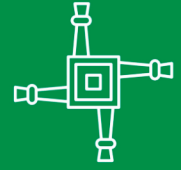


SAINT BRIGID 1500

FEBRUARY 2024 - FEBRUARY 2025



Prayer Cards - Leaders Guide

Teacher and Parish Resource Guide: The Lives of Irish Saints and Catholic Prayers

This guide is designed and developed to help teachers accompany young people aged 8-14 in developing a prayer life through reflection on the lives of Irish saints. Below is a summary resource for each saint, structured to provide engaging, age-appropriate content for teaching, reflection and activities.

Using This Guide

1. Preparation: Read through the saint's biography and key stories to familiarize yourself with their life and significance.
2. Presentation: Share the stories and key points with the children in an engaging and interactive manner.
3. Activities: Conduct the reflection activities and crafts to deepen the children's understanding and connection to the saint.
4. Prayer: Lead the children in reciting the prayers provided in short form in this guide and also the long form on the prayer cards which they can collect by visiting churches across the Archdiocese of Armagh. Teachers, parishes and parents are asked to encourage young people to reflect on how they can incorporate the virtues of the saints into their daily lives.

Interesting fact: The Irish National Airline, Aer Lingus, names all their aeroplanes after Irish Saints. As the children travel on their holidays this year they may journey through an airport. You could make the link between this journey and pilgrimages. Ask them to be "Faith Detectives" and to look out for the names of Irish Saint's on Aer Lingus aeroplanes, to look for Saints names on road signs, place names and in the world around them. Ask them to seek out other Holy places in their parishes and on their journeys over the Summer.

By using these summaries and activities, you will help young people appreciate the rich heritage of Irish saints and inspire them to grow in their faith through the examples set by these holy men and women.



Saint Brigid of Kildare

Feast Day: February 1

Patronage: Ireland, healers, poets, blacksmiths, livestock, dairy workers

Symbols: St. Brigid's cross, abbess's crozier, flames or lamp, cow, geese

Biography Summary:

Saint Brigid, born around 451 AD, is one of Ireland's patron saints alongside Patrick and Columba. Raised in a druid household, Brigid became a consecrated virgin, dedicating her life to God. She founded the Abbey of Kildare, a centre for religion and learning, and many other convents. Known for her generosity, miracles, and the perpetual flame kept in her honour, Brigid is celebrated for her contributions to Irish spirituality and culture.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Miracle of the Cloak: Brigid asked the King of Leinster for land for her convent. She requested as much land as her cloak would cover, which miraculously expanded to cover many acres.

Multiplication of Butter: As a child, Brigid gave away her mother's butter to the poor, which was then miraculously replenished.

Healing Miracles: Brigid was known for healing the sick and helping the poor, performing many miracles involving food, fire, and animals.

Reflection and Activities:

Weaving Brigid's Cross: Teach children to weave a Brigid's cross from reeds or paper, discussing its significance for protection.

Discussion Questions: How can we show generosity like Brigid? What can we do to help others in our community?

Prayer Activity: Lead a prayer asking for Brigid's intercession in helping us to be kind and generous.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Brigid, you were generous and kind, always helping those in need. Help us to follow your example and live lives of kindness and generosity. Amen."



Saint Patrick

Feast Day: March 17

Patronage: Ireland, engineers, paralegals

Symbols: Shamrock, staff, snakes

Biography Summary:

Saint Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland, was born in Britain in the late 4th century. At sixteen, he was captured by Irish pirates and taken as a slave. After six years, he escaped, later returning to Ireland as a missionary. Patrick is credited with converting Ireland to Christianity and establishing many churches. His teachings on the Trinity using the shamrock and his driving snakes out of Ireland are legendary.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Escape from Slavery: Guided by a dream, Patrick escaped from his captivity in Ireland and returned to his family.

Conversion of Ireland: Patrick returned to Ireland and converted many to Christianity, including the chieftains and their families.

Banishing the Snakes: Patrick is famously credited with driving all snakes out of Ireland, symbolizing his role in eradicating paganism.

Reflection and Activities:

Shamrock Craft: Create shamrock crafts while discussing how Patrick used the plant to explain the Holy Trinity.

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Patrick's courage and faith? How can we share our faith with others?

Prayer Activity: Recite a child-friendly version of "Saint Patrick's Breastplate" together.

Short Prayer:

"Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise. Amen."



