



RICE COAL

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Carlo Acutis, A New Phenomena In The Church

Carlo Acutis, already known as the "millennial saint," was beatified in Assisi, Italy, on October. 10 2020 for offering his life for the love of the Eucharist. Carlo was just 15 when he died of leukemia in 2006 now stands out from his peers. Before his death, he said, "I am happy to die because I lived my life without wasting a minute on anything else than pleasing to God."



He is on his way to becoming the first millennial to be recognised as a saint in the Roman Catholic Church. Carlo, who lived in Milan, was beatified, by the pope, after a miracle was attributed to him earlier this year. Since his death, Carlo has become known in some Catholic circles as the patron saint of the internet for his facility with computers and his early and enthusiastic embrace of the web, which he used as an expression of his Catholic faith. When he was 9, Carlo began studying computer science textbooks and taught himself computer programming and graphic design, his mother, Antonia Acutis, said in a phone interview. In the months before his death, he created a website that cataloged miracles. "Carlo was the light answer to the dark side of the web," his mother said. Her son's life, she said, "can be used to show how the internet can be used for good, to spread good things".

After his death, the Diocese of Assisi, where his family had a second home, petitioned the Vatican to recognise Carlo as a saint. The diocese dug into his emails and computer search history, and interviewed witnesses. Then they waited for miracles. Acutis said that people from all over the world had told her about medical miracles, including cures for infertility and cancer, that happened after they prayed to her son. In February, Pope Francis attributed the unexplainable healing of a boy with a malformed pancreas to Carlo after the child came in contact with one of his shirts. Now that he has been beatified, Carlo could become a saint if a second verified miracle is attributed to him and is recognised by the pope.

Hundreds of masked devotees, including Carlo's parents and siblings, gathered in Assisi for his beatification ceremony, which was postponed from March because of the Covid 19. Many watched on screens that were spread throughout the town's piazzas as a church official read a letter from Pope

Francis that declared Carlo "blessed." "Already Carlo, he's only just been beatified, but already he is a worldwide phenomenon," said the Rev. Will Conquer, a Catholic priest and missionary in Cambodia who has written about Carlo's path to sainthood. "What makes it so extraordinary is that he was ordinary. We are telling people the guy you should be following is a guy very similar to you."

He was inquisitive about Catholicism from a young age, inspiring his mother, who was not a practicing Catholic at the time, to return to the faith. He attended daily Mass from the time he was 7, never missing a day, she said.

Carlo sought ways of helping poor, older and disabled people, and refugees. On the way to school, he would stop to chat with people about their problems, she said. He took meals and sleeping bags to homeless people and knew many by name.

At Carlo's funeral, the church overflowed with people whose lives he had touched. People are gravitating to the idea of a young person becoming a saint at a time when young people are leaving the church, becoming disenchanted with the church. As people worry about the corrosive effects of social media on young people, it is notable that the church is recognizing a person who used the internet to promote the faith. His postulator called him a missionary because, "he used the internet to spread the Gospel in what way he could."

+ **Salvadore Lobo**

FROM MY MEMORIES.....

Bishop Cyprian Monis

Childhood days

I am the fourth child in my family. My parents changed the residence from Mangalore to *Doddalakunda* in *Chikmagalur* to a coffee estate with the help of my Uncle's family. I was baptized at *Saklespur* Parish Church. Since the earning was less from the coffee Garden we shifted to a village called *Gadenahally* in Hassan district where we were taking care of coconut farm.

It is here that I was introduced to learning by my uncle himself teaching me alphabets. It was a memorable days for me to play with my siblings whenever we were sent to the fields for work or to graze cows. I still remember an incident that was frightening when my sister fell into the well as we were trying to catch frogs. Fortunately I ran home and told my uncle who came in time and saved her. Later I remember that I had to get beatings for going near to the well.

After few years my brother-in-law and other elders who were living there decided to shift our residence to *Dornahally* near Mysore. This place was very convenient for school, church and health care facilities. We were staying in a rented house with my elder sister's family which was a joint family. I was going to a government school and later joined to the convent school in the village.

When I finished my primary schooling at *Dornahally* I had to waste a year since there was no upper primary school in the village. At this time the parish priest invited Bethany sisters who opened high school. In 1957 the sisters opened St. Rita's higher primary school.

