

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church Las Vegas

Hosanna Sunday (Shanini Sunday)

St. Sharbel
Pray for us!

April 2020

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Live Stream Holy MASS

On Facebook: [stsharbel catholic church](https://www.facebook.com/stsharbelcatholicchurch)

YouTube:

[youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWqdh8szajbGA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWqdh8szajbGA)

Every Sunday

9:30 am English

11:30 am Arabic



To Keep a Lamp Burning we have
to Keep Putting Oil in it. M. Theresa

“They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!” (Jn 12:13)

This feast originated in the fourth century in Jerusalem. The faithful gathered each year to recall the Lord's entrance to the city with palms and olive branches. They gathered on Mount Olives with their bishops, singing praises and hymns. Then they formed a procession from the Mount of Olives to the city of Jerusalem, crying, “Hosanna” which means: “O Savior, save us”, and “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Jesus comes to Jerusalem, as Savior and Messiah, all kinds of people surround Him. But these the same crowds that cried “Hosanna”, would later shout, “Crucify Him”. Jesus shows what can be and what we are and what difference between the two is. You know we are not that different to those people in Jerusalem! Glory comes not at the hands of the people, but from His Father. As we follow the Lord on the way to the Cross, may we remain ever faithful to Him, our Savior and Lord.

Fr. Nadim Abou Zeid

Hosanna Sunday (Sha'nini)



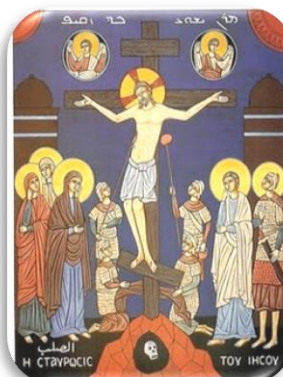
LET US PRAY:



We shout and sing with the children with joyous voices: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” Glory and honor to the King of kings, You are the Prince of Peace. Make us worthy to carry the Cross with You as we today carry the banners of triumph and the crown of glory, and to meet You with praise and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.

OUR MARONITE CATHOLIC HOLY WEEK

As we come closer to Holy Week and Easter, our liturgical celebrations aim at helping us to relive these events of the Mystery of Salvation and to grow in our spiritual life. The following is a short overview of the various rituals:



On **Palm Sunday**, we commemorate Christ's entry into Jerusalem where people came out to meet Him and shout “Hosanna,” “Save us, O Lord.” On that day, we bless olive branches (symbol of peace) and palm branches (symbol of victory), and we process around the church with candles to welcome Christ as the King of our life.

The Rite of the Lamp on Wednesday brings back an old forgotten tradition which highlights the need of “the healing of our body and soul” through the oil blessed by the priest on this occasion. The whole community is anointed. While the oil is for the healing of the body, repentance and contrition of heart are the oil of the soul.

On **Holy Thursday, there is the ritual of the Washing of the Feet of the Apostles**. Christ's washing the feet symbolizes the Mystery of Baptism, as it means the cleansing of soul. That evening, Christ instituted the Mystery of the Eucharist and He ordained His apostles priests and bishops. Thus, Thursday of Holy Week is called: “The Thursday of the Mysteries.” There is a tradition to spend some time in adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament in commemoration of Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Olives and to visit seven churches in honor of the seven sacraments.

On **Good Friday**, we do not have the regular Mass; however, the **Pre-sanctified Mass or the Signing of the Chalice** draws our attention to the cup of salvation and to the blood of Christ shed on the cross to redeem us. We receive Communion from the Eucharist consecrated a day earlier. On Good Friday, we also **commemorate Christ's passion and death on the cross**. Christ, out of love for each one of us, offered Himself as a ransom to save us and reconcile us with the Father. Our celebration is somber, reflecting our sorrow and contrition; however, our mourning is not that of despair but more of fasting, sacrifice and prayer.

On **Saturday of the Light, we celebrate a communal prayer of reconciliation and forgiveness**. The essence of this ritual is to seek God's absolution and peoples' forgiveness. The communal aspect of the service is to emphasize the return of the sinner to God and to the Church.