Saint Oliver Plunkett

Feast Day: July 1

Patronage: Peace and reconciliation in Ireland

Symbols: Martyr's palm (The Palm Branch is the sign of Martyrdom), archbishop's mitre, chains

Biography Summary:

Saint Oliver Plunkett, born on November 1, 1625, in County Meath, Ireland, was the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. He was educated in Rome and became a priest in 1654. During a time of persecution against Catholics in Ireland, Plunkett was a dedicated leader, known for his efforts to reform the clergy and establish schools. Despite the hostile environment, he was able to confirm thousands of Catholics. Arrested and falsely accused of conspiracy, he was executed in London in 1681. He was beatified in 1920 and made a Saint in 1975.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Dedication to the Faith: Even with a price on his head, Plunkett refused to leave his flock, showing remarkable courage and dedication.

Education and Reform: He established a Jesuit college in Drogheda, which was notable for its integration of Catholic and Protestant students.

Unjust Trial and Martyrdom: St Oliver Plunkett's trial in London was a miscarriage of justice. Despite knowing he was innocent, he accepted his fate with grace and faith, becoming the last Catholic martyr to be executed in England.

Reflection and Activities:

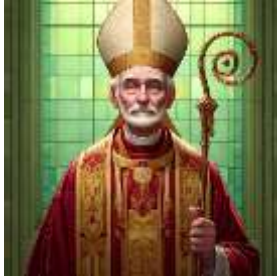
Discussion Questions: What does it mean to be brave in our faith? How can we stand up for what is right even when it is difficult?

Craft Activity: Create a small martyr's palm or archbishop's mitre from craft materials to symbolize Saint Oliver's dedication and sacrifice.

Role-Playing: Act out the trial of Oliver Plunkett to understand the challenges he faced and how he stood firm in his faith.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Oliver Plunkett, you stood firm in your faith even in the face of great danger. Help us to be courageous and faithful in our own lives, standing up for what is right and just. Amen."



Saint Malachy

Feast Day: November 3

Patronage: Archdiocese of Armagh, Diocese of Down and Connor

Symbols: Bishop's mitre, crozier, apple trees

Biography Summary:

Saint Malachy, born in 1094 in Armagh, Ireland, was an influential reformer and Archbishop of Armagh. Educated under Imhar O'Hagan and ordained a priest in 1119, Malachy became known for implementing Roman Church practices in Ireland. As the Abbot of Bangor and later Bishop of Down and Connor, he revitalized the Irish Church, restoring order in the Church and introducing new sacraments and liturgical practices. Malachy was also known for his charitable work and miracles. He died on November 2, 1148, at Clairvaux, France, in the arms of his friend, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Reformation and Discipline: Malachy played a crucial role in reforming the Irish Church, ensuring the adoption of Roman liturgical practices and restoring Church discipline.

Miracle Worker: Malachy was known for his care for the needy and his miracles, including healing the sick and providing for the poor during times of famine by planting apple trees across Ireland.

Founding Mellifont Abbey: On his return from Rome, Malachy founded Mellifont Abbey in 1142, introducing the Cistercian order to Ireland.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: How can we help others in our community like Saint Malachy did? What are some ways we can bring positive changes to our surroundings?

Craft Activity: Create a bishop's mitre or a simple apple tree craft to symbolize Malachy's role as a bishop and his care for those in need.

Role-Playing: Act out a scene where Malachy reforms a parish or helps the needy, emphasizing his dedication and compassion.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Malachy, you worked tirelessly to bring peace and reform to the Church and to care for those in need. Help us to follow your example of dedication and compassion in our own lives. Amen."



Saint Brendan the Navigator

Feast Day: May 16

Patronage: Boatmen, divers, mariners, sailors, travellers, whales, Diocese of Clonfert, Diocese of Kerry, United States Navy

Symbols: Whale, boat, monks in a small boat

Biography Summary:

Saint Brendan the Navigator, born around 484 AD in Tralee, County Kerry, Ireland, is renowned for his legendary voyage to find the "Isle of the Blessed" and his significant contributions to monastic life. Baptized and educated by Saint Erc and Saint Íte, Brendan was later ordained a priest. He founded numerous monasteries, including one on the Aran Islands and others in Wales and Brittany. Brendan's most famous voyage involved a seven-year journey across the Atlantic with fellow monks, seeking the Promised Land of the Saints. He established Clonfert Monastery in 563 AD and died in 577 AD in Annaghdown, Ireland.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Legendary Voyage: Brendan's most famous adventure is his voyage to find the Isle of the Blessed. Accompanied by monks, he sailed across the Atlantic in a small boat, encountering various islands and fantastical creatures, including a whale mistaken for an island.

