

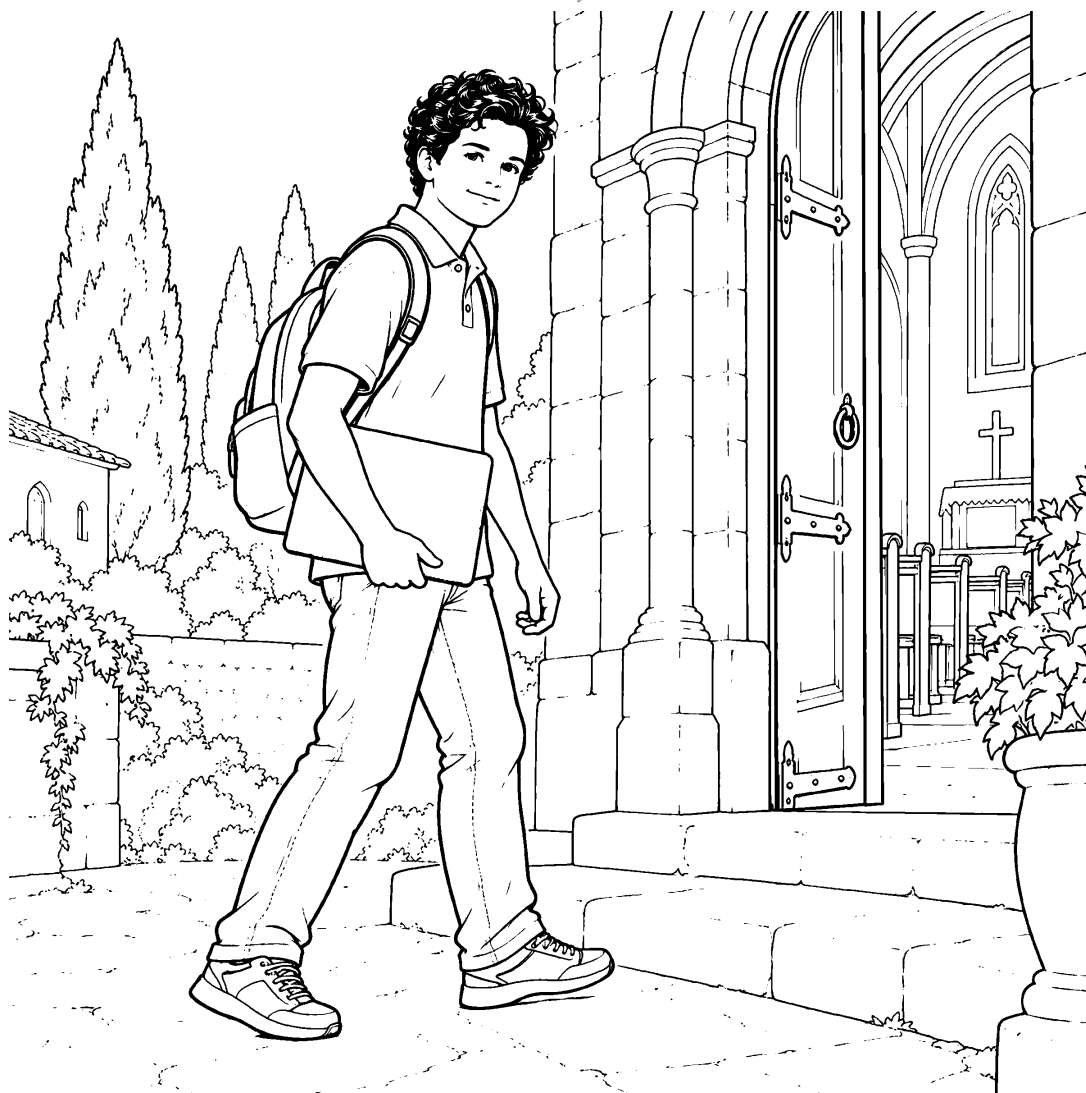
SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Lay teenager • Italy

REMEMBERED OCTOBER 12 • ASSISI AND SOME LOCAL CALENDARS



A saint in sneakers. Let the twelve-year-old read this one aloud.



TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Holiness grows when Jesus becomes the center of an ordinary day.

One ordinary part of my day I will offer to God:

TO KEEP CLOSE TO MY HEART

Prayer, study, friendship, and charity can all lead me to Jesus.



MEET THE SAINT

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Carlo shows that a modern young person can place God at the center without abandoning school, sports, friendship, creativity, or the ordinary responsibilities of family life.

FEATURED DATE October 12 in Assisi and particular calendars	STATE OF LIFE Lay teenager
PLACES Born in London; raised in Milan; died in Monza; buried in Assisi	BORN–DIED May 3, 1991–October 12, 2006

♥ VIRTUE SPOTLIGHT

Charity in Ordinary Life

Carlo brought prayer, study, sports, technology, friendship, and service into one life with Jesus. He practiced charity through concrete, often hidden gestures. Young people can imitate him by using technology truthfully, noticing a classmate who is left out, helping at home, and making time for prayer and the sacraments.

📖 SAINTLY STORY

Carlo grew up in Milan and took part in parish life. He loved the Eucharist, attended Mass frequently, prayed in adoration, and went to Confession. He was also a student who enjoyed computers, sports, and time with friends. He did not keep faith in a separate part of life; it shaped the way he studied, served, and spent his time. He died at fifteen after a brief illness and was canonized with Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati on September 7, 2025.

