

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

www.sfachurch.org.uk

01564 782498

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

15th July 2018

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Lawrence Murray

Monday [Our Lady of Mount Carmel]

9.00 am Private Intention

Tuesday [Blessed John Sugar, priest, and Blessed Robert Grissold, layman, martyrs]

9.00 am Private Intention

Wednesday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Thursday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Friday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am

Saturday [Feria (of Our Lady)]

9.00 am Private Intention

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

Please pray for the sick in our parish and for those who have died: **Jessie Wattrus; Mary MacNamara; Gerald Joseph Barry; William Pilley** (anniversaries)

Last Week's Collection: £320.65. Second Collection: £121.25. Thank you.

***Missio**, which runs the red missionary box scheme, is looking to recruit a local secretary, ensuring that the boxes are emptied in the parish on a regular basis and that the free quarterly magazine, 'Mission Today', is distributed. There is to be a training day on 1st September at the Church of the Holy Name, Great Barr, Birmingham, for new volunteers. It is not an onerous task, and if you feel that you would like to volunteer as our local secretary, please speak to Fr Sharp.*

Bible Study on Tuesday at 7.00 pm in the presbytery

Last week, four people (three Italians and one Spaniard) were declared Venerable, that is they were judged to have lived lives of heroic virtue, which may lead to their beatification and eventual canonization, if all the necessary steps are fulfilled in that process, which will include one miracle (for beatification) and two miracles (for canonization) through their intercession.

Among the four was an Italian, Carlo Acutis, who died on 12th October 2006, at the age of 15, of leukemia. He was a well-loved teenager, who devoted himself to pray and daily Mass, as well as computer editing, and website creation and editing, at which he was incredibly proficient.

One of his most important computer ventures, begun when he was 11 years old, was cataloguing all the Eucharistic miracles of the world and creating a website, www.miracolieucaistici.org to describe them. He spoke of the Eucharist as 'my highway to heaven' and wrote: 'The more Eucharist we receive, the more we become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven.'

Carlo once said, 'To always be close to Jesus, that is my life's plan'. In his brief life on earth he achieved that goal in whatever he did, whether it was attending daily Mass, praying before the Blessed Sacrament, creating websites, volunteering for work with children and the elderly, or going to school like any teenager. His mother has said of him that 'he understood the true value of life as a gift from God, as an effort, an answer to give to the Lord Jesus day by day in simplicity.'

'All people are born as originals', he said, 'but many die as photocopies'. To die as an 'original'. Carlo maintained, was to be guided by Christ, and to look at him constantly: 'Our aim has to be the infinite and not the finite. The infinite is our homeland. We have always been expected in Heaven'.

May the prayers of Venerable Carlo Acutis help us to be 'originals', guided by the Lord Jesus.