At **Midnight Mass on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the Rite of Peace** to emphasize the gift of peace that God grants us. In fact, Jesus greeted the people in his apparitions by saying: “Peace.” At this ritual, we adore the Risen Christ and we rejoice with His victory over sin and death as He opened for us the door to eternal life. I hope this overview helps us to understand the importance of our Holy Week Liturgical Services. May this Holy Week give us an opportunity to repent and amend, to feel with and to reach out. My wish and prayer is that by our participation we will all benefit spiritually as we journey in our life closer to God.

+ **Bishop Robert A. Shaheen, D.D.**
Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon

OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS TITULAR BISHOP OF ARETHUSA OF SYRIANS

The Holy Father has appointed as titular bishop of Arethusa of the Syrians the Reverend Rami Al-Kabalan, currently apostolic visitator for Syrian faithful in Western Europe and procurator of the Patriarchate of Antioch of the Syrians at the Holy See. The bishop-elect has taken the name of "Flavian".

Reverend Rami Al-Kabalan

The Reverend Rami Al-Kabalan was born in Zaydal, Syria, on 17 July 1979, where he attended primary and secondary school. He completed his institutional studies in philosophy and theology at the major seminary of Charfet, Lebanon.

He was subsequently sent to Rome, where he was a resident first of the Greek College, then the French Seminary. He was awarded a licentiate in theology from the Pontifical Lateran University.

He was ordained a deacon in the Church of Santa Chiara in Rome in 2004 by His Beatitude Cardinal Moussa Daoud, then prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches, and priest from July 2005 by Archbishop George Kassab of Homs of the Syrians, in the village of Zaydal in Syria.

In 2015 he completed his studies in oriental canon law at the Pontifical Oriental Institute, obtaining a doctorate.

From 2007 until his return to Rome in 2011 he was parish priest of Nabek and Yabrud, in the archieparchy of Homs.

Since 2013 he has acted as postulator of the cause for the beatification of Bishop Flavian Michael Melki and, in the same year, assistant to the procurator at the Holy See.

On 21 June 2017, he was appointed by Pope Francis as apostolic visitator for the Syriac-Catholic communities in Western Europe. On 27 March 2020, His Beatitude Ignace Youssef III Younan, after obtaining the *nulla osta*, appointed him as procurator of the Patriarchate of Antioch of the Syrians at the Holy See.

Appointment of counselor of the Apostolic Penitentiary

The Holy Father has appointed as counselor of the Apostolic Penitentiary the Reverend Giuseppe Tonello, of the clergy of Rome, chancellor, member of the presbyteral council and of the Disciplinary Commission of the Vicariate of Rome.



CATHOLIC MASS SUSPENSIONS EXTENDED IN LAS VEGAS DIOCESE

Catholic Masses in the Diocese of Las Vegas will be suspended until at least April 30, Bishop George Leo Thomas has announced.

