

### **THE SHEPHERDS WALKING STICK**

October 13 is the second Tuesday of the month. I would like to invite again the children with their parents to participate in the Children's Rosary which will start at 7 PM. October is Holy Rosary month, so it would be great if parents will bring their kids to this religious activity and try to nurture in their children greater love for Our Lady and her Rosary. Also, I would like to encourage the children and young people of our parish to get acquainted with Blessed Carlo Acutis who will be beatified in Assisi on October 10. Carlo was born on May 3, 1991. As a young child, he loved sports and the outdoors. He loved playing video games. His console of choice was a PlayStation, or possibly a PS2, which was released in 2000, when he was 9 years old. However, he only allowed himself to play games for an hour a week, as a penance and a spiritual discipline even if he wanted to play much more. He devoted more time to cultivating the spiritual life. He loved to pray the Rosary. After he made his First Communion, he went to Mass as often as he could – i.e., almost everyday. He made Holy Hours before or after the Mass. He went to confession weekly. But, you what? His parents were not especially devout. His mother said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her First Communion, Confirmation and wedding. It was Carlo who dragged his parents to Mass almost every day, and he asked his parents to take him on pilgrimages. So, it was a case of a child leading his parents closer to God and not the other way around! As a teenager, he was diagnosed with leukemia, and his life of faith increased. He offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church. He died at the age of 15 on October 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi, at his request, because of his love for St. Francis of Assisi. His cause for canonization began in 2013. His mother will be able to attend his beatification. Isn't that amazing? Aside from his love of video games, Blessed Carlo has an above-average knack for computers. He built a website cataloguing and promoting Eucharistic miracles. Because of this a lot of people are proposing Blessed Carlo Acutis as patron saint for the internet. At this point, I would like to thank Susana Hawryshko for maintaining our

*By Father Ramon*

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parish website. The website certainly makes the parish in-step with the times and our contribution to using new technology to transmit the Gospel, to communicate values and beauty. Thank you, Susana. May Bl. Carlo intercede for you and your family always. HAPPY THANKSGIVING, EVERYONE! Despite the worrisome situation because of the pandemic, there are still a lot of things to be thankful for. Do offer a prayer of thanksgiving with the entire family.

Learn more about Carlo Acutis at [https://youtu.be/yC\\_oZIY\\_f5w](https://youtu.be/yC_oZIY_f5w).