



HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

October 2024

Issue # 210



FROM THE EDITOR – By: Maria Dorn

Another month has passed us by, and we are into October. Trees will be turning to gorgeous shades of orange and red, and leaves begin falling to the ground, where they will turn brown and crunchy and eventually return to the earth to nourish it for the return of spring next year. I LOVE walking on the brown crunchy leaves and making the scrunchy sounds. I even go out of my way to stomp on them; that's how much I love it. This month will bring shorter days, cooler nights and Halloween with all it's spooky creatures. Now that COVID is really over, I am curious if we'll get more kids coming for candy this year. What will 'the' costume of the year be? My twins want to be people from the 'Fort Nite Game' when they don't even play that game. They just think they look neat. Whatever comes your way this fall, ENJOY IT! We don't know how many more falls we may have left in us. (NO PUN INTENDED!)

If you ever have suggestions or an article that you think other members would enjoy, you can call or send an email to mariadorn@hotmail.com. Be sure to put HIS in the subject line. Thanks, and I look forward to keeping you 'in the know'.



Carlo Acutis (3 May 1991 – 12 October 2006) was an Italian website designer who documented Eucharistic miracles and approved Marian apparitions and catalogued both on a website he designed before his death from leukemia.[4] Acutis was noted for his cheerfulness, computer skills, and devotion to the Eucharist, which became a core theme of his life.[5]

He was beatified by Pope Francis on 10 October 2020. After a second miracle was confirmed in May 2024, Pope Francis granted approval in July 2024 to continue forward with the canonization process. He will be canonized at a yet unannounced later date.[6]

Birth and baptism

Carlo Acutis was born in London, England, on 3 May 1991, to Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, members of wealthy Italian families.[5][7][8][9] His father's family worked in the Italian insurance industry [10] and his mother's ran a publishing company.[11] Acutis' maternal great-grandmother was born in the United States and came from a family of landowners in New York.[12] His baptism took place on 18 May 1991 in the Church of Our Lady of Dolours, Chelsea.[13] His paternal grandfather, Carlo, was his godfather; and his maternal grandmother, Luana, was his godmother.[14] Neither of his parents were religious.[4][5][15]

Childhood

Acutis' parents worked in London and Germany before he was born, and moved to Milan shortly after, in September 1991.[5][15][11] They worked in family businesses[10] and he was cared for by an Irish nanny.[11] Aside from a few visits to a daycare centre, most of Acutis' early care came from nannies.[16] During one daycare visit, he was bullied by other children. A Polish nanny, who thought he was too nice, tried to teach him to set boundaries so that other children would not take his toys. He replied: "Jesus would not be happy if I lost my temper." [11] In the summer, Acutis would stay with his mother's parents in Centola.[12] After spending the day at the beach, he would join a number of

older women in the local parish church to pray the rosary.[17] His family also owned a boat at Santa Margherita Ligure, near the Basilica of St. Margaret of Antiochian.[18]

Acutis' attended his first primary school in September 1997, the San Carlo Institute in Milan;[19] but as the school was a distance from their home, three months later he transferred to the Marcelline Tommaso Institute, run by the Sisters of St. Marcellina. [19] During his walks to school, he took particular interest in the foreign caretakers of the different homes along his route; [20] learning their names and stopping to greet them personally each morning.[21] Upon completing middle school, Acutis went on to the Jesuit Istituto Leone XIII high school.[22]

On 16 June 1998, when he was seven years old, Acutis received his First Communion at the convent of Sant'Ambrogio ad Nemus, Milan.[23] Acutis was also a frequent communicant and attended Eucharistic Adoration.[24] He was confirmed five years later on 24 May 2003 at Santa Maria Segreta Church.[25]

Although he was an average student, he liked to read and pursued other academic areas independently, including computer science [26] and teaching himself the saxophone.[26][27] Acutis also had a tutor who helped him with his homework and followed him to church.[28]

Family life

Acutis's mother Antonia grew up in a secular family.[29] She was confirmed while she was in college and was married in the church, but she did not attend Mass before Acutis was born.[30] Her son's faith and his insistent questions brought her back to the faith.[29] It was similar for his father.[31] Antonia was asked and agreed to lead a catechism class after Acutis made his First Communion, though she did not feel qualified to do so.[30]

During his lifetime, Carlo remained an only child and his cousin, Flavia, was his best friend.[32] Precisely four years to the day after his death, his mother, Antonia, then aged 44, gave birth to twins, Michele and Francesca. She is said to attribute this event to her son's intercession.[33][34]