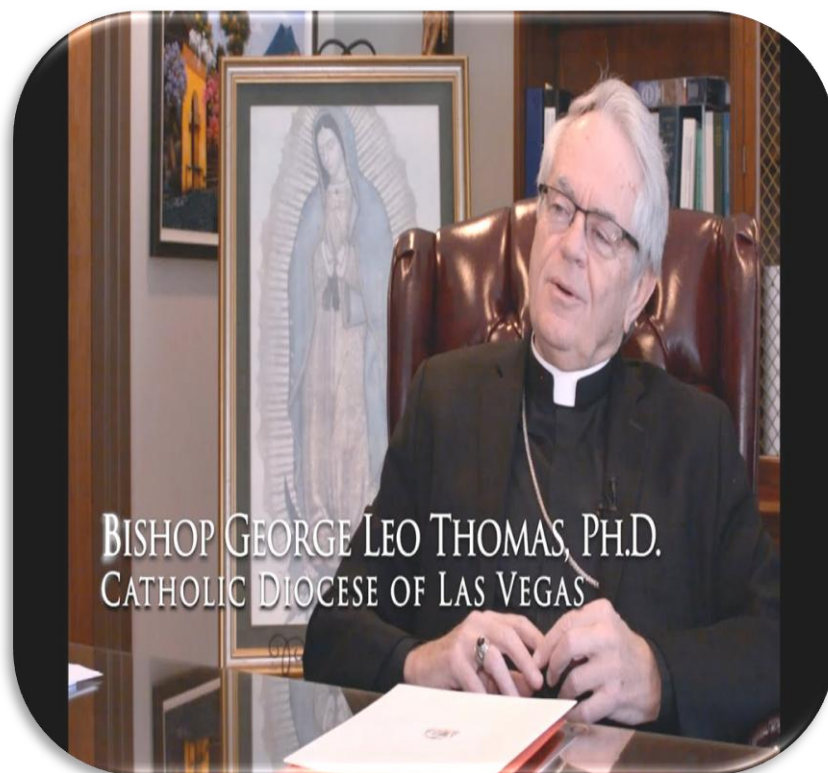
Thomas' order extends a suspension of Masses that was already in effect through this weekend.

In a letter Monday to diocesan priests and administrators, Thomas wrote that the move, aimed at mitigating the spread of the novel coronavirus, was made on the basis of information from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Southern Nevada Health District and Gov. Steve Sisolak's office. Thomas also is dispensing Catholics in the diocese and Catholics who visit the diocese from their obligation to attend Sunday Masses through the weekend of April 25 and 26.

Suspension of activities at parish venues also has been extended. In addition, Thomas writes, "I continue to encourage pastors and parish leaders to dissuade various groups, both related and unrelated to the parish, from gathering in private homes, placing participants, children, and the elderly in danger.

"I am aware of the burden that this decision places upon all of you, most especially during these Holy Seasons of Lent and Easter. However, I believe that the painful decisions we make in the short term will have beneficial effects in all our communities in the long run."

The order will remain in effect until April 30, Thomas writes, "and will be revisited at that time."



The diocese televises Mass at 7:30 a.m. Sunday on KVCW-TV, Channel 33. To watch local parishes' streamed Masses, follow the link on the diocese's webpage (dioceseoflasvegas.org).

**Saint
Sharbel
Church
Las Vegas**

***Turning our
Home
into a church***



❖ **PALM Sunday**

(Shanini)

9:30 am English

11:30 am Arabic

❖ Mon–Thu @ 6 pm

❖ Fri @ 3 pm

Burial of our Lord

6 pm Stations
of the Cross +

❖ Sat 4:30 pm

Easter Vigil

❖ **EASTER Sunday**

9:30 am English &

11:30 am Arabic

LIVE

Facebook

**St Sharbel
Catholic Church**

You Tube

[youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWqdh8szajbGA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMTONUYwmuSWqdh8szajbGA)

With all the closings and
cancellations, I have some
GOOD NEWS!

Easter is **NOT**
cancelled!

Christ
is still
risen!



EUCCHARIST MIRACLE – A MAN WITH CANCER HEALED BY THE EUCCHARIST SHARES TESTIMONY

A strong testimony about the power of the Eucharist.

I met a tireless Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. At the weekend, I went to help in a temple outside the city, because the priest there got sick. I started early with the six o'clock Mass. Mr. Lalo soon came and introduced himself to me:

– Father, I am minister of the Eucharist and I will visit 16 sick people. Could you give me the wafers?

– With pleasure! I'll just consecrate them and I'll give it to you.

At the end of Mass, I handed him the wafers and he quickly left to take them to the sick. I was surprised by Mr. Lalo's enthusiasm. It seemed that his feet were flying to bring Christ to those who could not go to the temple.

I continued with the morning ceremonies. Before the end of the noon mass, I saw Mr. Lalo again. He was entering the chapel and, at the time of communion, he asked me:

"Father, there are 11 sick people missing. Could you give me more wafers?" I handed it over and he left to finish the visitation.