It is at this juncture my desire to become priest germinated through close familiarity with the nuns. Since I was serving at the altar during Holy Mass everyday I could feel the inspiration when the priest was celebrating the Holy Mass. After finishing class eight a nun led me to Mysore and we met the Bishop of Mysore. Bishop Albert asked me to stay in the hostel and got admitted at St. Philomena's High School. In the hostel I was the leader and used to take initiative to do all the works because I used to observe how the foreign missionaries were doing their work by themselves. By staying in the hostel I successfully completed my high school studies allowing me to strengthen my desire and bringing more closer to the altar.



To be continued.....

Official

- This year, to prevent large gatherings in churches and cemeteries while facilitating the devotion of the faithful, the Vatican has extended through the entire month of November the possibility to obtain a Plenary indulgence, usually limited to the first week of November, for the commemoration of all the deceased faithful, on Nov. 2.
- Recently Pope Francis' saying same-sex couples have a right to be legally covered (21-10-20) gave rise to a lot of gossip in the media. In a documentary the Pope addressed issues like migration, racism, the pandemic, climate change and the situation of gays. He said: "Homosexual people have a right to be in a family. They are children of God and have a right to a family. Nobody should be thrown out or be made miserable over it. What we have to create is a civil law. That way they are legally covered." This was to protect homosexual and lesbian people from mistreatment and social rejection in their own family circles. Pope Francis is defending what church has always defended, the dignity of the people and proposing civil laws to protect homosexual and lesbian people from abuse in their own family environments. They are often rejected by their own parents, siblings and relatives. Pope Francis pointed out that he had addressed this matter in the past. In a 2019 interview, the Pope also had said, "What I said is that they 'have a right to a family.' And that doesn't mean to approve of homosexual acts, not at all."
- On the invitation of Bishop Stephen Lepcha, Bishop of Darjeeling, Bp. Salvatore spent 6 days in Darjeeling diocese from October 04-19, helping the diocese to initiate beatification and canonization of some French missionaries belonging to MEP Congregation. On October 05, he had a meeting with Bp. Lepcha and Fathers of Kalimpong, Deans of South Sikkim and North East Sikkim. In the meeting it was decided to take the cause of Fr. Martin Hervagault, founder of Maria Basti parish. October 06, he had a meeting with Bishop Lepcha and Fathers, Sisters Mr. Remy, a French historian, and few parish members at 10.30 am at parish premises. On October 07, a meeting at Bishops House: 1.30 pm: I will be inviting the following Fathers for this meeting - Fr. Samuel Lepcha V. G, Fr. Swid Singh, Chancellor, Fr. Alexander Gurung, Dean of Darjeeling-Kurseong Deanery, Fr. Michael Singh headmaster of St. Roberts Higher Secondary School Darjeeling, Fr. Frederick Lepcha Director of J.T.I, Fr. Stanley S.J. Rector of St. Joseph's School, North point, Darjeeling.

NEWS & EVENTS

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi celebrated at Kamarpara

"Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals, your creature" Saint Francis of Assisi. On October 4, 2020 St. Paul's Mission, Kamarpara celebrated meaningfully the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of nature, domestic animals and birds.

Fr. Britto invited the faithful and explained the importance of nature and domestic animals in view of celebrating the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. On Sunday morning the villagers brought their domestic animals like cows, goats, pigs, chickens, dogs and ducks. The animals were blessed before the Sunday Eucharist. The statue of St. Francis of Assisi was placed in front of the Church and was venerated by the children. Later prayer of St. Francis was recited and the mother soil, domestic animals and birds were blessed by Fr. Britto. Bro. Nirmal Mardi and catechist Saheb Murmu showered flower petals on them.

During the homily, Fr. Britto explained the importance and the respect the animals and birds need from us and was taught by St. Francis at Assisi whom he called friends. He considered sun, moon, stars, fish, earth as brother, sister and mother. Finally, Fr. Britto exhorted the faithful to protect the nature and respect the nature encouraging them to plant more trees.

