

Raised From the Dead Miracle

St. Stanislaus, Bishop of Cracow, Poland and martyr had a dispute with King Boleslaw II over property owned by the Church. The king conspired with the heirs of **Peter Miles, who had been dead for three years**. Before he died he had sold a piece of property to the Church. The conspirators claimed that Stanislaus possessed it for the Church by fraud, and they brought Stanislaus to court on this false charge.

St. Stanislaus asked the judge for a 3-day delay, after which he would produce the dead man himself as a witness to the right of the Church to possess the property. His request was granted, although he was laughed to scorn. Stanislaus prayed and fasted for 3 days. On the third day the court reconvened. Stanislaus led a procession to the graveside of Peter Miles and prayed before the grave. He had the grave opened; there before them lay nothing but the bones of Peter Miles. **Stanislaus touched the bones with his crozier, and in the Name of Christ ordered the dead man to rise. The bones suddenly reunited, became covered with flesh, and Miles came forth from the grave.** They proceeded to the trial followed by a reverent but excited crowd.

“Behold Peter!” spoke the bishop. “He comes to give testimony before you.” Peter affirmed that he had been paid for the contested property. He then turned to his terrified relatives and reproached them for their evil plans, exhorting them to do penance. Stanislaus was acquitted.

Stanislaus offered Peter the opportunity to remain alive a few more years if he so desired. Peter replied he would rather remain in Purgatory and to the surety of eternal salvation—but he did ask for prayers.

Then Stanislaus and a vast crowd accompanied Peter back to the place of burial. There he lay down in his grave and composed himself. His body fell to pieces and his bones lay there as they had been when the grave was opened.