At the last Mass, he appeared again. Now with his wife, children and grandchildren. At the end of the celebration, I did not resist and called him. I thanked them for visiting so many sick people and expressed that I was surprised by their enthusiasm and kindness for having donated all their Sunday to Our Lord and to all who needed it. What I heard from Mr. Lalo was such a powerful testimony that I want to reproduce it completely.

"Father, there is nothing to be thankful for. I'm simply doing something to who gave me back my life and gave me health. Three years ago, I felt that the world was falling on me, it had terrible pains all over my body. At first, they did not know what I had. Until I was told that it was cancer of the spine.

My life came down. I fell into a deep depression, gave up my work and did not want anyone to visit me. But the minister Rosita insisted so much that I ended up receiving her. After that, I began to receive Holy Communion every week.

From there everything changed: every Sunday, I kept waiting to receive the body of Christ. With the days, I began to notice that, when I communed, I began to change from the inside out. I was filled with joy and strength, I felt more loved and accompanied by God himself. It seemed that my cancer was no longer so terrible.

I remember very well the day when, in prayer, I said to God: 'So much time of life and only now, in the midst of an illness, I can feel you by my side.



I would love to be healthy to take you wherever they are waiting for you. I am sure that you will change their lives, as has changed mine. ' And Our Lord took my desires seriously.

In three months, I no longer felt any pain and the doctors could not explain what had happened: 'It seems like a miracle. You no longer have cancer. Now you can go wherever you want ... '

For me, it was not the doctor who said, it was Jesus Eucharistic that reminded me: "I gave you the health to go together to visit all those who need ... "

Father, that is why I am so happy, without cancer and fulfilling my promise with Him. As long as I have strength, I will visit all who are like me: without health, without spirit, without the will to live. I want them to know that they are not alone because they have a great and strong God who can help them. "

What a wonderful testimony! As I spoke, I smiled with joy to see that Christ is indeed present in the Holy Host that I take daily in my hands. I regretted my lack of faith, especially when I felt the way was difficult.

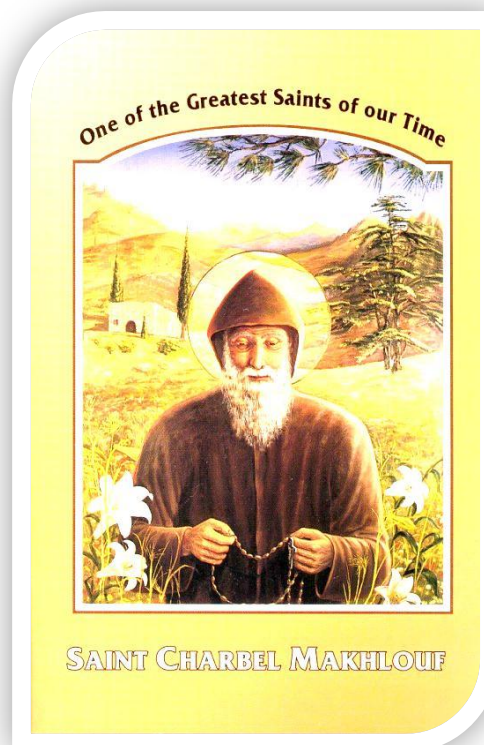
Now I realize that everything was so complicated because I walked alone ... If I had let the Eucharistic Christ accompany me every moment, everything had been simpler.

My heart told me that just as the Good Jesus gave another opportunity to Mr. Lalo, he will also give me, so that I live each Eucharist as the extraordinary event that it really is, and to remind all the sick of body or soul that they are not alone; that the best medicine is Holy Communion.

I take this opportunity to thank all the Extraordinary Ministers of Communion who, with joy and gratuitousness, help to bring the Christ closer to the sick. God bless you a lot!