🧒 FOR LITTLE HEARTS

Carlo liked computers, soccer, and his friends. Most of all he loved Jesus in the Eucharist. He shows us that a young person can be a saint today.

☆ DID YOU KNOW?

At Carlo's canonization, Pope Leo XIV described his days as a natural integration of prayer, sports, study, and charity—simple practices available to every family.

TRUTH TO REMEMBER

Holiness grows when Jesus becomes the center of an ordinary day.

✝ PRAY

Jesus, be the center of my day. Saint Carlo, pray that I may use my gifts wisely, love the Eucharist, serve quietly, and choose what leads to Heaven.
Amen.

🗨 TALK TOGETHER

Does the way I use a screen help me love God and people better?

1. What is one healthy boundary that helps technology serve our family?
2. How can schoolwork become an act of love?

CARRY THIS WITH YOU

Prayer, study, friendship, and charity can all lead me to Jesus.

THE WONDER OF SAINT CARLO ACUTIS



☀ THE BOY WITH THE SLEEPING BAG

Milan, in the years when Carlo was still a small boy. Near his family's apartment there are men who sleep outside in the cold, and Carlo has noticed them. He saves his pocket money, and with it he buys sleeping bags, and he carries hot drinks and food from his own family's table out to the men in the doorways. Watching all this is Rajesh, the family's helper from Mauritius, a Hindu who had never given Jesus a thought. Carlo tells him that wherever he goes he can find Jesus truly present in the tabernacle, and explains the faith so clearly that Rajesh later said the boy knew the Catechism almost by heart. In 1999, four years after he met Carlo, Rajesh was baptized at Carlo's own parish. He said afterward that it was the acts of such a small child that converted him.

☆ SEVEN WONDERS



He was born in London on May 3, 1991, and received his First Communion at seven, with special permission. From that day he went to Mass every day and called the Eucharist his highway to Heaven.



He taught himself computer programming and, at thirteen, began building a website cataloging the Eucharistic miracles of the world. The exhibition opened just days before he died and has since traveled all over the world.



He loved video games, Pokémon, and Spider-Man, and set himself a strict limit of about one hour a week so games would not become his master.



His mother had been to Mass only about three times before he was born. His questions sent her to study theology. She says her son saved her.



He liked to say that everyone is born an original, but many people end up living as photocopies of someone else.



The first miracle credited to his prayers was celebrated with French fries. On October 12, 2013, a three-year-old Brazilian boy who could not keep food down touched a relic, a scrap of Carlo's pajamas, asked Carlo to pray that he would stop vomiting, and on the way home asked for fries, rice, beans, and steak, and ate it all.



He rests in Assisi in a glass tomb wearing jeans and sneakers. His canonization was set for April 27, 2025, but Pope Francis died six days before. Pope Leo XIV canonized him with Pier Giorgio Frassati on September 7, 2025, the first saints of his pontificate.



FOR LITTLE HEARTS

Carlo went to Mass every single day, and he bought a sleeping bag for a man who was cold. What is one kind thing you can do today?



FOR GROWING HEARTS

Carlo used the internet to lead people to the Eucharist and set a timer on his games. Look honestly at your own screen time this week. What is it leading you toward? Set one rule for yourself, like Carlo did, and keep it for seven days.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Visit Carlo's Eucharistic miracles exhibition online with a parent, pick one miracle, and tell the story at dinner. Then make a holy hour, or a holy ten minutes, in front of the tabernacle.



FIND IT IN THE BIBLE

John 6:51 — I am the living bread.

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

The prayers, in order, for every bead

STEP BY STEP

- 1 **SIGN OF THE CROSS** Holding the crucifix.
- 2 **APOSTLES' CREED** On the crucifix.
- 3 **OUR FATHER** On the first large bead.
- 4 **THREE HAIL MARYS** For faith, hope, and charity.
- 5 **GLORY BE** Before the medal.
- 6 **ANNOUNCE THE FIRST MYSTERY** Then an Our Father on the medal, or the next large bead.
- 7 **TEN HAIL MARYS** One on each small bead, picturing the mystery.
- 8 **GLORY BE, THEN THE FATIMA PRAYER** At the end of the decade.
- 9 **REPEAT FOR FIVE DECADES** Steps 6 to 8 for each mystery.
- 10 **HAIL, HOLY QUEEN AND CLOSING PRAYER** On the medal, then the Sign of the Cross.



THE PRAYERS

SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FATIMA PRAYER

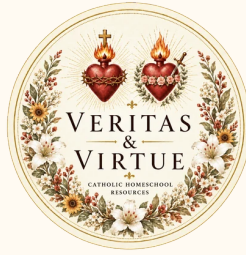
O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy.

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech thee, that, meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



VERITAS & VIRTUE CATHOLIC PRESS

Pull up a chair

Dear friend, I hope these pages bring a little peace and a little beauty to your table this week. Print as many copies as your own family or classroom needs.

These four pages come from our 68-page October Saints & Feasts study: a coloring page, a story and a wonder page for each saint of the month, with the Rosary, a family feast-day plan and more.

THE WHOLE BOOK

The complete October Saints & Feasts is in our Etsy shop.

VERITASANDVIRTUECO.ETSY.COM

A FREE GIFT AND A LETTER

The Well-Ordered Family Starter Pack, and a letter every other week.

VERITASANDVIRTUECO.COM

*From my kitchen table to yours,
Maria*