

Did you know . . .

Bilocation of Saints

Bilocation is the phenomenon in which a Servant of God is in one place at a given time and by a mysterious presence can be seen and heard in a normal fashion by impartial witnesses in another place a distance away. Many Catholic philosophers say this is physically impossible and the phenomenon can be explained by other means.



Whether it is believed or not, the subject of bilocation has been mentioned in the lives of many saints; their instances of bilocation have been witnessed by trustworthy persons both at the places where they appeared and by the saint who bilocated. Numerous instances of bilocation have been so well-documented, witnessed and investigated that they are accepted facts in the history of the Church and in hagiography. This mystical gift is not for the convenience of the recipient, but to aid him in helping others or in performing a function some distance away.

Padre Pio first experienced bilocation while a divinity student when he left the choir at San'Elia a Pianisi and was suddenly at a wealthy home at which the father was dying while a child was being born [Did You Know... Sept. 2017]. He had several more such experiences which are mentioned in his many biographies.

St. Francis of Paola, known as "God's Miracle Worker Supreme," experienced bilocation while serving at the altar in the chapel; he was seen at the same time by some of the monks working at his chores in the kitchen. There were other experiences as well.

St. Anthony of Padua, a Doctor of the Church, was preaching one Easter Sunday in the Cathedral of Montpellier in the presence of a vast multitude, when he realized he was expected to sing at the Solemn High Mass in a neighboring convent monastery. He drew the cowl of his habit over his face, sank back in the pulpit and remained silent. When he stopped speaking, he appeared in the monastery and sang his office, then recovered himself at the pulpit and finished his sermon. He was seen in both places simultaneously.

Some other saints that have had recorded instances of bilocation include **St. Francis Xavier**, **St. John Bosco**, **St. Drogo**, **St. Alphonsus Mary DeLiguori**, **St. Paul of the Cross**, **Ven. Mary of Agreda**, **St. Vincent Pallotti** and **Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God**. There are several others as well.

While there is no room to record their experiences here, they are worth researching.

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