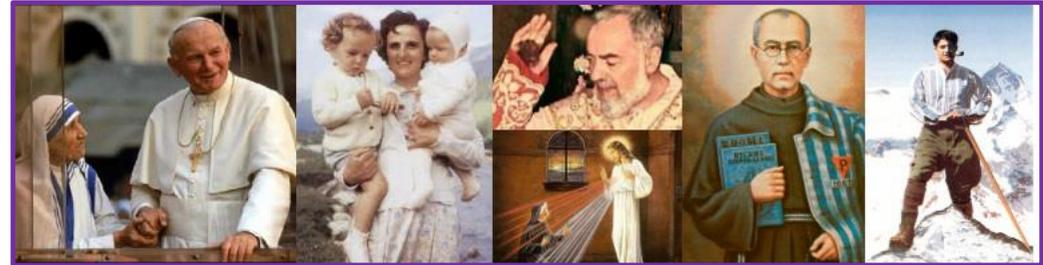


We must return to the Eucharist with a purified heart, with a renewed amazement, with an increased desire to meet the Lord, to be with Him, to receive Him and to bring Him to our brothers and sisters with the witness of a life full of faith, love and hope.”
~Cardinal Sarah



Holy Spirit Parish Bray Park Adoration November 2020

Weekly - **Wednesday** from after 8am Mass till 9pm
Monthly - **First Friday** all night from Mass at 7.30pm
till mass at 8am Saturday
All Welcome



"His mother kept all these things in her heart" (Lk 2:51)

Listen to Christ himself: "If a man loves me he will keep my words, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him" (Jn 14:23). I have read elsewhere, "The man who fears the Lord will do good" (Sir 15:1). But it is my opinion that more was said of the one who loves, namely that: "He will keep my words". Where, then, are they to be kept? Without any doubt they are to be kept in the heart, as the prophet says: "I have kept your words in my heart, lest I sin against you" (Ps 119[118]:11). How are we to keep the word in our hearts? Is it sufficient to learn it by heart or keep it in mind? The apostle Paul has this to say about those who keep it like that: "Knowledge inflates pride" (1 Cor 8:1) and forgetfulness quickly wipes out what we have committed to memory.

Keep the word of God in the same way as you would preserve food (...) since this word is the "bread of life" (Jn 6:35), the real food of the soul (...). Keep the word of God in that way for "blessed are they who keep it". Let it pierce deep into your inmost soul and penetrate your feelings and actions. Eat well and your soul will delight and grow. Do not forget to eat your bread or your heart will wither, but let your soul feast richly. If you keep the word of God in this way, without a doubt you will be kept by it. The Son with the Father will come to you. The great prophet who will renew Jerusalem will come and "he will make everything new" (Acts 3:22; Jl 4:1; Rev 21:5). *Saint Bernard (1091-1153) Cistercian monk and doctor of the Church Sermon for Advent (trans. cf breviary 1st Thursday of Advent)*

Come Join us !

**Current health restrictions apply for your safety
For details contact Margaret Wallace 0448 182896**

Every soul can become the first in the Kingdom!

How good you are, O my God, to call all nations to salvation. (...) And not just all the nations in general through your apostles and their successors, but each person individually and at every moment through the unceasing action of your grace! And not just to salvation and to heaven but to the "first place" in heaven, for you are always "knocking at the door of each soul" by your grace, and it depends on every soul, by accepting a grace at whatever moment, in staying faithful to it, to receive immediately afterwards an even greater grace and thus to see grace grow, increasing in it moment by moment, and soon taking on immense developments if it is faithful in constantly receiving it.

Let us remain faithful to grace with constancy, from no matter which point of our life, and in a short while it will become in us like the mustard seed, a tree in which the birds of heaven come to rest which, through the communion of saints, by the application of their merits, the power of their prayers and examples, will bring great glory to God, not only through himself but while helping towards the sanctification of many others! Oh! my God! what a destiny you make of us for all! Every soul may become a sun, a great tree, "the first in the kingdom of God"; every soul can receive torrents of grace. You unendingly offer all this to each of us: for this it is enough to be constantly faithful to grace from no matter which moment of our life. Oh may the present moment be that blessed instant for me!
Blessed Charles de Foucauld (1858-1916) hermit and missionary in the Sahara § 190, Psalm 95 (Meditations on the Psalms, pub. New City press, 2002)



Blessed Carlo Acutis

Today Pope Francis beatifies Carlo Acutis, an Italian teenager and computer programmer described as ‘pure of heart’ by

his mother. Though his life was cut short at age 15 after a battle with leukaemia, Carlo lived those 15 years to the fullest, centring his whole life around Christ and the Eucharist.

