

126 QUADRATUS

I will carry him.

SFX: QUADRATUS HOISTS TARCISIUS'S LIFELESS BODY
AND CARRIES HIM OFF OVER TENDER LYRIC MUSIC.

9 INT. CATACOMBS - DAY

SFX: QUADRATUS CARRIES TARCISIUS INTO THE
CATACOMBS, WITH CATO LEADING THE WAY.

127 CATO

Bishop! We brought Tarcisius.

128 STEPHEN

Tarcisius! What happened?

129 QUADRATUS

A mob of street boys killed him
when he was coming to meet me at
the fountain...

130 CATO

They threw stones at him when he
wouldn't tell them what he was
hiding under his tunic.

131 STEPHEN

Poor Tarcisius! Let me retrieve the
hosts from the hiding place near
his heart...

SFX: BISHOP SEARCHES UNDER TARCISIUS'S ROBE AND
RETRIEVES THE BURSE. HE OPENS THE FLAP.

132 STEPHEN (CONT'D)

What happened to them? The burse is
here, but the Eucharist, is gone!
Did the boys take it?

133 CATO

No, Father.

134 QUADRATUS

We brought him straight here.

135 STEPHEN

The hosts were absorbed - they,
they have become part of his heart,
just as he had prayed. We are
witnessing a miracle.

(MORE)

Side 2
START >>>

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Oh, Tarcisius -- our poor little acolyte who fell deeply in love with the Eucharist -- your bravery will never be forgotten. God bless you and may you be welcomed into Heaven where you will commune eternally with our Lord whom you adored.

<<< END

SFX: DRAMATIC LYRE MUSIC UP AND OUT.

10 EPILOGUE

136 NARRATOR

At age 12, Saint Tarcisius is among the youngest saints in the Catholic Church. Known as the "Martyr of the Eucharist," he was originally buried in the Catacombs of Saint Callisto in Rome and has been the subject of many stories and poems. He is the patron saint of first communicants and altar servers. In 2010, Pope Benedict the XVI blessed a statue of Saint Tarcisius during the international meeting of altar servers in Rome. His feast day is August 15th. Saint Tarcisius, pray for us.

11 OUTRO

Outro music.

137 PETER

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12 SOUNDMARK

138 NARRATOR

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