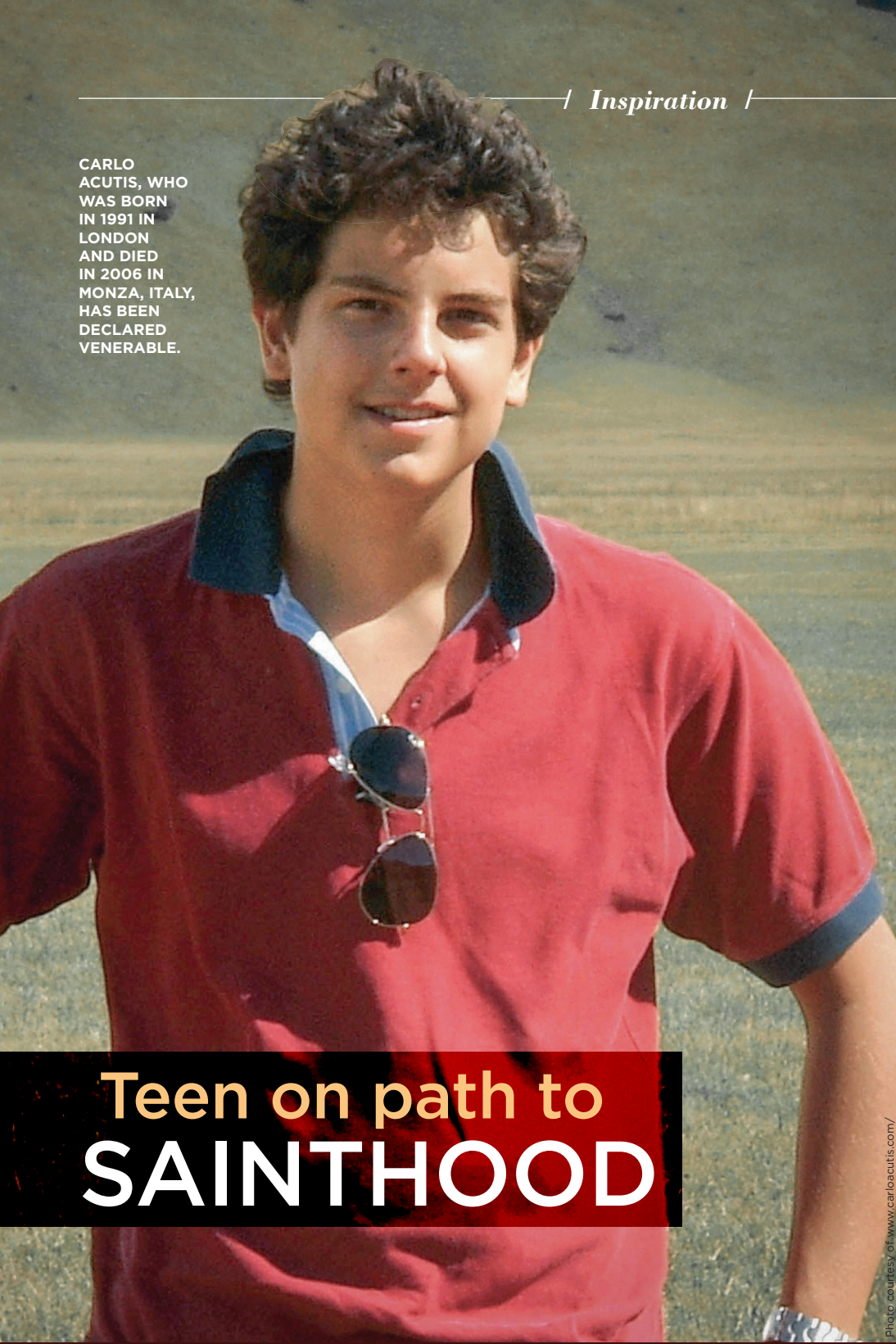


CARLO ACUTIS, WHO WAS BORN IN 1991 IN LONDON AND DIED IN 2006 IN MONZA, ITALY, HAS BEEN DECLARED VENERABLE.



## Teen on path to SAINTHOOD

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** – The late Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old Italian who created an online database of eucharistic miracles around the world, is on the road to sainthood.

In February, Pope Francis advanced the sainthood cause of Acutis, whose intercession is attributed to the miraculous healing of a young Brazilian boy afflicted with a rare congenital disease of the pancreas.

The pope formally recognized the healing, saying that Acutis is a role model for young men and women today.

"He knew how to use the new communications technology to transmit the Gospel, to communicate values and beauty."

While the Vatican has not announced the date of his beatification, Acutis' mother, Antonia Salzano, told Catholic News Service that a request was made for it to be held May 1 in Assisi.

"Pope Francis has always been close to Carlo; he quoted him in *Christus Vivit* [the pope's exhortation on young people], and this was a great privilege in that he cited him as an example for young people in the whole world," Salzano said.

In *Christus Vivit*, the pope wrote: "Carlo was well-aware that the whole apparatus of communications, advertising and social networking can be used to lull us, to make us addicted to consumerism and buying the latest thing on the market, obsessed with our free time, caught up in negativity. Yet he knew how to use the new communications technology to transmit the Gospel, to communicate values and beauty."

Before his death from leukemia in 2006, Acutis was an average teen with an above-average knack for computers.

His mother told CNS that her son's work, which included a traveling exhibition of eucharistic miracles, was the inspiration behind the documentary *Segni* ("Signs"), which was produced by the Vatican Dicastery for Commu-

nication in October 2018.

"Carlo did it with great love because he wanted everyone to love the Blessed Sacrament and place it first, something that he would do by going to Mass every day as well as participating in the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament," she said. †

[www.carloacutis.com/](http://www.carloacutis.com/)