Monastic Foundations: Brendan founded several monasteries in Ireland and abroad, playing a key role in spreading Christianity. His establishment of Clonfert Monastery was particularly significant.

Miraculous Encounters: Throughout his travels, Brendan experienced numerous miraculous events, such as landing on a whale and witnessing volcanic eruptions, believed to be references to real natural phenomena like icebergs and volcanic activity.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What qualities made Brendan a great leader and explorer? How can we show courage and faith in our own lives?

Craft Activity: Create a simple model of Brendan's boat using materials like paper and popsicle sticks, symbolizing his adventurous spirit and faith.

Role-Playing: Act out Brendan's journey, emphasizing his encounters with the whale and other adventures, to help visualize his courage and determination.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Brendan, you sailed bravely into the unknown, trusting in God's guidance. Help us to be courageous in our faith and to explore the wonders of God's creation with curiosity and joy. Amen."

Ask the children to pray to Saint Brendan this summer as they and their families travel by road, aeroplane and boat.



Saint Kevin of Glendalough

Feast Day: June 3

Patronage: Blackbirds, Archdiocese of Dublin, Glendalough, Kilnamanagh

Symbols: Blackbird

Biography Summary:

Saint Kevin was born around 498 AD in Leinster, Ireland. He is best known as the founder and first abbot of Glendalough, a remote valley in County Wicklow. Kevin sought a life of solitude and prayer, living as a hermit in a cave known as St. Kevin's Bed. Over time, his holiness and dedication to God attracted many followers, leading to the establishment of a monastic community that became a renowned centre of learning and spirituality.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Hermit Life: Kevin lived in a small cave, spending his days in prayer and fasting. His deep connection with nature is highlighted by the famous legend of the blackbird, which built a nest in his outstretched hand as he prayed.

Monastic Foundation: As word of Kevin's holiness spread, disciples gathered around him, and he established a monastery at Glendalough. This community grew into a significant centre for learning and pilgrimage, known for its seven churches.

Encounter with Other Saints: Kevin was known to have met other notable Irish saints, including Columba and Comgall, and his community influenced the broader Christian landscape in Ireland.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Kevin's love of nature and solitude? How can we find quiet moments in our busy lives to connect with God?

Craft Activity: Create a bird's nest using twigs, leaves, and paper to symbolize the blackbird that nested in Kevin's hand, reflecting on how we can make space for nature and prayer in our lives.

Role-Playing: Re-enact the story of Kevin and the blackbird, focusing on themes of patience, gentleness, and prayer.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Kevin, you sought solitude and found God in the quiet of nature. Help us to seek moments of peace and prayer in our daily lives, and to care for all of God's creation. Amen."

Remind the children to look out for blackbirds and when they see one to pray the St. Kevin prayer on their prayer card.



Saint Columba (Colmcille)

Feast Day: June 9

Patronage: Derry, bookbinders, poets, Ireland, and Scotland and He is often invoked in prayer against floods.

Symbols: Monk's robes, Celtic tonsure, and crozier

Interesting Facts:

- Saint Columba or Colmcille means Dove of the Church
- He is one of the three patron saints of Ireland.
- Munich GAA is named after Saint Columba and is called München Colmcille's.

Biography Summary:

Saint Columba, born on December 7, 521 AD, in Gartan, County Donegal, Ireland, was an Irish abbot and missionary who played a key role in spreading Christianity in Scotland. He founded the famous abbey on the island of Iona, which became a centre of religious and political influence. Columba is one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland and is revered for his piety, leadership, and dedication to faith.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Founding of Iona Abbey: In 563 AD, Columba travelled to Scotland with twelve companions and established the abbey on Iona. This monastery became a pivotal centre for missionary work and education, spreading Christianity among the Picts and Scots.

Miracle of the Water Beast: Columba is famously associated with a story in which he confronted and banished a monstrous "water beast" in the River Ness, which some believe to be the Loch Ness Monster.

Diplomatic and Religious Influence: Columba was highly regarded by both the Gaels and the Picts. He played a significant role in mediating conflicts and strengthening the Christian faith across the region.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Columba's dedication to spreading the Christian faith? How can we show courage and leadership in our own lives?

Craft Activity: Create a small paper boat to symbolize Columba's journey to Scotland. Write or draw a message inside about spreading kindness and faith.

