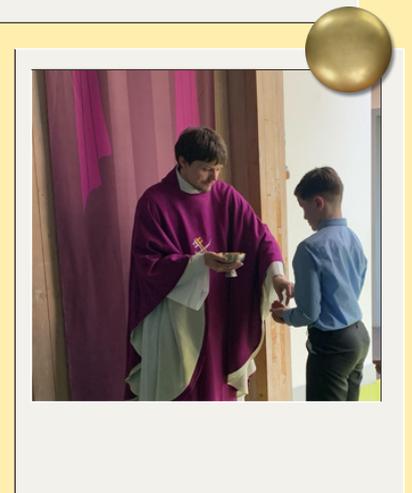
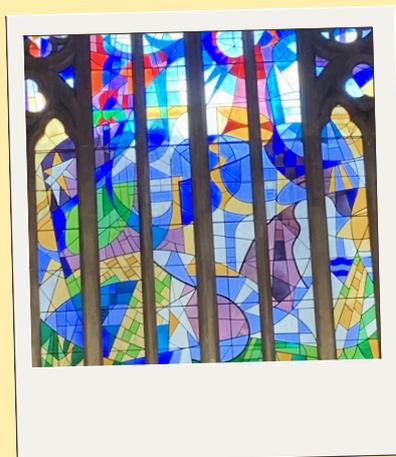




This month children and young people from across LW CET schools gathered to celebrate the visit of the relics of Saint Carlo Acutis to our diocese.

It was a very special day and one that many of us will remember for the rest of our lives.





Monsignor Anthony came all the way from Assisi, Italy, to show the relics of St Carlo to us. He is the custodian of the relics and is entrusted with keeping them safe.

A relic is a belonging or a part of the body of a saint. Relics help us to feel close to a holy person and to reflect upon the way they loved God and others during their life. This can inspire us to find ways in our own lives to love those around us and to thank God for all that he has done for us.

The relics of St Carlo included a piece of his favourite t-shirt, a lock of his hair and a little piece of his heart – a heart that loved very much!

The relics were taken to visit St Gregory’s Catholic Church in Cheltenham, St Peter’s Catholic Primary School in Gloucester and to the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Stroud. During the 2 days of celebrations, children & staff from **over 17 schools** gathered together to celebrate Mass, to venerate the relics and to learn more about St Carlo’s life.

During the visit, all children and staff were gifted a special prayer card that they were invited to touch reverently to the relics. This action means that the prayer card itself becomes a third class relic and a precious reminder of the day.



Each school was entrusted with gifting one of these special prayer cards to all of the staff and students who were not able to visit the relics on the day.

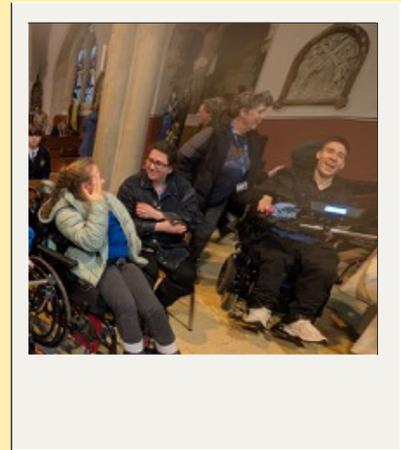
When you receive your prayer card, please keep it safe and use it to pray to Jesus to help you to love and know Him better.





We would like to thank the children and staff from all of the following schools who worked hard to make arrangements to be able to travel to join together in celebration of this very special event:

- Holy Rood Catholic Primary School, Swindon
- Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Swindon
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Swindon
- St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, Swindon
- Holy Cross Catholic Primary School, Swindon
- St Joseph's Catholic College, Swindon
- The Catholic School of St Gregory the Great, Cheltenham
- St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School, Cheltenham
- All Saints Academy, Cheltenham
- St Edward's Senior School, Cheltenham
- St Peter's Catholic High School, Gloucester
- St Bede's Catholic College, Bristol
- St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Gloucester
- St Catharine's Catholic Primary School, Chipping Campden
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Churchdown
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Nympsfield
- The Rosary School, Stroud
- St Rose's School, Stroud





A saint for young people

Carlo Acutis was born in London in 1991 and grew up in Italy. Even when he was very young, Carlo loved God very much. Carlo especially loved Jesus in the Eucharist and liked to spend time praying.