The Acutises employed a Brahmin immigrant from India, Rajesh Mohur, to work in their household.[35] He and Acutis became friends.[36] In time, after speaking with Acutis about Christianity, Mohur asked to be baptized.[37] A friend of Mohur's, Seeven Kistnen, also converted and was baptized after meeting with Acutis and hearing him speak about the faith.[38] Mohur's mother, visiting from Mauritius, attended Mass with Mohur and Acutis, who talked with her at length afterwards, and she too asked to be baptized.[39]

Religious education and devotion

When Acutis was three years old, his maternal grandfather, Antonio Salzano, died.[40] Several days earlier, he was present when his grandfather received the Anointing of the Sick.[41] The grandfather was said to have appeared to him in a dream asking for prayer. Shortly after his death, Acutis put on his coat while his grandmother was minding him and asked to be taken to church.[42] When she asked him why, he said he wanted to pray for his grandfather, whom he declared "had gone to see Jesus".[42] When Acutis displayed an interest in Catholic religious practice, his questions were answered by the family's Polish babysitter.[43][44]

When Acutis was 12 years old, he became a catechist in his parish, Santa Maria Segreta.[45] At the time, the Italian catechetical structure typically relied on young team leaders in youth groups, as contrasted with adults, to deliver religious education to their peers.[46] Acutis' parish priest said of him that:

Carlo was a young man who was exceptionally transparent. He really wanted to progress in loving his parents, God, his classmates, and those who loved him less. He wanted to apply himself in his studies to educate himself in his catechism class as well as in school and computer science.[47]

Acutis showed an interest in the lives of saints, especially Francis of Assisi, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, Dominic Savio, Tarcisius, Bernadette Soubirous,[4] and Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi.[48] He is said to have prayed to his guardian angel frequently and exhibited a special devotion to St. Michael the Archangel.[49]

Websites

People around him considered him a "computer geek" due to his passion for and skill with computers and the internet.[5][4] He was skilled in Java as well as C++[50] and often helped others with technical issues.[51]

When he was 14, his parish priest asked him to create a webpage for his parish, Santa Maria Segreta in Milan.[50] After this, a priest at his high school asked him to create a website to promote volunteering.[52] For this work, he won a national competition called "Sarai volontario" (You will be a volunteer).[52]

Keen to transmit the faith to a younger generation,[46] Acutis applied himself to creating a website dedicated to cataloguing each reported Eucharistic miracle in the world and maintaining a list of the approved Marian apparitions of the Catholic Church. He appreciated Blessed Giacomo Alberione's initiatives to use the media to evangelize and proclaim the Gospel, aiming to do likewise with his own website.[53] Acutis launched the website in 2004[25] and worked on it for two and a half years, involving his entire family in the project.[54] It was unveiled on 4 October 2006, the Feast of St. Francis, only days before his death.[54] Because he was hospitalized, Acutis was not able to attend the debut of his exhibition at Rome's Church of San Carlo Borromeo.[55] The exhibition was also presented at his high school, the Leo XIII Institute.[54]



ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

By: Kathie Hanneke

Ladies, be sure to reserve your spot at the **Women's Paint-N-Sip Evening on Friday, Nov. 8th, 6:30-9:00 pm** in the upper cafeteria. There is a short faith formation talk before we learn how to draw and paint a monogrammed wreath. Before and while painting, there will be wine and hor d'oeuvres to enjoy. This is a great chance to meet other people, and no artistic skills are necessary! Come, find your hidden creative side and have a fun evening! See the bulletin for more information.

Polyhymnia Lessons and Carols, Sunday, Dec. 1, 7:00-8:00 pm, in Church - more details in future bulletins.

Ladies Advent Tea, Sunday, Dec. 8, 1:30-3:00 pm, upper cafeteria. Start planning and inviting your friends to make up a table of 8 or come and make new friends by coming on your own and joining a table. More information coming in future bulletins.

