



**HOLY HOUR  
31 DECEMBER 2021**

Requesting all of you to take a fitting posture to spend this hour with Jesus.

**HYMN: O Sacrament most holy.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Dear friends, today is the last day of the year 2021. There is no better way to conclude the closing year and start the New Year, than by being with Jesus; to experience his real presence in the Blessed sacrament and then followed by the Holy Eucharistic celebration.

Let us spend this hour in prayer and thanksgiving for all the graces and blessings we have received in the year gone by and pray for the necessary graces in the coming year.

Let us place our worries and anxieties at the feet of Jesus believing He is in control of our life and our situation. He has called each one of us by our name and has a plan for our prosperity and a hopeful future.

**PAUSE**

**HYMN: bhajan- Aayahun teredwar darshan do bhagwan.**

**PAUSE**

Let us listen to a reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke chapter 17 verses 11-19

**READING: Luke 17:11-19**

*Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy (NIV)*

*Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"*

*When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.*

*One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten*

*cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."*

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PAUSE**

**REFLECTION:** The parable of the lepers teaches us an attitude of gratitude. We know that ten were healed but only one among them returned to say thank you.

Today, let us focus on the other nine.

- They too, might have been very excited that they were healed.
- May be they wanted to first confirm the healing before believing.
- They could not agree on one thing: should they return to Jesus to thank him now or later.
- They may have also felt that they are Jews, they deserved this favour.
- May be they must have thought, once their healing is completely confirmed, then they will return to thank Jesus.
- May be after getting their certification from the priests and acceptance by the community, they must have got so dazzled with the beauty of being welcomed, that they forgot about the one who had cured them.

**PAUSE**

Just like the lepers we too go through various upheavals in life. Each one of us has our own cross to be carried in our journey of life. When we look back in the year gone by, we see how in different ways, the Lord has had mercy on us and blessed us every moment. His presence has brought a change in our existing circumstances. Probably, there may have been many times that God has shown his mercy to us and we have failed to recognize it and give him glory. There may have been times when we felt hopeless and given up completely but God's hand of protection helped us sail through. We may have never felt his presence but He was there.

Often, we are no better than the nine lepers. We forget to acknowledge our creator, our Saviour, our loving and merciful God. We are obliged to God for our life and all the good things we enjoy in our life including our spiritual life. It is not only when we experience a big healing or miracle that we need to express our thanks, but also, during the small moments of joy and happiness we experience.

We have so much to thank and praise God for but we must have ignored and moved on. Now is the time to thank him for all those blessings that we have experienced throughout the year in every smallest possible way.

Let us take a moment to recall all those times when we have experienced the presence of God in our life and say Thank you Jesus.

**PAUSE**

**THANKSGIVING HYMN: Thank you Lord**

**PAUSE**

Let us now reflect on the motto of Blessed Carlos Acutis's life and try to direct our year 2022 on his life paths.

**REFLECTION BASED ON BLESSED CARLOS'S LIFE:**

Blessed Carlos Acutis welcomed and loved Jesus as a friend, while still living deeply immersed in the world of today, mastering computer programming, film editing, website creation, and even editing comics by the age of 15. Despite being immersed in media so filled with temptation, the Gospel thrived at his touch and to such an extent that he will probably become the Patron of the Internet.

Blessed Carlos said **"To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan."** He maintained his curiosity without succumbing to mainstream interests: "All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies." To move towards this destination and not "die as photocopies," **Carlo said that our compass has to be the Word of God.** The Eucharist was his true north. Carlo put the Sacrament of the Eucharist at the center of his life and he called it "my highway to heaven." Holiness was its true goal, but not just for him alone. **To all, he gave his toolkit for sainthood: daily Mass, Communion, Rosary, Scripture, Eucharistic adoration, weekly Confession, and the willingness to give up something for others.** He said "Our aim has to be the infinite and not the finite. The Infinite is our homeland. We have always been expected in Heaven."

Can we make the motto of Blessed Carlos Acutis's life as our motto too for our future?

**PAUSE**

Can we set a goal of Holiness for our life in the year 2022?

**PAUSE**

Can we accept at least one aspect of the toolkit for sainthood and apply it in our daily lives?

**PAUSE**

We do not know what is in store for us in the future but participating in the Holy Eucharist gives us the grace to stand firm. As we share our sufferings and offer our struggles to Jesus, He turns our mourning into joy and blesses us with immense peace. As Blessed Carlos said "If we get in front of the sun, we get sun tans ... but when we get in front of Jesus in the Eucharist, we become Saints."

Can we strive to become saints and start our journey today towards sainthood, leaving behind our past and starting anew.

As we take this first step towards being here today to pray and start the new year, let us put conscious efforts to sustain it to grow more closer to God in the year to come and the years thereafter.