Role-Playing: Reenact the story of Columba's encounter with the water beast, focusing on themes of bravery, faith, and protection.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Columba, you brought the light of Christ to many and stood firm in your faith. Help us to be courageous and dedicated in our journey with God. May we spread kindness and faith in our communities. Amen."



Saint Finnian of Clonard

Feast Day: December 12

Patronage: Diocese of Meath

Symbols: Monastic robes, book, crozier

Biography Summary:

Saint Finnian of Clonard, born in 470 AD in Myshall, County Carlow, Ireland, was a prominent Irish monastic saint who founded Clonard Abbey in County Meath. He is known as a teacher of the Saints of Ireland and is considered one of the fathers of Irish monasticism. Finnian played a crucial role in the spread of Christianity in Ireland through his teaching and the establishment of monastic communities.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Founding of Clonard Abbey: Around 520 AD, Finnian established Clonard Abbey on the River Boyne. The abbey became a significant centre for learning and monastic life, attracting students from all over Europe. It was known for its strict ascetic practices and dedication to the study of Scripture.

Teacher of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland: Finnian's reputation as a scholar and holy man drew many future saints to Clonard. Notable students included Columba of Iona and Ciarán of Clonmacnoise, who carried his teachings to other parts of Ireland and beyond.

Penitential of Finnian: Finnian wrote a penitential guide prescribing penances to correct sinful tendencies and promote virtuous living. This document reflects his deep understanding of human nature and spiritual discipline.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: How did Saint Finnian's dedication to teaching and learning influence the spread of Christianity in Ireland? What virtues can we learn from his life of study and prayer?

Craft Activity: Create a simple book or scroll to symbolize Finnian's dedication to learning. Write or draw messages about what you would like to learn and how you can help others learn.

Role-Playing: Re-enact the story of Finnian teaching his students, emphasizing the importance of knowledge, faith, and community.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Finnian, you dedicated your life to teaching and spreading the word of God. Help us to value learning and to share our knowledge with others. May we grow in wisdom and faith, following your example of devotion and service. Amen."



Saint Gobnait

Feast Day: February 11

Patronage: Beekeepers, Ironworkers, Healing

Interesting Fact: Modern science tells us that Honey helps wounds heal because it fights bacteria, keeps the wound moist, and forms a thick barrier that protects against infection. Saint Gobnait was ahead of her time in her knowledge of Honey and the work of nature.

Biography Summary:

Saint Gobnait was born in County Clare, Ireland, in the fifth or sixth century. She is known for her deep devotion to God and her work as a healer and protector of her community. Fleeing a family feud, Gobnait took refuge on Inisheer in the Aran Islands. An angel appeared to her and told her to search for a place where she would find nine white deer grazing. She found the deer in Ballyvourney, County Cork, where she established a convent and spent her life helping the sick and working with bees. Her affinity with bees became legendary, and she is remembered for using them to protect her people and drive away thieves.

Key Stories and Miracles:

The Vision of Nine White Deer: Guided by an angelic vision, Gobnait travelled until she found nine white deer grazing, indicating the place where she would establish her convent.

The Beekeeper: Gobnait is renowned for her skills in beekeeping. She used honey for healing and cared for her bees with great affection.

Defending the Village: One legend tells how Gobnait saved her village from brigands by sending a swarm of bees after the thieves, forcing them to return stolen cattle.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Saint Gobnait's life about faith and determination? How did her love for nature and animals help her in her mission to protect and heal others?

Craft Activity: Create a bee-themed craft, such as making paper bees or drawing a scene of Gobnait with her bees, to symbolize her role as a protector and healer.

Service Project: Organize a clean-up activity in a local park or garden, inspired by Saint Gobnait's care for nature and her environment.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Gobnait, we ask for your intercession as we strive to care for the world around us and help those in need. May your example of faith, healing, and protection inspire us to live with kindness and courage. Amen."



Saint Dymphna

Feast Day: May 30

Patronage: Professionals who care for those with Mental Health, Those who experience Anxiety, Depression or Mental Illness

Biography Summary:

Saint Dymphna was born in Ireland in the 7th century. Her father, Damon, was a petty king, and her mother was a devout Christian. After the death of her mother, Dymphna consecrated herself to Christ and took a vow of chastity at the age of 14. Her father, struggling with his mental health and grieving the loss of his wife, desired to marry Dymphna because of her striking resemblance to her mother. Horrified by this, Dymphna fled to Belgium with her confessor, Father Gerebernus, and settled in the town of Geel. They built a hospice for the poor and sick.

