

Who is Carlo Acutis? 10 things you should know about him



Blessed Carlo Acutis | Diocese of Assisi

By Francesca Pollio Fenton

Carlo Acutis, a Catholic Italian teenager who died in 2006, was beatified Oct. 10, 2020 in Assisi.

Acutis, a gamer and computer programmer who loved soccer and the Eucharist, gained interest around the world.

So who was Carlo Acutis? Here's what you need to know:

1. Carlo Acutis was born May 3, 1991, in London, where his parents were working. Just a few months later, his parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, moved to Milan.

2. As a teenager, Carlo was diagnosed with leukemia. He offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church, saying “I offer all the suffering I will have to suffer for the Lord, for the Pope, and the Church.”
3. He died on Oct. 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi, at his request, because of his love for St. Francis of Assisi. His cause for canonization began in 2013. He was designated “Venerable” in 2018, and was designated “Blessed” October 10, 2020.
4. From a young age, Carlo seemed to have a special love for God, even though his parents weren’t especially devout. His mom said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her First Communion, her confirmation, and her wedding. But as a young child, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his First Communion, he went to Mass as often as he could, and he made Holy Hours before or after Mass. He went to confession weekly. He asked his parents to take him on pilgrimages — to the places of the saints, and to the sites of Eucharistic miracles.
5. **His witness of faith led to a deep conversion in his mom**, because, according to the priest promoting his cause for sainthood, he “managed to drag his relatives, his parents to Mass every day. It was not the other way around; it was not his parents bringing the little boy to Mass, but it was he who managed to get himself to Mass and to convince others to receive Communion daily.”
6. He was known for defending kids at school who got picked on, especially disabled kids. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis family life.
7. He was also a programmer, and built a website cataloguing and promoting Eucharistic miracles. On the site, he told people that “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.”
8. Carlo loved playing video games. His console of choice was a Playstation, or possibly a PS2, which was released in 2000, when Carlo was nine. We know he only allowed himself to play games for an hour a week, as a penance and a spiritual discipline, but he wanted to play much more.
9. Initially, there were reports that the body of Carlo Acutis was found to be incorrupt. A spokeswoman for Acutis’ beatification told CNA that the entire body was present when it was exhumed, but “not incorrupt.” He, however, lied in repose in a glass tomb where he was venerated by pilgrims until Oct. 17, 2020. He was displayed in jeans and a pair of Nikes, the casual clothes he preferred in life.

10. His heart, which can now be considered a relic, is displayed in a reliquary in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi. His mother said that his family had wanted to donate his organs when he died, but were unable to do so because of the leukemia.

Taken From: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/46048/who-was-carlo-acutis-a-cna-explainer>

EWTN documentary: https://youtu.be/YUOgYiw_OZ0

Carlo Acutis: His Life and Legacy

By Corinna Turner

Born in London, in 1991, Carlo and his family soon moved back to Italy, where he grew up as an ordinary only child. He loved football, Pokémon, action films, and all animals (he had four dogs, two cats and many goldfish as pets). From early childhood, his first love was Our Lord in the Eucharist.

Neither of his parents were religious, yet from an early age Carlo never wanted to pass a church without going in to “say hello to Jesus.” As a result, his mother came back to faith, then his father. Carlo received his First Holy Communion early, at his own request, in a local convent, entering under a doorway that said “God is enough.”

Carlo’s love, appreciation and reverence for the Eucharist were exceptional. “The Eucharist is my highway to Heaven!” he would say. And, “If we get in front of the sun, we get sun tans, but when we get in front of Jesus in the Eucharist, we become Saints.”

He never missed daily Mass, even when (from the age of eleven) he began visiting Eucharistic miracles all over the world with his parents, documenting them. A “computer genius” and possible future patron saint of the internet, by age fourteen he had created a Eucharistic Miracle display that would tour the world, along with a website. He believed that if people knew that Jesus was truly in the Eucharist, they would turn to God.

Carlo knew he would die young, even predicting the cause of his death and his weight at the time. His mother **said**, “Carlo always had a sense that he couldn’t waste time.” He hated to be enslaved by anything, so although he loved computer games, he allowed himself to play for only one hour a week, and gave the rest of his time to good works helping children, the elderly, and the poor. As soon as he was confirmed, age eleven, he

became a catechist. He met and chatted with many migrants, standing sponsor for one when he got baptized. He was popular at school, but also befriended children who were unhappy at home, defended the disabled, and treated girls with an old-fashioned purity that challenged everyone. He would defend his Catholic faith — including his pro-life views — fearlessly in class.

Then, in early October, 2006, Carlo became ill with flu — so it was thought, until his condition deteriorated. He was admitted to hospital, receiving a terrible diagnosis: “It is a devastating leukemia.” The fifteen-year-old boy who loved to laugh had days to live. Carlo took the news calmly, immediately offering all his sufferings for the Pope, the Church, and his own direct entry into heaven (he had a horror of purgatory). “I am happy to die,” he said, “because I have lived my life without wasting a minute on those things which do not please God.”



“I would like to leave this hospital,” he told his mother, “but I know I will not do so alive. I will give you signs, though, that I am with God.” He died on October 12. Some of his last words were to a nurse who offered to wake his mother, since he was suffering. He refused: “She is very tired as well and she will only worry even more.”

Exactly four years later, on the anniversary of Carlo’s death, at the age of forty-

four, his mother gave birth to the promised ‘signs’—Carlo’s twin brother and sister.

Carlo’s mother has said that God chose Carlo to be “an example for the young people of this period in history.” On Saturday the Church gains a truly inspiring new Blessed to walk alongside our young people and lead them on the highway to heaven. Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us.