From Fr. Britto



Chetana Advisory Committee meeting:

Bishop Salvatore Lobo chaired the Chetana Ashram Trust meeting on Oct. 2, 2020 at Chetana. Ten members were present to review the accounts of the Chetana and the activities of 2019-20. Fr. Sarto welcomed the new president, Bishop Lobo and new administrator Fr. Alexius Tudu. The members gave guidelines for Chetana programs in post Covid situation. Bishop Lobo appreciated the domestic staff of Chetana and gave a salve each to acknowledge their generous service. Chetana staff had a meeting on Oct. 1 to prepare for the advisory committee meeting.

Video Graphic Training

From October 5th morning to Oct 9th 2020 evening second phase of Video-making training was conducted at Chetana, Burdwan. The resource person was Sr. Christin Joseph, HC from Calcutta. Six participants from two dioceses attended. Fr. IP Sarto, organizer of the training welcomed the participants and Fr. Alexius made all arrangement for the participants and the resource person.

The team made the brothers and domestic staff at Chetana as actors for making video shooting. Fr. Dominic Gomes, VG of Calcutta thanked Chetana staff for warm welcome, generous hospitality and timely helps.

Prior to that on Sept. 25, 2020 Sr. Christin and Fr. Sarto visited Jyotinagar and Cathedral parishes to interview people to listen to their vision for the post Covid 19 Church. Frs. Tony Lobo and Linus Toppo extended all assistance for video shooting.

Visitors:

Sr. Lysa, MC, Assistant Mother General of Missionaries of Charity visited the diocese from October 3 to 6, 2020. She met most of the MC Sisters working in the diocese and visited the convents too. Fr. Sarto welcomed her on October 3, 2020 during the Eucharist at Burdwan Sneha Dan. He thanked her for the services of MC Sisters in Asansol diocese.

Fr. Christo Das from Dumka visited the diocese from October 16 and 17. During his visit he addressed the youth attending marriage preparation program in Chetana on "Theology of Marriage". He also addressed the ABSK General Body members on the new FCRA 2020 amendment.

Parish Orientations:

An animation for the priests and religious of Infant Jesus Parish, Makrampur was held on Sept. 26, 2020. Sr. Christin, HC facilitated the session. A parish animation was held on Sept 27 after the Sunday Eucharist. Sr. Christin spoke to them about the role of laity in the Church. Fr. Anthony Raj made all arrangements for the sessions.

Reflection on Post Covid 19 Church:

- Sr. Christin, HC facilitated a session on post covid Church for youth of Makrampur parish on 27 September. Thirty youth were present.
- Another orientation was held on 3 October at Galsi parish for youth. The youth also protested against the atrocities on young girls in our country.
- Kamarpara parish had a day of orientation on social realities on 12 October. The youth were enthusiastic to work for the welfare of all.
- Priests of Asansol diocese had a session on 13 October to reflect on post Covid 19 Church. 25 priests attended the sessions facilitated by Sr. Christin, HC. Through video presentation and group discussion, she enabled the priests to reflect on the vision of the Church. The priests strongly felt that the Church to be holy, people-centered, witnessing one based on the Word of God and technology friendly. Bishop Lobo started the meeting with Eucharistic celebration and exhorted the priests to be united, joyful and use the resources efficiently.

Grotto Blessing Burdwan:

On 7 October a newly built grotto dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes was blessed at DSA Convent hostel premises at Balidanga, Burdwan. The day was much appropriate as it was the feast day of Our Lady of Rosary. The Jesuit community of Burdwan and Fr. IP Sarto were present at the occasion. Sr. Subrato, DSA left no stone unturned to make the grotto prayerful one.

Marriage preparation training:

Thirty eight youth from eight parishes attended the Marriage preparation training at Chetana from October 14 to 21, 2020. Fr. Nilu Murmu organized the program with number of facilitators. Sr. Veronica Hembrom, SSAM assisted the youth during the program for Liturgy, singing and housekeeping.

Galsi Parish youth to work for Human dignity

A group of youth from St. Francis De Sales Parish, Galsi unanimously opted to work for human dignity and safety of women. During an orientation held on Oct. 3, 2020 they decided to promote community development, self-confidence and human rights. The sessions were facilitated by Sr. Christin, HC, National Trainer for BECs (Basic Ecclesial Communities), Frs. Alexius Tudu and I.P. Sarto through video presentation, role play and Power point.