Damon eventually found Dymphna in Geel through the coins she used. When she resisted returning to Ireland, he became enraged and killed her. Dymphna was only 15 years old when she died. After her death, the townspeople of Geel buried her and Father Gerebernus. Her burial site became a place of pilgrimage, and the tradition of caring for the mentally ill in Geel continues to this day.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Escape to Geel: Dymphna fled from Ireland to Geel to escape her father's intentions and uphold her vow of chastity.

Hospice for the Poor: In Geel, Dymphna built a hospice to care for the poor and sick, reflecting her compassion and dedication to service.

Martyrdom: Dymphna was martyred by her father for refusing to return to Ireland and give up her vow to Christ.

Healing Tradition: The tradition of caring for the mentally ill in Geel has lasted for over 500 years, with patients living as boarders in the homes of local families.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Saint Dymphna's courage and compassion? How did her faith guide her actions and decisions?

Craft Activity: Create a lamp craft to symbolize Saint Dymphna's light and hope for those suffering from mental illness.

Service Project: Organize a visit to a local hospital or nursing home to bring cheer and comfort to those who are ill or lonely, inspired by Saint Dymphna's care for the sick.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Dymphna, you faced great trials with courage and faith. We ask for your intercession for all those who suffer from mental illness and for those who care for them. Help us to show compassion and understanding to those in need. Amen."



Saint Ita

Feast Day: January 15

Patronage: Killeedy, Ireland; Diocese of Limerick; pregnancy; eye illnesses

Biography Summary:

Saint Ita, born around 480 in County Waterford, Ireland, was known for her holiness and wisdom from a young age. She was baptized as Deirdre and later took the name Ita, which means "thirst for holiness." Rejecting a prestigious marriage, she chose a life dedicated to God and moved to Killeedy in County Limerick, where she founded a convent. Her community became known for its hospitality and education, particularly of young boys, including the future Saint Brendan the Navigator. Ita's life was marked by prayer, fasting, and spiritual discernment. She passed away around 570.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Vision of Lights: Led by three heavenly lights, Ita settled in Killeedy, where she established her convent.

Foster Mother of Saints: She fostered and taught several young boys who would become saints, including Saint Brendan.

Miracles and Prophecies: Ita was known for her gift of prophecy and performing numerous miracles, including healing the sick.

Irish Lullaby: She is credited with creating a lullaby for the infant Jesus, reflecting her deep devotion.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What qualities made Saint Ita a beloved and respected figure in her community? How can we show the same dedication to helping others in our own lives?

Craft Activity: Create a "Saint Ita's Light" craft using paper and LED tea lights to symbolize the heavenly lights that guided her to Killeedy.

Service Project: Encourage children to gather small donations or create care packages for a local charity, inspired by Ita's commitment to caring for the poor and sick.

Community: St. Ita was St. Brendan's teacher and community mattered to them. Ask the children to play a game or sporting activity with their school friends and family that builds community. Perhaps they might include their teacher or parents in this fun activity.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Ita, foster mother of saints and light of holiness, guide us to live lives of purity, wisdom, and service. Help us to follow your example of deep faith and dedication to God. Pray for us that we may grow in holiness and be lights for others. Amen."



Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (The Little Flower)

Feast Day: October 1

Patronage: Missions and missionaries, France, Russia, florists and gardeners, orphaned children, the homeless, aviators (Pilots and Astronauts).

Biography Summary:

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, born Marie Françoise-Thérèse Martin on January 2, 1873, in France, is widely known as the "Little Flower." Raised in a Catholic family, she felt an early call to religious life. At the young age of 15, she joined the Carmelite convent in Lisieux, where she dedicated her life to prayer, simplicity, and small acts of love, a spirituality she called the "Little Way."

Despite her cloistered life, Thérèse's influence spread worldwide through her autobiography, "Story of a Soul," in which she shared her simple yet profound approach to faith and her desire to love Jesus in every small action. She died of tuberculosis at the age of 24 on September 30, 1897. Thérèse was canonized in 1925 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1997, recognizing her exceptional contribution to Catholic spirituality.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Early Religious Calling: Thérèse felt a strong call to join the Carmelite convent at a very young age. She even travelled to Rome to ask Pope Leo XIII for permission to join early, demonstrating her determination and faith.

The Little Way: Thérèse believed in doing small things with great love, emphasizing humility and simplicity. Her "Little Way" teaches that even the smallest acts of kindness and love can lead to holiness.