Taken from: <https://catholicherald.co.uk/carlo-acutis-his-life-and-legacy/>

Bl. Carlo Acutis: His life, his miracles and his legacy



www.carloacutis.com

Philip Kosloski - published on Aleteia 10/12/21

The "computer geek" saint is an inspiration to both young and old.

Send us the names of your loved ones who are sick or suffering. The Aleteia prayer network of 550 monasteries will take them to prayer for the World Day of the Sick.

Ever since his death in 2006, Carlo Acutis' story has captivated the world. The simple holiness of the teenage saint remains an inspiration to all, highlighting the truth that anyone can achieve holiness, no matter their state in life.

Here is a brief list of the most viewed articles on Aleteia about Bl. Carlo Acutis that help explain his life, miracles and

legacy. You can click on the links below to learn more information.

The life of Bl. Carlo Acutis

Born to a simple family, Carlo was a friend to all

Carlo was born in London on May 3, 1991, to Italian parents who moved the family to Milan when he was 3 months old. It was there that Carlo grew up, attending local schools and then a Jesuit high school. Devoted to Our Lady from a young age, Carlo made the effort to recite the Rosary daily and, after his first Communion at age 7, also strove to receive the Eucharist daily and to attend confession weekly.

Carlo was exceptionally compassionate and mature even as a child. When bullies at school picked on classmates with disabilities, it was Carlo who stepped up to defend them. He also worried for friends who were suffering through their parents' divorces, and made a point of inviting them to his home and offering his support.

[Tech geek? Meet your new saintly friend, Carlo Acutis](#)

Enjoyed playing video games

His mother told CNS, "Carlo led a normal life: He went to school, he played sports, he played video games, although usually just one hour a week because he understood that one could be enslaved by video games."

If there is to be any patron saint for video gamers, it should be Carlo Acutis once he is officially canonized. He is the perfect saint for the average child or teenager in today's culture and is a wonderful example of ordinary holiness.

Carlo's mother was converted by her own son

“Carlo was a very devout soul, even when he was very young. He loved to go to church, to pray, and to learn more about his faith. I was far from the church; I grew up in a secular family, as millions of people do, I suppose. So, having this son who insistently asked me questions about the faith forced me to reflect. That was the reason why I drew closer to the Church” and to the sacraments, she explains.

The mother of Carlo Acutis says he was her little savior

Carlo's school principal witnessed his holiness

I would say that he was a quiet child by nature, living in the context of a peaceful family. As time passed (also because the surname was recurrent in the media), I learned that his father, Andrea Acutis, was the manager of a large private company and that the family's standard of living was quite high. But none of this stood out in Carlo or his parents.

Today I often see spoiled and demanding children, who are capricious with their parents, selfish with their classmates and perhaps spoiled by excessive wellbeing. There was never any sign of this in Carlo: he was a child who integrated harmoniously in the classroom, docile, with whom the teacher was happy. His parents too were very polite and unpretentious, reserved people.

Carlo Acutis' principal: He's a beacon for children and young people

Created a website to catalogue Eucharistic miracles

One of his most significant computer ventures was cataloguing all the Eucharistic miracles of the world. He started the project when he was 11 years old and wrote at the time, “The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven.” He then asked his parents to start taking him to

all the places of the Eucharistic miracles, and two and half years later the project was completed.

Acutis researched over “136 Eucharistic miracles that occurred over the centuries in different countries around the world, and have been acknowledged by the Church” and collected them into a virtual museum. Besides creating a website to house this virtual museum, he helped create panel presentations that have traveled around the world.

“Computer geek” takes one more step toward sainthood

The miracles of Carlo Acutis

Healing of a gravely ill boy in Brazil

The Medical Council of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes has expressed a positive opinion on an alleged miracle attributed to the intercession of young Carlo Acutis, who died of leukemia at age 15 in 2006. He was declared venerable in 2018.

The miracle regards the healing of a gravely ill boy in Brazil.

Miracle attributed to Carlo Acutis given the OK from doctors

Body was found intact after burial

The vice postulator, Father Marcelo Tenorio, shared the news on social media. He revealed that he’d seen the pictures but that he couldn’t share them.

The priest said that the news had been communicated to him by Carlo’s mother: “Dear ones, I received today from the mother of Carlo Acutis the wonderful news that the body of the venerable youth, who died giving his life for Pope Benedict XVI, is INTACT.”

The postulator of the cause, Nicola Gori, asked that the medical exams be awaited before something definitive can be said regarding the state of the body of the young Carlo.

“Any judgment on the state of the body’s preservation is premature as the necessary examinations by medical personnel are currently underway,” he said.

The legacy of Carlo Acutis

First stained-glass window of Carlo Acutis

The church of San Giuseppe in Molfetta, Italy, has already installed the first stained glass window depicting Blessed Carlo Acutis, the 15-year-old beatified last year on October 10 by Pope Francis.

His image—in jeans and sneakers—clashes with the traditional stained glass windows to which we are accustomed, and shows that holiness is closer to us than we think.

[Carlo Acutis’ first stained glass window in jeans and sneakers](#)

First-class relic in Brooklyn

A first-class relic belonging to Blessed Carlo Acutis has arrived in the Diocese of Brooklyn. The relic, which consists of hair trimmings from the Beato Millennial, is housed in the chapel at the Diocese of Brooklyn Chancery.

The Tablet reports that the relic was acquired by the diocese thanks to Msgr. Thomas Machalski. Touched by Bl. Carlo Acutis’ life, Msgr. Machalski wanted to inspire young Catholics in Brooklyn with his faith model. The monsignor organized the request that Rome send the diocese a relic and the Church acquiesced.

Taken From: <https://aleteia.org/2021/10/12/bl-carlo-acutis-his-life-his-miracles-and-his-legacy/>

