

Glimpses into Blessed Carlo Acutis' Life



Carlo was fond of animals, cats and dogs in particular (his parents owned several), which he featured in funny videos. He liked to play football, learned the saxophone on his own, and above all, was passionate about computers. However, these interests were not an end in themselves. Ensuring one's talents bear fruit is a means for God's gifts to each of us to glorify Him and also to procure the good of one's neighbour. Carlo never kept what he learned to himself; he was always eager to share it with others. He would never brag about what he knew or about his possessions. He was indifferent to fashion (such as brand-named clothes and current trends). He dressed simply and without calculation.

At school, he made strong friendships, but was not always understood. Many wondered, for instance, why he always spent holidays in Assisi, when his parents' financial means would have allowed him to tour faraway countries and more fashionable locales. Shortly before his death, Carlo confided to his spiritual father: "Assisi is the place where I feel the happiest!"

His many friendships were chaste. He did not support familiarities between young people of the opposite sex, nor premarital cohabitation. He was faithful to the Church and her teachings, especially in matters of sexuality and family morals. During a discussion about abortion during a religion class Carlo stood up for human life, stating that an embryo is a human being from conception, and that abortion was homicide.

Eucharistic Miracles

Carlo was passionate about Eucharistic miracles which had multiplied over the centuries. **He used his skills to create a website dedicated to these miracles (www.miracolieucaaristici.org).** The site still exists and has been translated into many languages. The miracle of Lanciano particularly touched him.

In the village of Abruzzo, a host had miraculously become Flesh and Blood after consecration in the year 750, and is venerated to this day. Analyzed in 1970, it was confirmed that the Flesh was heart tissue and the Blood, which remains fresh, belongs to the AB blood group. This astonishing scientific fact confirmed Carlo in his particular devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which deserves to be adored "as a natural and very expressive symbol of that inexhaustible love that our divine Redeemer never ceases to feel towards the human race" (Pius XII, *Haurietis aquas*, n. 42).

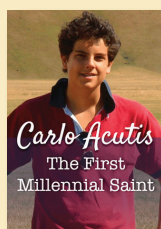
His family returned to religious practice under his influence and were consecrated to the Sacred Heart. He offered communions and sacrifices "to repair the indignities that Jesus receives in the sacrament of his Love," according to the request made by the Lord to Saint Marguerite-Marie (Paray-le-Monial, 1675).

Carlo's Body Found Intact

In June 2018, in view of the beatification process, Carlo's body, buried in Assisi according to his wishes, was exhumed and found intact. In April 2019, he was transferred to the Franciscan shrine of the Spoliation. On February 21, 2020, a miracle attributed to his intercession was officially recognized: the humanly inexplicable healing, in 2010, of a Brazilian child who had a serious and fatal malformation of the pancreas. The child's family had sought Carlo's intercession. The beatification of the Servant of God was celebrated in Assisi on October 10, 2020.

"To be united to Jesus is the goal of my life ... What will make us truly beautiful in the eyes of God will be the way we have loved Him and loved our brothers." Let us ask this young saint to nurture in our hearts the sacred fire that Jesus came to light on earth.

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Carlo Acutis



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