Carlo’s beatification today is an inspiration to us all, that no matter who we are, how young or how old, how weak or how strong, we CAN make a difference. We can always feel the embrace of a loving God, and we’re able to extend that embrace to others.

In our world today it can be easy to lose hope. With the lockdowns, the financial troubles, the social, environmental, political, and other worries we can become overwhelmed, and drown ourselves in social media, finding comfort in being like everyone else. As Blessed Carlo Acutis said, “everyone is born as an original, but many people end up dying as photocopies”.

Carlo didn’t live his life like a photocopy. He was unique, and his life is an example for us to follow, to live our life as originals, as original Christians. (October 10, 2020 Assisi)

Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us!

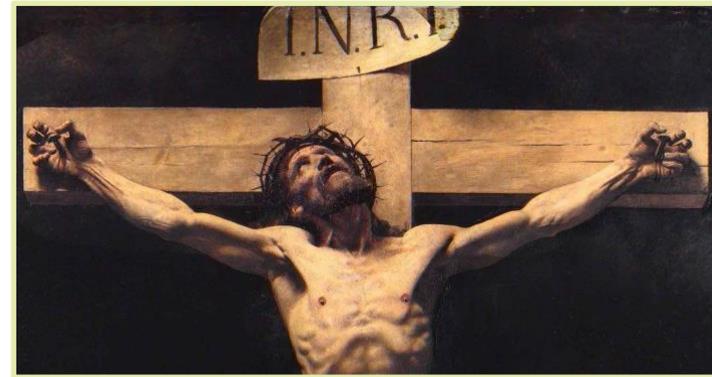
Happiness

“Happiness does not come to those who want to know all, or to possess all, or to enjoy all; rather it comes to those who set limitations upon the satisfaction of self. A man, for example cannot get the whole world into his hands, but he can wash himself of the world.

Our powers of dispossession are greater than our powers of possession; there is a limit to what we can gain, but there is no limit to what we can renounce. In the end, the man who wants nothing is the man who has everything, for there is nothing that he desires. To deny self is to refuse indulgence to lower desires, to put a restraint upon ourselves, to act differently from the way the sensual in our nature would lead us. Self-denial is the test of love, whether it be human or divine. There may be pain in self-denial for a moment, but pain in the pursuit of



the highest is certainly more joyful than ease in the neglect of duty. The agony in self-denial is momentary, but the joy that flows from it is lasting.” *Archbishop Fulton Sheen (The Power of Love)*



Delivered from the bonds of sin by the cross of Christ

Saint Paul said: “May I never boast save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Gal 6:14). There was something astonishing about the man born blind regaining his sight at Siloam, but what difference does that make to all the blind people in the world? Lazarus’s resurrection after four days in death was a great event that exceeded the laws of nature, but this grace profited no one but him, it was of no advantage to all those in the world who died because of their sins. It was an amazing thing to cause food to spring forth with which to feed five thousand men with five loaves, but it made no difference to those throughout the world who were undergoing the hunger of ignorance. It was an astonishing thing to release a woman whom Satan had held in bondage for eighteen years, but what is that where we are all concerned, bound by the chains of our sins?

The victory of the cross, however, brought into the light all those whom ignorance had made blind, set free those whom sin had made captive, and redeemed all humankind. Don’t wonder that the whole world should have been redeemed. He who died for this was not just a man but the only Son of God. Adam’s fault had brought death to the whole world; if one man’s fall had caused death to reign over all, how much more will not the righteousness of one man cause life to reign? (Rm 5:17). If, in former times, our first parents were cast out of paradise through eating the fruit of the tree, will not those who believe enter Paradise with far greater ease through the cross of Jesus? If the first man, formed of the earth, brought death to all, will not he who formed him of earth bring him life eternal, since he is himself life? (Jn 14:6).

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem (313-350) Bishop of Jerusalem, Doctor of the Church Baptismal catechesis, no. 13

There is no human situation that cannot become prayer, that would not be immediately present to God. We must only open the door and grasp the hand that is always offered to us

— *Joseph Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) from Dogma and Preaching*