FUNNIES BY GENE by: Gene Bestgen

How do you get a dog to stop digging in the garden? **Take away his shovel!**

What do you call a dog that's playing outdoors in winter? **A chili dog.**

What do you get a dog for its birthday? **Pupcakes!**

What is Dracula's favorite breed of dog? **A bloodhound!**



What kind of dog should you get if you're always late? **A watchdog!**

What's a dog's favorite position to play in football? **Golden receiver.**

Why are skeletons afraid of dogs? **Because dogs love bones.**

Where do dogs park their car? **In the barking lot.**

Why did the dog stay out of the sun? **So he wouldn't be a hot dog.**

Why did the dog do so well in school? **He was the teacher's pet.**

What did the dog say to its teacher when it forgot its homework?

My human ate my homework."

Who is the greatest dog detective that ever lived? **Sherlock Bones.**

Who is the most famous doggy magician in history? **Houndini.**

My friend says her dog will retrieve a ball over a mile away, **but that sounds far-fetched to me.**

I tried to trick my dog into eating a healthy snack, **but he didn't bite.**

What kind of car does a dog drive? **A Fur-rari.**

Why did the boy name his dog Ten Miles? **So he could tell his gym teacher he walked Ten Miles every day.**

Why are conjunctions dogs' favorite parts of speech? **Dogs love buts.**

What do dogs get after they graduate from obedience school? **Their masters.**

How do dog catchers get paid? **By the pound**

Dogs are terrible with boundaries — **instead of standing up for themselves, they just roll over.**

What's the difference between dogs and marine biologists? **Dogs wag their tails, and marine biologists tag their whales.**

I refuse to take my dog on road trips anymore. **He can be such a bark seat driver.**

What's a dog's favorite type of workout? **Pawlates!**

What is the difference between a man and a dog? **A man wears trousers, a dog pants.**

What do you call it when a stressed dog goes shopping? **Re-tail therapy.**

My dad adopted a dog from the local blacksmith. **As soon as he got home, he made a bolt for the door.**



Odds and Ends

By HIS members

THANKYOU! - – Theresa Bichsel

The outpouring of support for the Assistance League fabric collection has been amazing! Thank you all so much! Many, many shelter clients will receive a beautiful fabric bag that they can use for a long time. You are truly being the hand of Jesus as you help these women move on in their lives. Thank you and God bless each of you! ".whatever you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me." Matt 25:40

Worn Flags Disposal – Olivia Pieknik

Bring your worn American flags to the next luncheon. I will accept the worn flags for dignified disposal. All flags collected will be deposited at VFW/American Legions Posts for proper disposal. God Bless America!

HELP!!! We need more involvement from the over 100 members of our group to submit interesting facts and tips as well as recognition 'shout outs' for those particular sections of this Newsletter. If we receive nothing, these sections won't be there anymore.

Meal Train – Maria Dorn

We are not currently serving any of our seniors. Thanks to all who generously volunteer already and if you want to be added to the list of volunteers, let Maria know by calling 314-610-8784 or email mariadorn@hotmail.com.

Please keep this program in mind when you or one of the HIS members needs some support.



Sentiments

By Carol Laupp

Since our last HIS newsletter the following sentiments were sent to:

Get-Well Cards -Donna McCann, Sharon Bombach, Bill George, Carol Wolf, and Rosemary Bestgen.

If you know of anyone in our HIS group that could use a Get-Well card, a Thinking of or Praying for you card, a Sympathy card, etc., please call Carol Laupp at 636-256-0924 and she will send them a card from the HIS group.

Birthdays - October Birthdays

By Theresa Bichsel



Wishing each of you, and any others I may have missed, a very Happy Birthday!

Kim	Sullivan	4-Oct	Martha	Lang	20-Oct
Janet	Linhoff	7-Oct	Kathie	Hanneke	23-Oct
Carol	Nortman	7-Oct	Trisha	Powers	23-Oct
Paul	Bichsel	11-Oct	Carol	Wolf	23-Oct
Mary	Bryant	12-Oct	Kathy	St. Julian	29-Oct
Tom	Wojciechowski	15-Oct	Mary	Hey	30-Oct
Bob	Schlemeier	18-Oct	Carol	McElroy	30-Oct
Bill	George	19-Oct			

Carol's Corner - by Carol Komor



I am so pleased that Carol's Corner has been added to our monthly Newsletter and allowed me to introduce you to the prayers of Lyanla Vanzant. Hopefully you find them as meaningful as I do.

One of our Founding Fathers, Noah Webster said: "When you become entitled to exercise the right of voting for public officers, let it be impressed on your mind that God commands you to choose for rulers, those who will rule in fear of God. The preservation of a good government depends on the faithful discharge of this duty; if the citizens neglect this duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupt."