The youth made posters to assert human rights of the marginalised. We want to empower our youth with leadership qualities, said Fr. Nicholas Bara, MSFS, Parish priest of Galsi who organized the orientation. The youth have lot of potentials, we need to encourage them to use it well, said Fr. Michael, MSFS principal of St. Francis De Sales School, Galsi. The program started with the Bible Veneration led by Sr. Rajini Marandi, SMI. Fr. Nicholas welcomed the facilitators and the youth. Fr. Sarto initiated the discussion on what was their feeling during the Pandemic time. Fr. Alexius through a game explained to them how we need to find Jesus Christ as our mediator to God to find solutions to all our problems.

Sr. Christin presented a video prepared by her of taking interview of about 300 people, mostly youth during the pandemic time in Bengal and Jharkhand. What was their experience and what is their vision for Post Covid 19 Church. Sr. Christin also shared from her experiences how we, the Body of Christ need to give courage, joy and hope to one another. The youth shared how they need to move from fear, worries and self-thinking to be hopeful and courageous and to encourage one another. Reflecting on the recent incident of Hathras in Uttar Pradesh in North India rape and murder of a 19 year old girl and torture inflicted on the victim, they felt strongly that they need to stand for Human dignity, justice and protection of young girls.

Twenty two youth who participated in the daylong session decided to have regular weekly meeting to discuss about the welfare of youth, Neighbourhood communities and an orientation every month to learn more skills and knowledge to work for Human dignity, village community development and neighbourhood communities. They also had a follow up orientation on Oct 11, 2020. The youth were helped to communicate clearly, think critically and express well. All decided to share their experiences with others in their villages. Sr. Christin helped them to identify the evil in society and how to tackle it.

From I.P. Sarto

Marriage Preparation course at Kamarpara Mission

"Family is the place of life and not a place of death, an internship of forgiveness and not guilt" said Pope Francis. To create an authentic Christian healthy family with love, forgiveness, joy, and sharing, Kamarpara Mission organized marriage preparation course during the pandemic Covid-19. Fr. Britto, parish priest of St. Paul's church, Kamarpara with the consultation of the Diocese and following the Lockdown norms organized a much needed orientation and awareness program for the younger ones for the first time. About 36 participants attended the course for three days.

On the first day Sr. Jean Hembrom, MC Burdwan initiated them to the new way life and went on to instill in their hearts that the marriage is the plan of God and how we carry out the plan of God through marriage. Next day Fr. Martin Behera, parish priest of Sacred Heart Church, Burdwan highlighted the sacredness of marriage. He instructed them about the teachings of the Church and made them to understand that it is the family which is the domestic church and how to bring up children in faith. On the same day Mr. Mathias and his wife Mrs. Kolpana Besra shared their experiences and expressed their privilege in building Christian family among the Santal society and also narrated their difficulties in bringing up children in faith in the modern society.

Mrs. Kolpana Besra being a Nurse instructed pregnancy guidance to all women individually. On the third day Sr. Sharon CTC and Sr. Albina CTC, Bolpur who are specialized in physiotherapy and mother-child care addressed the health related issues in child bearing. Separate sessions and guidance were given to men and women and practical sessions were demonstrated on how to keep the child healthy and how to handle the health emergencies at home before going to hospital.

Over all it was an eye-opening session for us, said by one of the participants Mr. Mikel Hansda. Fr. Britto thanked the resource persons for enlightening the participants to create a better society in building a strong and prayerful family.

From Fr. Britto, Burdwan.



Friends of Jesus: First Profession at Sahebdanga

On 16 October 2020 three novices made their first vows during the solemn Eucharistic celebration presided over by Bishop Cyprian Monis, Bishop Emeritus of Asansol and concelebrated by Bishop Salvatore Lobo, the Apostolic Administrator of Asansol, Fr. Christudass from Dumka and few priests from Asansol diocese. Srs. Shanti Murmu, Sompia Soren and Martina Tudu from Dumka, Asansol and Raiganj dioceses respectively were presented by the Novice Mistress Sr. Helen FJ.

Sr. Dorothy FJ, the Moderator of the Pius Association received the vows and greeted the newly professed sisters with other members of the Pius Association. Fr. Christudass preached a meaningful sermon during the Holy Eucharist. The newly professed sisters were felicitated by the guests, family members and Friends of Jesus nuns during a short felicitation programme. The people were served snacks and the bishops, priests, nuns and other guests were served lunch.

