to spread, more and more pilgrims began to arrive to adore the Sacred Blood. So great was the number of the devotees of the Holy Blood that in 1472 Bishop Georg von Brixen sent the abbot of Wilten, Joahannes Lösch, and the pastors, Sigmund Thaur and Kaspar of Absam, to better study the phenomenon. As a result of this investigation, the adoration of the Blessed Blood was encouraged and the miracle was declared authentic.

"Among the devotees were important Church personalities, like John, Bishop of Trieste; George, Bishop of Brixen; Rupert, Archbishop of Cologne and Duke of Bavaria; and Frederick, Bishop of Chiemsee."

A second documentary tablet recounts how the relic of the Holy Blood helped preserve the Catholic faith during the Protestant schism: "When in 1593, the teachings of Luther were spreading everywhere in Tyrol, the monks of St. Georgenberg were asked to preach the faith everywhere. Abbot Michael Geisser was preaching with great success before a large crowd in the parish church of Schwaz and did not hesitate to recall the holy miracle of the Blood as proof of the existence of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. He was disputing in such a convincing way that the adversaries were obliged to leave the scene. This total victory against the false teaching was regarded by the believers as a special grace the Lord was granting His faithful, the adorers of the Precious Blood."