Miraculous Healings: Many miracles have been attributed to Thérèse's intercession, especially healings of physical and mental illnesses. Her relics have travelled globally, drawing countless pilgrims seeking her intercession.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What does Thérèse's "Little Way" mean to you? How can you practice small acts of love in your daily life? Why is it important to trust God in all things, big and small?

Craft Activity: Create a "Little Way" journal where children can write down their small acts of kindness and reflect on how they can follow Thérèse's example of love and humility.

Service Project: Encourage children to perform small acts of service, such as helping at home, writing kind notes to classmates, or participating in a parish food drive, inspired by Thérèse's commitment to love in action.

Short Prayer:

"Saint Thérèse, Little Flower of Jesus, teach us to follow your Little Way of love and simplicity. Help us to see the beauty in small acts of kindness and to trust in God's love always. Pray for us that we may grow in faith and love each day. Amen."



Blessed Carlo Acutis

Patronage: Youth, Computer programmers

Symbols: Laptop, Eucharist

Biography Summary:

Blessed Carlo Acutis was born on May 3, 1991, in London, England. He moved to Milan, Italy, shortly after his birth. Carlo was known for his deep devotion to the Eucharist and his exceptional skills with computers. He used his talents to create a website cataloguing Eucharistic miracles, which gained significant attention. Carlo was diagnosed with leukaemia and offered his suffering for the Pope and the Church. He died on October 12, 2006, at the age of 15. Carlo was beatified on October 10, 2020, by Pope Francis.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Devotion to the Eucharist: From a young age, Carlo had a deep love for the Eucharist. He attended Mass daily and spent time in Eucharistic Adoration.

Eucharistic Miracles Website: Carlo used his computer skills to create a website that documented Eucharistic miracles from around the world. This project helped many people grow in their faith.

Acts of Kindness: Carlo was known for his kindness and generosity. He often helped his classmates, defended those who were bullied, and provided for the poor by giving his pocket money and birthday gifts to those in need.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: How did Carlo use his talents to serve God and others? What can we learn from his love for the Eucharist and his acts of kindness?

Craft Activity: Create a mini-website or a poster board documenting a modern-day miracle or a story of faith. Include pictures and descriptions, just like Carlo did with his Eucharistic miracles website.

Service Project: Organize a collection of toys, books, or clothes to donate to children in need, inspired by Carlo's generosity and care for the poor.

Short Prayer:

"Blessed Carlo Acutis, you used your gifts and talents to bring others closer to God. Help us to appreciate the Eucharist and to use our own abilities to serve those around us. Guide us to follow your example of love, kindness, and faith. Amen."



Sister Clare Crockett.

Motto: All or Nothing

Loved: God, Drama and the Performing Arts

Biography Summary:

Sister Clare Crockett was born on November 14, 1982, in Derry, Northern Ireland. She had a passion for acting and worked as a TV presenter and actress. Her life took a dramatic turn after a religious experience in Spain on Good Friday in 2000. Clare felt called to religious life and joined the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother (S.H.M.) in Spain, taking the name Sister Clare Maria of the Trinity and the Heart of Mary. She worked in Spain, the United States, and Ecuador, where she was known for her joyful spirit and dedication to the poor and needy. She tragically died in the 2016 Ecuador earthquake while helping others. Sister Clare's life has inspired many, and her story is spreading worldwide.

Key Stories and Miracles:

Early Life and Acting Career: Clare was a lively child who loved acting and dreamed of becoming a famous actress. She landed a small role in the 2002 film *Sunday about Bloody Sunday* in Derry.

Call to Vocation: Clare's life changed after a profound religious experience during a trip to Spain. She felt God's call to give her life to Him completely, which led her to join the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother.

Missionary Work: Sister Clare served in various countries, teaching, providing pastoral care, and spreading the love of Christ. She was especially known for her work with children and her cheerful, loving nature.

Reflection and Activities:

Discussion Questions: What can we learn from Sister Clare's life about following God's call? How did her faith help her make a difference in the lives of others?

Craft Activity: Create a collage or poster featuring Sister Clare's motto, "All or Nothing," and images or drawings representing her life and work.

Service Project: Organize a visit to a local nursing home or homeless shelter to bring joy and support to those in need, inspired by Sister Clare's dedication to helping others.

Short Prayer:

"Heavenly Father, we thank you for the life of Sister Clare Crockett, who joyfully dedicated her life to serving you and helping others. Help us to follow her example of wholehearted devotion and love. Guide us to use our talents to make a positive difference in the world. Amen."