



CCD Family Newsletter

April 23 - 30, 2025



Last Two CCD Classes

Monday

April 28th - CCD Resumes

Lesson 20: *Why is the Lord's Prayer Called the Perfect Prayer?*

May 5th

Catechist Flex Day - Suggested Lesson: *Pentecost*

Tuesday

April 29th - CCD Resumes

Lesson 20: *Why is the Lord's Prayer Called the Perfect Prayer?*

May 6th

Catechist Flex Day - Suggested Lesson: *Pentecost*



Homeschooling Connection

Week of April 27th

Chapter 21: Church Year

We've just experienced three different liturgical seasons in just one week (Lent, Sacred Paschal Triduum, Easter), so it's a great time to explore the liturgical calendar with your child. Enjoy!



The First Millennial Saint

Blessed Carlo Acutis

Canonization Mass: April 27th

We know that we are all called to be saints. For Carlo Acutis though, this goal will become a reality on April 27th when he becomes the first millennial to be canonized a saint.

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.

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.

His mother has said, "Carlo led a normal life: He went to school, he played sports, he played 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 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.

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.

Carlo Acutis died of leukemia at only fifteen years of age, but his love and his story continues to inspire many. Two miracles have been officially recognized by the Catholic Church and attributed to the intercession of Carlo Acutis: one involving a Brazilian boy healed from a rare pancreatic disease and a second involving a Costa Rican woman who recovered from a brain hemorrhage after a bicycle accident.

[EWTN Video on the Life of Carlo Acutis](#)



Carlo Acutis – Role Model and Intercessor

We'll be discussing the life and legacy of Carlo Acutis in our Opening Service at CCD this coming week. Our students will all be given a Carlo Acutis prayer card as a reminder that we are all called to be saints and that sainthood IS possible - even if you like to play soccer and video games!

Please ask your children what they learned about the life of Carlo Acutis and consider putting Carlo's prayer card in a prominent place and encouraging your child to go to Carlo with their special intentions.



Saint / Feast of the Week

Divine Mercy Sunday

(Second Sunday of Easter)

April 27th in 2025

In the Jubilee Year 2000, St. Pope John Paul II proclaimed that from that year forward the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kowalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbor.

In her years in the convent, St. Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace.

St. Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the Our Father beads, recite the following: *"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."*
3. On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following: *"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*
4. Repeat step two and three for all five decades.
5. Conclude by reciting three times: *"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*



In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass is then a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal, discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word:

[Second Sunday of Easter](#)
[Loyola Press: Sunday Connection](#)
[Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy](#)

Living Faith Kids Pause + Pray + Play with Scripture Every Day

KIDSCALENDAR

APRIL 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Q What did Jesus tell the woman to do? (SEE APRIL 9) John 8:1-11 6	SAINT JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE, PRIEST 7	SAINT FRANCIS OF PAOLA, HERMIT 1	2	3	SAINT ISIDORE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH 4	SAINT VINCENT FERRER, PRIEST 5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Q Who helped Jesus carry the cross? (SEE APRIL 15) Luke 22:14-23:56 13	MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 14	TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK A Simon, a Cyrenian 15	WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 16	HOLY THURSDAY 17	FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 18	HOLY SATURDAY 19
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD Q Who came to the tomb early in the morning? (SEE APRIL 25) John 20:1-9 20	MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER 21	TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER 22	WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER 23	THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER 24	FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER A Mary of Magdala 25	26
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY Q What did Jesus say three times? (SEE APRIL 26) John 20:19-31 27	A "Peace be with you." 28	SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH 29	SAINT PIUS V, POPE 30	Word of the month: RESURRECTION Jesus' rising from the dead.		

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[Click Here to Download the April Calendar from Catechist Magazine](#)

Catholic Trivia

Question:

The remains of the soon-to-be saint, Carlo Acutis, are located in which city?



- A) London, England
- B) Milan, Italy
- C) Naples, Italy
- D) Assisi, Italy

Answer: D

Acutis' tomb is located in Assisi's Sanctuary of the Renunciation, a part of the Church of St. Mary Major. The sanctuary is located on the spot where a young St. Francis of Assisi is said to have cast off his rich clothes in favor of a poor habit. And, yes, he's wearing a pair of Nike sneakers - similar to the very ones your own children might wear. Sainthood IS possible.



Joke of the Week

A father went to the pet store to buy an Easter pet for his daughter and he was looking at the chicks and bunnies. He decided to buy the chick because it was “cheeper.”

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[Our Lady of Sorrows Website](#)