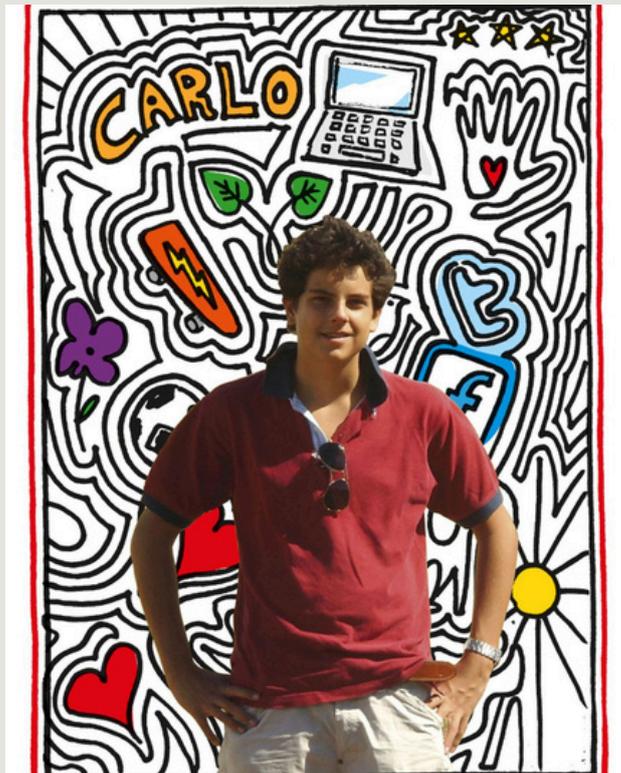


Carlo was a lot like other children.

He enjoyed playing football, video games, watching films and spending time with his friends. He also loved animals and had dogs, cats and even goldfish. Carlo was known for being very kind. If someone at school was being picked on or feeling lonely, Carlo would help them and be their friend. He wanted everyone to know how much God loved them.

Carlo was also very good with computers. He taught himself how to build websites and used the internet to share stories about God and the Catholic faith with people around the world.

Even though Carlo's family had money, he cared deeply for people who were poor. He helped homeless people by bringing them food, warm clothes and sleeping bags.



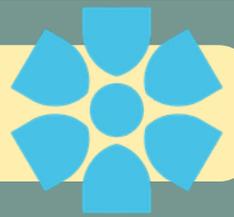
His mum and dad didn't go to church but, seeing how joyful Carlo was, they became curious and they soon began to love Jesus and to go to Mass, too.

Carlo was 15 years old, he became very ill with leukaemia. Even though he was suffering, he stayed peaceful and trusted God.

Carlo died in 2006, but his story continues to inspire people everywhere. He became a saint in 2025.

St Carlo Acutis reminds us that everyone - especially young people - can live close to God and make the world a kinder & happier place.

Carlo's 5 Top Tips for becoming a saint



1

Go to Mass and receive the holy Eucharist as often as possible - Carlo loved to go daily!

Carlo said: *"The more we receive the Eucharist, the more we will become like Jesus"*

Attend Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist as often as you can.

Carlo said: *'If we go out in the sun, we get a suntan...but when we get in front of Jesus in the Eucharist, we become saints.'*

2

3

Go to Confession regularly - as often as needed - as a shower for the heart.

Carlo said: *'Why do people worry so much about the beauty of their own body and not about the beauty of their soul?'*



Pray daily and take inspiration from the saints.

Carlo loved to pray the rosary daily and to learn about the way other saints had enabled God to show his love to people through them.

Carlo loved St John Paul II's motto: *"I am all yours and all I have is yours, O dear Jesus, through Mary, your holy Mother"*.

4

5

Charity - to love those around us with our hearts & our actions.

Carlo defended the vulnerable, especially children being bullied, and used his pocket money to help bring food and warmth to people in his town without a home.

Carlo said: *'Money is nothing more than shredded paper. What counts in life is ...the way we love God and neighbour'*.

Little acts, great love, big difference