HEALING OF SAINT SHARBEL: Georges Wehbeh

After nine years of marriage, Georges didn't have babies due to sterility. He visited the tomb of Saint Charbel and asked his intercession in order to have a baby. The saint answered his prayer and Georges had a son after nine months and he named him Charbel. He came once again to the convent in order to get this miracle registered.



***Life of
Saint
Sharbel
DVD
available at
the Gift
Shop***

***Saint Sharbel Healing Oil of Gladness & Novena
are available at the St. Sharbel Grotto.
If you have received graces of healing &
blessing through St. Sharbel, write or email us***

ST. SHARBEL IN PHILIPPINES

A girl from Philippines who works as a maid at a house of a Christian family in Beirut called her mother in Philippines to check on her, her mother cried and said to her: I am going to die before I see you, I'm very sick and living my last days.

The girl cried so bitterly for it was very difficult for her to travel to Philippines, the trip was very expensive and she was poor, she also had signed a 2 year work contract, plus the couple she works for both have jobs and they need her to take care of their two little children. She cried so hard and the couple did not know what to do to comfort her. They then offered to take her to visit St. Sharbel, she accepted thankfully.

When she got to Annaya, she knelt for 2 and half hours near St. Sharbel's tomb and prayed fervently saying: St. Sharbel please look at my situation with clemency & heal my mother, I want to see her before she dies, and you know how poor and helpless I am, I can't go to her, then she returned with the family, her eyes were so red for she was crying for hours.

As soon as she got to Beirut her mother calls her saying: thank you daughter for sending me a doctor from Lebanon who healed me.



***The Tomb of Saint Sharbel in Annaya, Lebanon where
thousands of devotees come from all over the world to seek
intercession from the incorruptible body of the Holy Hermit.***

The girl answered: I never sent anyone!

The mother insisted saying: yes, you did, he told me that you sent him to me from Lebanon!

Then the girl asked her mother: how did he look like? What was he wearing?

The mother answered: he was wearing a black cloak and he had a white beard.

The girl was shocked and asked: what time did he come?

The mother said: at 1:15 PM

The girl cheered and said to her mother: this was Saint Sharbel, he visited you after I knelt before him, and this was the time I was praying before his tomb, he was healing you in Philippines.

GOD IS GLORIFIED IN HIS SAINTS

Lent lasts forty days. Jesus once prayed and fasted for forty days while He was on earth. He taught us a big lesson.

Lent calls on us to take a look at ourselves before God. This is a special time that we can use to move closer to God. We can show that we are sorry for the wrong things we have done. We do this through prayer and sacrifice and by being mindful of others.

When we do things that are wrong we move further away from God. When we are sorry and try to do better we move closer to God. God is always constant, He is always there for us, and we need only to turn to Him. God loves us and wants us to stay close to Him. We should prepare ourselves to share in Holy joys with prayer and sacrifice.



**Whoever wishes to be my follower
must deny his very self,
take up his cross each day,
and follow in my steps. Luke 9:23**

Holy Thursday – We remember the last Supper and that Jesus celebrated the first Mass. Jesus surprised His disciples by washing their feet. In those days it was expected that guests' would have their feet washed by a servant. This was why it was so surprising that Jesus, their leader, would wash their feet. Jesus was trying to teach the disciples that they were to serve people, rather than be served. In some churches, a ceremony takes place in which some of the worshippers get their feet washed by an important person.

Good Friday – This is the day on which Jesus died for us. The Church goes into mourning on this day and Holy Saturday. On Good Friday the Church enacts the liturgy in which the Cross is unveiled and solemnly honored. There is no Mass on this day and the altar is stripped and all the decorations are removed. The Blessed Sacrament is placed on the altar of repose. Good Friday is a fast day. Some people choose not to eat and some people only eat a little. On this day fish is eaten instead of meat.



HOSANNA WEEK & HOLY WEEK

When we turn to Jesus we can experience true joy and true peace. We should pray more often, try to attend services the Church arranges for Lent and remember the Lenten appeal and try to contribute to this.

The week before Easter (this April 24, 2011) is known as Holy Week (from April 17 Sha'nini – Palm Sunday to April 23). It begins with Palm Sunday (Sha'nini), also called Passion Sunday.

