

*“To always be close to Jesus, that is my life plan”*



Carlo Acutis



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZ0p\\_3o-uMc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZ0p_3o-uMc)

*“For the first time in history we will see a saint dressed in jeans, sneakers, and a sweater”*

*“This is a great message for us, we can feel holiness not as a distant thing but as something very much within everyone’s reach because the Lord is the Lord of everyone.”*



Just a few months after Carlo was born, his parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, moved their family to Milan.



Photo from [www.carloacutis.com](http://www.carloacutis.com)





From a young age, Carlo seemed to have a special love for God, even though his parents weren't particularly devout Catholics.

Photo from [www.carloacutis.com](http://www.carloacutis.com)



Even when he was just a little boy, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his First Holy Communion, he went to Mass as often as he could and went to confession weekly.



Carlo loved playing video games. He had a PS2, which was released in 2000, when Carlo was nine.

Although he loved to game, Carlo only allowed himself to play for an hour a week, as a penance and a spiritual discipline.



He asked his parents to take him on pilgrimages — to the places of the saints, and to the sites of Eucharistic miracles.



Photo from [www.carloacutis.com](http://www.carloacutis.com)





As a teenager, Carlo was tragically diagnosed with leukaemia.

One of the doctors treating Carlo asked him if he was in very much pain and he answered "*there are people who suffer much more than me*".



Carlo sadly died on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2006, and was buried in Assisi.

He asked to be buried in this particular place because of his love for St. Francis of Assisi.



Carlo was known for defending children at school who were picked on, particularly children with special needs. He was a natural leader, but his leadership was in service of others.



Photo from [www.carloacutis.com](http://www.carloacutis.com)

# The fruits of Carlo's life



Carlo promoted Eucharistic miracles, especially through a website he built specifically. He was 11 when he built the site!

On the site, he told people

*"the more often we receive the Eucharist, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven."*

# The fruits of Carlo's life



When Carlo became ill, his faith  
life increased.

He offered up his suffering for the  
Church, the pope, and for people  
who were suffering with illness.



# The fruits of Carlo's life



The calls for Carlo to be beatified began not long after he died and became more serious in 2013 after the cause commenced and he was given the title 'a Servant of God' - the first stage on the path towards sainthood.

In 2018 Pope Francis declared Carlo to be 'venerable'.

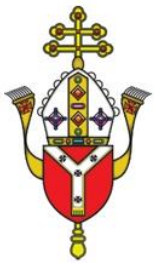


Photo from [www.carloacutis.com](http://www.carloacutis.com)



A miracle has been attributed to the intercession of Carlo, a Brazilian boy who was cured from a rare disease.

Carlo will be beatified in the Basilica of San Francesco, Assisi on 10<sup>th</sup> October.





The tomb of Carlo Acutis has been opened for veneration before his beatification in Assisi.

Photos courtesy of Assisi diocese



*“Carlo’s life can teach many young people that a normal life can become extraordinary if we put God at the centre and walk in harmony with God's plan for us. Carlo did this.”*

Carlo’s Mother



What can we learn from the life of Carlo  
Acutis?

How can we try to be closer to Jesus in our  
lives?

Lord,

We thank you for the life of Carlo Acutis.

We pray that, like him, we will grow closer to you each day.

Amen.

Your mission for this week:

Grow closer to Jesus by doing kind things for others.