**PAUSE**

**HYMN: You are my all in all or Shepherd of my soul.**

**PAUSE**

**INTERCESSIONS:**

**RESPONSE: Lord hear our prayer**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

Father God gives us the grace to rest on your promises as we enter into the New Year. We place ourselves at your feet, believing you are in control of our situation and will do everything for our good.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

**Ephesians 5:18 -19**

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.*

Father God as we embark on our journey into 2022, it is time to celebrate your presence in our life. Give us the grace to pray and praise you more than before and not lean ourselves on to worldly pleasures.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

**Deuteronomy 15:7**

*If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother.*

Father God, there have been many people in the world today who have lost their only source of income due to the pandemic and are struggling financially. Give us the grace to be their hope and to support those in need.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

***Romans 14:8***

***For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.***

Father God, many among us have gone to their heavenly abode. We miss their presence in our lives but we believe that they are with you. Give us the grace to accept their moving into eternity is a part of your plan for their salvation.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

***Colossians 3:13***

***“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone, forgive as the Lord forgave you.”***

Father God, there are times when we falter and fail to do your will, but often we tend to blame and take no accountability. Give us the grace to pay heed to your call of repentance, to receive your healing and spread your forgiving love to all those whom we encounter in our lives.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

***Psalms 133:1***

***How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!***

Father God, we thank you for our families and ask you to give us the grace to live in peace and harmony with each other. Bless us to live our lives according to the scriptures and be an example of a blessed Christian family to all around us.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

***Matthew 28:19***

***Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit***

Father God we pray for the Synod on synodality; that the church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live in communion, to achieve participation and to open Herself to mission.

**Our response:** Lord hear our prayer

**HYMN: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases (only 1st verse)**

**CONCLUSION:**

Lord, may we never doubt your saving help and your ever watchful presence over us. Lord, you assure us that we need not fear if we trust in your great love and mercy. Fortify our faith with courage and our hope with perseverance that we may never waver in our trust in you. Guard and protect us from all evil tendencies that lie hidden in our hearts. Help us to stand firm in your

Word and to trust in your help in all circumstances. May we always submit ourselves to your pruning actions and produce abundant fruit for the kingdom of heaven. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **BENEDICTION:**

### **References**

For reflection on the life of Blessed Carlos Acutis - <https://www.thescottsmithblog.com>

Scripture verses and taken from NIV version

### **HYMNS**

<p><b>O sacrament most holy</b> O sacrament most holy O sacrament divine All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine</p> <p><b>Aayahun teredwar</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJJKQdEtwhw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJJKQdEtwhw</a></p> <p>Aaya hun tere dwar Darshan do bhagvan</p> <p>Laya hum mera pyar Charno mein arpan</p> <p>Aayakarta , arpanhai tan man</p> <p>Aaya hun teredwar Darshan do bhagvan</p> <p><b>Thank you Lord</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sax4aTgZ9dw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sax4aTgZ9dw</a> I come before You today And there's just one thing that I want to say Thank You Lord (2) For all You've given to me</p>	<p>For all You've done in my life You took my darkness and gave me your light Thank You Lord (2) You took my sin and my shame You took my sickness and healed all my pain Thank You Lord(2)</p> <p><b>You are my All in All</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC617kE1maU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC617kE1maU</a> You are my strength when I am weak You are the treasure that I seek You are my all in all Seeking You as a precious jewel Lord, to give up I'd be a fool You are my all in all</p> <p>Taking my sin, my cross, my shame Rising again I bless Your name You are my all in all When I fall down You pick me up When I am dry You fill my cup You are my all in all Jesus, Lamb of God</p> <p>Worthy is Your name Jesus, Lamb of God Worthy is Your name</p>
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For all the blessings that I cannot see  
Thank You Lord(2)

**Ch:** With a grateful heart  
With a song of praise  
With an outstretched arm  
I will bless Your name  
Thank You Lord  
I just wanna thank You Lord(3)  
Thank You Lord

**Shepherd of my soul**

Shepherd of my soul I give You full control  
Wherever You may lead I will follow  
I have made the choice to listen for Your voice  
Wherever You may lead I will go

Be it in a quiet pasture or by a gentle breeze  
The shepherd of my soul is by my side  
Should I face a mighty mountain or a valley dark and deep  
The shepherd of my soul will be my guide

**The steadfast love of the Lord**

The Steadfast Love Of The Lord Never Ceases,  
His Mercies Never Come To An End,  
They Are New Every Morning, New Every Morning  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Oh Lord)  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*(Prepared by)*

**FR VINCENT D'CRUZ**

Director

Diocesan Catechetical Centre

Archdiocese of Bombay