DERRY DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CENTRE

Assembly Liturgy: Blessed Carlo Acutis

(3 May 1991- 12 October 2006)
Beatified 10 October 2020

INTRODUCTION

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

As we gather to pray to and for Blessed Carlo Acutis, we take time to pause, and become aware of the presence of God here with us. *(Short silence)*

OPENING PRAYER

God Our Father,

We thank you for the gift of Blessed Carlo Acutis. We ask that through his example we may, with guidance from the Holy Spirit, imitate his witness by putting God first and by serving our neighbour in our daily actions.

We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

Let us now listen to a Reading from the Gospel of John (Jn 15:16-17)

Jesus said, ' You did not choose me,
No, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
so that the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
My command to you
is to love one another.
Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

Let us listen to and sing along with the words of the hymn *'Here I am Lord'*
https://youtu.be/EcxOkht8w7c

Reflection

Let us take a moment now to reflect on Carlo and how through the example of his life we too might answer God's call in our lives.

In many ways Carlo was a normal young boy very interested in computers and computer games. But his primary interest was Jesus and Jesus in the Eucharist. He used his computer skills to create a website that documented all the Eucharistic miracles that happened through history. He loved the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. He went to Mass every day, even when he was on holiday. He encouraged his mother to return to daily Mass.

Carlo also said that the more Eucharist we receive, the more we become like Jesus. He said that although we are born originals, unique, many people die as photocopies. They forget they are created by God and simply follow the crowd!

In today's world, we do not expect somebody like Carlo to be so holy and to be a saint. Carlo lived his faith in how he cared for others always helping the homeless and those who lived in poverty in Milan and at school he was always caring for fellow pupils who were suffering, particularly if there were difficulties in their home or if they were being bullied.

At the age of fifteen he died happy because he looked towards God while he lived. Sadness he said was looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God. He is a very unexpected teacher, but he has a lesson for us all

INTERCESSIONS

Leader

We now turn to God in prayer. Let us pray that we may be faithful witnesses of God's Spirit. The response to our prayer is: '***Lord hear our Prayer***'

God our Father,
Help us to witness to your love as Carlo did, by celebrating the Eucharist daily and going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly.
Lord hear our Prayer (all repeat)

God our Father
Help us be alert to your presence in our lives; to recognise when you are calling us to fulfil a task, no matter how small.
Lord hear our Prayer (all repeat)

God our Father
Help us to use technology wisely, to enhance and benefit the lives of others and to bring other young people to a recognition of the beauty of friendship with the Lord
Lord hear our Prayer **(**all repeat)

God our Father
We ask Blessed Carlo to intercede for us and ask for your healing for the sick and suffering. We pray especially for those who are terminally ill that they may find strength through the story of Carlo's own suffering.
Lord hear our Prayer **(**all repeat)

Leader: God our Father, guide us with your Spirit, as we reflect upon the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. May we be inspired by him and trust in his presence in heaven as we ask him to intercede for us. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

CONCLUDING PRAYER

United as a family we pray together the prayer that Jesus himself gave us
Our Father

Lord,
We pray that we may be inspired by Carlo to celebrate life, to celebrate the sacraments regularly, to listen to God calling us in our life, to answer his call and to go forth and 'bear fruit.'

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord Amen.