Holy Saturday – This is the day we “wait” for the great feast of the Resurrection. This time of waiting, from the time of Jesus' death on the Cross, to the time He Rose from the dead is called Easter Vigil. Another thing that is done on this night is the blessing of the fire and the big candle in front of the church. We call this the Paschal (Easter) Candle. The candle reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the World. It is a good time to think of Jesus and what He means to each one of us. The readings recall what God has done since the creation of the world until today.

Easter Sunday – This is the day Jesus Rose from the dead. He Rose in triumph over sin and death. This was the greatest proof that Jesus was truly God. Easter is the greatest feast of the Church's year. Jesus is the new Lamb of God.

How to Know that You Are Dying Spiritually

THE STORY OF THE CROSS
NO LONGER MOVES YOU

YOU HAVE LEFT YOUR
FIRST LOVE
Revelation 2:4

THE CHURCH
SERVICES BORE YOU
Romans 10:17

YOU HAVE NO INTEREST
IN SAVING SOULS
Proverbs 11:30

WORLDLY THINGS
ATTRACT YOU MORE THAN
SPIRITUAL THINGS
Romans 8:5-7



YOU ARE FOOLING
YOURSELF
1 Corinthians 3:18

BY FAILING TO DO
WHAT YOU KNOW YOU
SHOULD DO
James 1:22

FREQUENT ABSENCES AT
THE WORSHIP SERVICES
Hebrews 10:25

NO PARTICIPATION IN THE
WORK OF THE CHURCH
Romans 10:1-3

The message of the
Virgin Mary in Medjogorie
to Mirjana on April 2, 2019

" my loved children, I know you are crowned to my son. I know that you are crowned to the truth, and to peace, and to what is pure and non-fake. That's why I, as a mother, through the love of God, address you and invite you, even, through prayer and pure and open heart within you, you come to know my son—to know his love and his heart. My son has seen beauty in all things. He is looking for good in all souls—even What is small and hidden—to forgive evil. Therefore, my children, o messengers of my love, I invite you to worship him, and until you doubt him uninterrupted, and to be worthy. Because it is your word with divine words, the word of God, the word that is for all and forever. Therefore, my children, relive the joy, the radiation, the loneliness, and the mutual love. This is what you need in today's world. This way, you will be messengers of my love. That way, they're going to be my son the right way. Thank you."



FILIPINO NEWS

A MIRACLE STORY | FR. FERNANDO SUAREZ'S DEATH

This is based on the Story of Tiya Idang Zoraida Francisco (Fr. Fernando's Aunt from Maternal side)

Fr. Fernando died the afternoon of February 4, 2020. From Asian Hospital, he was transferred to Heritage Park Memorial. Tiya Idang, Tita Annie Cruz and Nanay Zena, his mother, were the ones who stayed in a room while Fr. Fernando was in the morgue being prepared for viewing that early morning of February 5, 2020.

Around 3 am of 5 February, a man introducing himself as FR. FRANCIS knocked on the door and said, "Tiya Idang, I am Fr. Francis, a bestfriend of Fr. Suarez. He always confides to me his problems and worries. Kindly accompany me to the morgue so I can bless him."

Ironically, she was led by Fr Francis to the morgue. They passed through "talahiban" (tall grass). When they reached the morgue, Tiya was disappointed because Father was already embalmed and the scissors and other tools were there.

Fr. Francis prayed over Fr. Suarez. No other people were there but it seemed a crowd was responding to his prayers.

When the prayer was done, Fr. Francis went ahead as he was heading to the airport for a flight, according to him.

Tiya Idang went back to their room alone. She reached the room and could not find the "talahiban" nor "the tall grass" where they earlier passed through.

She was not able to sleep anymore until morning. After that, she kept inquiring from people close to Fr. Suarez about who is Fr. Francis. Does he have any knowledge why Fr Suarez was already embalmed before they arrived?

