



Friends of ST. PEREGRINE

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. PEREGRINE NEWSLETTER • SUMMER 2020

www.servite.org

prayerpartner@stperegrine.org

Dear Friends of St. Peregrine,

We welcome God's healing grace and strength upon all First Responders and people suffering from cancer, coronavirus and other serious illnesses.

We are still feeling the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and the other viruses of war, rage, racial injustice and violence among us. We need God's healing in so many ways. I want to thank Jesus, our Blessed Mother Mary, St. Peregrine, OSM and all of our Spiritual Family for keeping us safe in God's strength and dwelling place.

As we hear in the Psalms of Sacred Scripture: "One thing I ask of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock...I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" (Psalm 27: 4-5; 13-14)

As Lupe, one of my parishioners at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica parish told me on the phone, "Father, since I have been praying in my room, isolated with this coronavirus, I am not experiencing all those dreaded symptoms. I am

tired but not as sick as others have told me. And Father, people are taking care of me, morning, noon and night; and they are even washing my kitchen floor for me."

It was reported to me that a lady was trying to ride a bicycle and had fallen. She badly damaged her legs. She needed surgery and recovery. Afterwards, she still could not walk with the pain and had to use a wheelchair. After months



of pain and therapy, she heard about the prayers of St. Peregrine, and blessed her legs with the St. Peregrine oil. She is pain free. She can walk her dog down the block and she can drive her car again. She gives praise and thanks to God for giving her healing strength. She also is grateful to St. Peregrine for his intercession and help.

Please send me your notes of thanksgiving and stories of how faith and prayers to God through the intercession of St. Peregrine have helped you gain better health of mind, body, spirit and soul.

God bless you, your family, friends and caregivers,

Fr. Chris Krymski, OSM

Director of the National Shrine of St. Peregrine, Chicago, IL

St Peregrine Prayer

Jesus, the Healer, thank you for all the wonderful people you bring into our lives today. They teach us so much about God's unconditional love and healing strength. God's dwelling with us is the joy of all creation. Thank you in restoring health, justice and peacemaking for your world today. May we accompany one another as prayer partners in bringing God's comfort, blessing and new possibilities toward those who need God's care. May we share our stories of faith with one another.

We ask this prayer through Christ, our Lord, Amen.



St. Peregrine Ministry Mission Statement

With Mary at the foot of the Cross of her suffering Son, Jesus, We, Servants of Mary, promote and sustain the St. Peregrine ministry of healing and compassion.

Through our ministries of prayer, blessing, pilgrimage, reconciliation and evangelization, we accompany caregivers and those persons who live with serious illness, especially cancer, as they seek to find healing, support, peace and God in their daily lives.

**Newsletter of the National Shrine of St. Peregrine
Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica
3121 W Jackson Blvd
Chicago IL 60612-2729
Fr. Christopher Krymski, OSM, Director**

The Friends of St. Peregrine Newsletter is published three times a year by the Order of Friar Servants of Mary and is available free of charge to all who request it.

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Special St. Peregrine Prayer Cards for Coronavirus Patients and First Responders.

Please send us the names of your loved ones who have the coronavirus so that we may send them a special, blessing, prayer card for their good recovery. We want to send our best wishes and appreciation for all our First Responders, who are on the front lines helping in the healing process of their coronavirus patients in the hospital. Please send these names and addresses to: Fr. Chris Krymski, OSM, St. Peregrine Ministry, 3121 West Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60612. Thank you for your remembrances. God bless.

Through the Intercession of St. Peregrine...

I was asked recently if I had any stories about my experience as a hospital chaplain. I had been a full-time chaplain at St. John Hospital in Detroit for some ten years in my early days after my first assignment as a parish priest. And wherever I was, visits to the local hospital were always part of my regular ministry. I have found that helping people through a crisis is one of the most rewarding ministries we can have. Being a chaplain at a hospital with a major emergency room provided many memorable incidents. We dealt daily with victims of accidents, heart attacks, shootings, and many other types of injury, as well as spending time to visit inpatients to show personal interest and compassion for the sick. And we dealt extensively with the families of patients, helping them to cope with their fears and losses of health and life.