We are facing such an important election in November. Let us be on our knees praying for God's guidance not only in our decisions, but for the future leadership of our country.

A PRAYER FOR OUR NATION'S ELECTION

O God, we acknowledge You today as Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and governments.

We thank You for the privilege of being able to organize ourselves politically and of knowing that political loyalty does not have to mean disloyalty to You.

We thank You for Your law which our Founding Fathers acknowledged and recognized as higher than any human law. We thank You for the opportunity that this election year puts before us, to exercise our solemn duty not only to vote, but to influence countless others to vote, and to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that Your people may be awakened. Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation, their response to You requires that they be politically active.

Awaken Your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world but rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken them that the same hands lifted to You in prayer are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth. That the same eyes that read Your word are the eyes that read the names on the ballot.....and that they do not cease to be Christians when they enter the voting booth.

Awaken Your people to a commitment to justice.....to the sanctity of marriage and the family and to the dignity of each individual human life.

Lord we rejoice today that we are citizens of Your kingdom.

May that make us even more committed to being faithful citizens on earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ADULT BINGO

October 19, 2024
Holy Infant School –
Upper Cafeteria 248
New Ballwin Road
Doors Open at 5:00 P.M.
Bingo Starts at 7:00 P.M.



\$25.00 per Person
Admission includes 15 Games of
Bingo
Beer, Soda, Wine, and Water.
Food available for purchase
Sponsored by the Holy Infant
Knights of Columbus



OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....

- Theresa Bichsel for keeping track of HIS membership and creating our Membership Directory for our group that is growing by leaps and bounds.
- Nancy and Don Turpin and their crew for preparing lunch and dessert for this crowd every month. It is delicious and because it is, I don't know how you keep your girlish shape.



DID YOU KNOW OR CARE....

By -Jo Lewis, and other members

- That the bumblebee bat is the world's smallest mammal? Weighing in at 0.05 to 0.07 ounces, with a head-to-body length of 1.14 to 1.29 inches and a wingspan of 5.1 to 5.7 inches, the bumblebee bat—also known as Kitti's hog-nosed bat—is the smallest mammal in the world, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.
- That Sudan has more pyramids than Egypt? The numbers aren't even close. While 138 pyramids have been discovered in Egypt, Sudan boasts around 255.
- That you could find our HIS Newsletter through the online bulletin? Go to the website and scroll down till you see HIS Newsletters. We have them all from September of 2015. <https://holyyinfantballwin.org/news/newsletter/>
- That any of our HI Seniors can submit words of wisdom they want to share to this column? We can all benefit from these little gems. Just send to mariadorn@hotmail.com or call Maria at 314-610-8784.



Parish News
By Sandy Hughes

October

- 4 Men's Club Golf Tournament - Pevely Farms
- 4 Pet Blessing: 3:30pm, Fr. Fennewald
- 5 Date Night: 5pm - Upper Cafeteria
- 9 No Men's Club Meeting
- 19 K of C Bingo: Doors open at 5pm, Upper cafeteria
- 27 Trunk or Treat - 5pm, school parking lot.
- 31 K of C Blood Drive: 10am-3pm, Upper Cafeteria

2023-2024 H.I.S. Board Members

Bob Maloney	President	636-346-1765		Membership	
Randy Ewers	VP	314-477-8900	Maria Dorn	Newsletter	14-610-8784
Mary Daus	Secretary	314-307-1366	Gene Hanneke	Recycle Coord.	227-8163
Linda Gatton	Treasurer	314-853-8185	Nancy Turpin &	Refreshment	314-800-7420
Audrey Westmoreland	Attendance	636-394-7919	Bernie Flacke		227-3825
Dolores Kaemmerer	Attendance	391-7743	Eileen Buehrle	Service & PAC	230-5435
Mary Mallery	Attendance	391-9716	Rev. Edward Sta	Spiritual Dir.	227-7440
Carol Laupp	Sentiments	256-0924	Mary Jane Bahr	Trips	227-8927
Kathie & Gene Hanneke	Graphics	314-913-4230	& Joan & Tom Wojciechowski		636-256-2510
Mary Mallery	Historian	391-9716	Carol Wolf	50/50	636-795-7982
Mary Schlemeier &	Hospitality	636-391-9556	Carol Komor &		230-9697
Brenda George		636-394-2286	Rose Birkner		636-485-6415
Theresa Bichsel	Directory &	314-564-7591			