From Bp. Monis



Orientation for the youth In Katwa Mission

On October 4 youth orientation was held at St. Teresa of Calcutta parish, Dak Bangla. Fr. I.P. Sarto, Regional BEC Coordinator and Sr. Christin, HC, National Service Team member of BEC were the resource persons for the program. There were 40 youth from different villages. The program began with the Bible veneration led by parish youth and catechist sisters.

After the Sunday Eucharist, Fr. Sarto welcomed everyone and introduced to them Sr. Christin HC, Fr. Alexius Tudu and Bro, Suniram Mardi who assisted during the orientation. The youth had self-introduction. Fr. Sarto enlightened them with the present pandemic situation and to be aware of the surrounding for health and hygiene. He spoke to them about the importance of Social distance, wearing masks, sanitization and washing hands to protect all from Covid 19.

Fr. Sarto said that we need to be more cautious so that we can help others to be aware of the pandemic and to be safe from the spread of Virus. Fr. Sarto also shared his experience of lockdown time. He invited the youth to share about their experiences during this lockdown. Most of them had shared that during the lockdown it was hard to be inside. It was fearful, sad, worried and painful to see the migrants dying without any food on the road. Some of them shared that it helped to build strong relationship within family members and the neighborhood.

Then Fr. Alex conducted a game. The analysis helped them to strengthen, encourage and to motivate youth to be leaders. Hence they understood that in life journey fellowship is essential who will be always on our side to strengthen us and that is Jesus Christ Himself. In the life situation Jesus is the bridge for all who help us in the time of infirmities and difficulties. It helped them to come forward in the service of needy. Finally youth decided that they will become bridge for others and everyone who are in need.

Sr. Christin HC shared that we need to remove the fear from within so that we can be the person who can stand for justice, courage and well-being of all humanity. One has to stand on their own feet to fight against the problems that always challenge us. She also added that at present girls are not respected and ill-treated. She shared about Manisha from Hathras, UP who was raped allegedly by high caste people and killed. The katwa youth decided to protest against the atrocities on women and appeal for justice. With great enthusiasm everyone came out to demand for safety of the girl child. Sr.Christin video graphed their protest and sent to various social media

At last, Fr. Stephen Toppo, the parish priest of katwa expressed his gratitude to the facilitators and all the youth present.



From Fr. Alexius Tudu

Birthdays	November 2020	Ordination Anniversaries
25 Fr Deepak kumar Digal		7 Fr Andrew Edwin 8 Fr Deepak Kr. Digal 8 Fr Nilu Murmu 10 Fr Xavier M 14 Fr Peter J

Bishop Salvadore Lobo's Programme for November 2020

Date	Day	Time	Place	Subject
01	Sun	10.00 a.m.	Saltora	Pastoral visitation
02	Mon			Mass for the departed souls.
03	Tue	10.00 a.m.	Joypur	Pastoral visitation
04	Wed	10.00 a.m.	Ahamedpur	Pastoral visitation
05	Thu	10.00 a.m.	Rajnagar	Pastoral visitation
07	Sat	04.00 a.m.	Sahebdinga	Pastoral visitation
08	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Sahebdinga	Holy Mass & Pastoral visitation
10	Tue	10.00 a.m.	Chelidanga	Meets units in charge of Asansol Welfare Society
14	Sat	10.30 a.m.	Bardhaman	Blessing of the foundation of C.J. Convent at Roshini.
15	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Chelidanga	Mass & Pastoral visitation
16	Mon	07.40 a.m.		Goes to Delhi
17	Tue		Vaishali	Works at NISCORT
18	Wed		Vailshali	Works at NISCORT
19	Thu			Returns to Asansol
20	Fri	06.00 p.m.	Sanctoria	Mass for the foundation day of Sisters of Charity
22	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Cathedral	Mass Christ the King Feast & Pastoral visitation
26	Thu	10.00 a.m.	Bardhaman	AGM of Sacred Heart Church Society
29	Sun	07.00 a.m.	Durgapur	Mass for 1st Sunday of Advent & Pastoral visitation

Bishop Cyprian Monis' Programme for November 2020

20 Sanctoria Sisters of Charity Foundation Day Mass 6pm