Day after day she kept asking people about this Francis.

Nobody could tell her.

On the morning of February 14th, she skimmed through the souvenirs from Fr. Suarez. She stumbled on an old laminated card with inscription from Fr Suarez on February 21, 1992. It says...

"This picture was received a week after I dreamt about a friar who welcome me in heaven. This is my first time to see and know this picture of Fr. Francis."

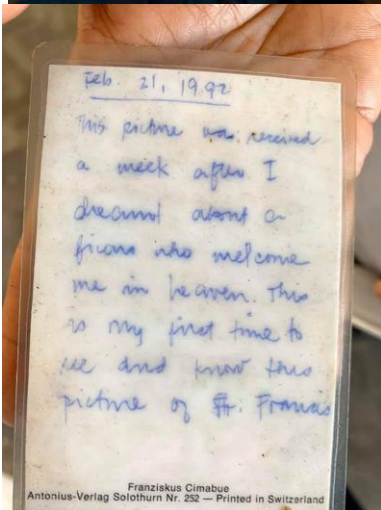
When she looked at the other side of the laminated card, she saw the picture and exclaimed this is him! This is the Fr. Francis who brought me to the morgue to bless Fr. Suarez!

It is St. Francis of Assisi. ♥□

CTTO

Notes to remember: St. Francis of Assisi is a Friar and not a 'priest' as common people mistakenly known. The point of this story is the focus on how the Saints work and intercede for us.

Fr. Suarez, pray for us.



***St. Francis of Assisi,
intercede for us.***

PRAYER OF HEALING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS

Healing Prayer

Dear God,
 Your words are **HEALTH**.
 I ask for physical healing.
 I speak to my body
 ... your energy
 ... your abundance
 ... your comfort
 ... your clarity.
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE to you.
 You are God of an abundant life.
 I claim that life now.
 I think of an activity which is a stretch for me.
 I hold a vision of myself carrying out this activity with **EASE**.
 I see myself _____.
 I celebrate this health improvement.
 Thank you God.
 Amen

(c) www.HealingCFSME.com

O Mary,
 you always shine on our path
 as a sign of salvation and of hope.
 We entrust ourselves to you,
 Health of the Sick,
 who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
 keeping your faith firm.
 You, Salvation of the Roman People,
 know what we need,
 and we are sure you will provide
 so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
 we may return to joy and to feasting
 after this time of trial.
 Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
 to conform to the will of the Father
 and to do as we are told by Jesus,
 who has taken upon himself our sufferings
 and carried our sorrows
 to lead us, through the cross,
 to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge,
 Holy Mother of God.
 Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial,
 but deliver us from every danger,
 O glorious and blessed Virgin.

*Praying for those who mourn
 during this time of the Coronavirus COVID-19*

Lord of all gentleness,
 You are close to the broken-hearted.
 We entrust into your care
 those who mourn the loss of a loved one this day.
 Surround them with your love
 and comfort them in their sorrow.
 Grant that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss.
 May they know the consolation and support
 of the Christian community.
 Give them confidence in your goodness
 and strength to meet the days ahead.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



@KANDLEI

*Prayer for our
 Healthcare Workers*

Heavenly Father, we thank You for our healthcare workers who are tirelessly working at the frontlines of the COVID-19 outbreak. Protect them from this disease, O Lord. Bless them as they act as agents of Your healing hands, and give them the strength and wisdom to carry on amid these trying times. Amen.

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

WEEKEND

Saturday 4:30pm Apr 4

Coronavirus families

Sunday 9:30am Apr 5

Coronavirus Victims

Sunday 11:30 am

Medical Professionals

Sunday 4:30 pm Spanish

Víctimas del Coronavirus



PRAY FOR THE SICK

DAILY 8AM

MONDAY Apr 6

*Kayla Hill

TUESDAY Apr 7

+Median Kutob

WEDNESDAY Apr 8

+Louise Silva

THURSDAY Apr 9

Persecuted Christians

FRIDAY Apr 10

Unborn Babies

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