

### BACKGROUND

The digital age has brought powerful new ways to communicate, connect, and share information, but it also presents new challenges for how we live out our faith. Today, digital technology shapes our world. "It is no longer merely about 'using' instruments of communication, but living in a highly digitalized culture that has had a profound impact on ideas of time and space, on self-understanding, on understanding of others and of the world, on how to communicate, to learn, to inform oneself, to enter into relationship with others" (Final Document from the Synod on Young People, the Faith, and Vocational *Discernment*). While the internet can be a space for evangelization, learning, and community, it can also be a space that fosters division and misinformation. The Church calls us to practice discernment when using digital media and encourages us always to respect the dignity of the human person when communicating with others online.

On July 26-28, 2025, the Church is celebrating the Jubilee for Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers to recognize the important way they bring the message of Christ into the digital world. These modern-day evangelists show us how we can use technology to build up the Body of Christ and bring the light of the Gospel into the digital world. They use social media, videos, podcasts, and other digital tools as platforms to share the Gospel, inspire faith, seek justice, and build community. By lifting up Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers, the Church recognizes the creative role they play in spreading the Catholic faith beyond the walls of churches and into the everyday lives of people around the world.

#### **BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS**

"It is true that the digital world can expose you to the risk of self-absorption, isolation and empty pleasure. But don't forget that there are young people even there who show creativity and even genius. That was the case with [Blessed] Carlo Acutis" (*Christus Vivit*, 104).

As a young child in Italy, Carlo found joy in video games and had a special gift for computer programming. He built a website cataloging Eucharistic miracles around the world. Carlo wanted more people to know and adore Christ, and he used the internet as a tool to draw people to Jesus. He died from leukemia when he was only fifteen years old. Children in grades 1-3 can celebrate the life and works of Blessed Carlo Acutis with a coloring page and a word search.

#### FAMILY MEDIA MISSION CHALLENGE

This challenge will help families with children in grades 4-6 discover the work of Catholic influencers and explore ways to engage their faith through digital media. This resource includes fifteen activities. As a family, choose one at random to complete together for each day of the Jubilee.

#### **BEATITUDES IN THE DIGITAL AGE**

Teachers, catechists, and families can use this resource to help students in junior high discern their use of social media and digital technology. They will use the resource to explore the ways that they can live the Beatitudes while communicating with others online.



**Blessed Carlo Acutis** 





### **Blessed Carlo Acutis**

**DIRECTIONS:** Search for the following words, then answer the question below.

G	с	с	с	А	R	L	0	А	E	F	E	н	н	
0	Т	D	R	Т	Е	S	L	С	Ν	L	Е	т	G	
S	D	Ρ	Е	0	S	G	Ι	U	D	Е	0	S	т	
Р	S	Т	Ρ	Ρ	т	R	н	т	Ι	Α	F	т	Ν	BLESSED
E	Т	Т	L	L	Α	т	Т	Т	S	т	S	G	т	CARLO
L	Т	0	т	В	Ι	L	F	S	0	Р	Ν	L	Е	ACUTIS FAITH
I	В	S	L	0	L	R	I	L	I	U	D	F	S	INTERNET
w	Е	В	S	Т	т	Е	Α	I	S	н	Ι	т	G	GOSPEL
Р	Е	Ν	L	н	т	Е	S	D	Ν	Е	G	н	L	WEBSITE
I 1	н	L	0	v	Е	L	Е	S	S	L	T	н	А	HOPE
														LOVE
Н	0	Ρ	Е	С	Т	S	Е	Ρ	Е	Е	Т	В	R	DIGITAL
L	Ε	н	Ε	н	L	L	Α	Ι	F	D	Α	G	G	
E	W	С	н	S	D	т	S	Е	Α	т	L	F	I	
С	S	L	Α	т	Е	Ν	R	Е	т	Ν	Ι	С	Ρ	

As a young child in Italy, Carlo found joy in video games. He had a special gift for computer programming. Carlo wanted more people to know and adore Christ, and he used the internet as a tool to draw people to Jesus. He built a website to share information about Eucharistic miracles around the world.

How can you share your faith with others?



# **Family Media Mission Challenge**

**DIRECTIONS:** Cut out the cards. As a family, choose one at random to complete together on each day of the Jubilee for Digital Missionaries and Catholic Influencers.

Text or email a kind message to a family member or friend.	Read about Blessed Carlo Acutis on www.saintsresource.com.	Write a kind email to your teacher or catechist to thank them for teaching you about God's love.
Watch a video made by Bishop Robert Barron.	Read about Blessed Titus Brandsma (whose feast day is July 27th) on www.saintsresource.com .	Search for images of the Holy Spirit online. Save your favorite, and make it the background of your phone or desktop.
Share a Bible quote online.	Read about a saint on www.saintsresource.com.	Use a phone or computer to listen to a favorite song from Mass. Write down one line that stood out to you.
Take a photo of something that reminds you of God's love, and share it with a caption.	Draw a picture of Jesus using a drawing app.	Add important solemnities and feast days to your digital calendar.
Watch a video made by Fr. Mike Schmidt.	Create a short prayer using emojis and words.	Make a digital slideshow of images that remind you of God's love.



# **Beatitudes in the Digital Age**

**DIRECTIONS:** Reflect on the ways that you communicate digitally. Read the Beatitudes, then answer the questions in the space provided.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom	Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown
of heaven. How can you be "poor in spirit" online?	mercy. How can you practice mercy online?
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be	Blessed are the clean in heart, for they will see
comforted. How can you be a comfort to others	God. What does it mean to be "clean in heart" in
online?	the digital age?
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. How can you be meek while communicating online?	Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. How can you be a peacemaker in the digital age?
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. How can you use the internet or technology to seek justice?	Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. What does it mean to be "persecuted for the sake of righteousness" in the digital age?