My ministry has provided many encounters, both tragic and joyful. But there was one encounter which stands out in my memory. I resided in our Servite community at St. John Berchmans church in Detroit, where I had begun my parish ministry. One of the parishioners there received an unpleasant diagnosis of Cancer, and went to the hospital for treatment. Three of us priests in the community went to visit her - Fr. Paul Onderbeke, Fr. Vincent O'Shea and I - and did our best to build up her hopes of conquering the disease. We offered our patient the sacrament of the sick, and the blessing with the relic of St. Peregrine. We were in good spirits, even to the extent of joking about the Solemn Blessing - referring to the ritual of a solemn high Mass, where three ministers served in the role of priest, deacon and subdeacon before the time of Vatican II.

As we were leaving her bedside the patient in the other bed asked also for a blessing. She, too, had been diagnosed with cancer, and was frightened about the possible outcome. We were most pleased

to be able to console her with the blessing of St. Peregrine.

Our parishioner's treatment was successful, and within a couple days she was on the road to recovery. When we next visited, her neighbor whom we had blessed was also leaving the hospital. She was thrilled to tell us that after our blessing she received the news that she was found with no trace of cancer, and was free to go home.



We are graced daily with many miracles: the wonders of birth and life, the blossoms of spring, daily sunrise and sunset, and many other natural wonders, and wonders of modern medicine. But it's rare that we can witness the miraculous cure of a nasty illness, and I think this event qualifies as a true miracle - the action of God's love for his people. It is an inspiration to us to thank our gracious Father for his generosity to us, and especially for providing us with so great an intercessor as St. Peregrine.

Fr. Tim Kremen, OSM

Thank you, St. Peregrine -notes received at the National Shrine of St. Peregrine

*Dear St. Peregrine,
Thank you for your intercession as my test results
came-in benign of any cancer. I had a colonoscopy
last week. The doctor removed nine polyps. All are
benign. Thank you, Jesus!*

*Dear St. Peregrine,
Thank you for all the blessings and good health
that God gives to us through your prayers. I am
requesting peace for my family and friends.*

*Dear Lord,
Thank you for my friends, especially the Holy
Spirit and St. Peregrine. You are teaching me to
surrender my independence and helping me to
depend on you to find caregivers, who are so good
to me through my cancer recovery. I love you Lord,
with all my heart.*

*Thank you, St. Peregrine,
for always being there with your prayers and
spiritual help. I am asking for your continued
prayers for all who suffer with cancer and give
them hope!*



**Send prayer petitions for yourself,
your friends, family and loved ones
to our website: www.servite.org.**

Book Review:

*“Healing the Soul, Finding Peace and Consolation
When Life Hurts” By Deacon Eddie Ensley, Ph.D.*

Deacon Ensley has produced a very insightful book on Healing Prayer by using the Jesus Prayer, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” He gives us a format on how to journey with this prayer. After each chapter, prayers of comfort and discussion questions are offered. As St. Augustine once said, “God loves every one of us as if we were the only ones He had to love.”



Ensley’s fourteen short chapters focus on applying prayer to different and challenging life situations to lift depression, restore broken families, and heal worries. Ensley addresses the role imagination can play in healing, as well as the healing of our world. Here is a sample of his words of wisdom from page 99...

“Our earth is a wounded earth. Our massive attempts to conquer the earth have scarred creation. As Saint Paul says, together with all creation, we groan for redemption (Rom 8:22-23). Only when we acknowledge that we are part of the net that binds together all God’s creation does real healing flow into our being.”

Your donation will help us to continue the good works of our Ministry Office in publishing and distributing this newsletter free of charge to parishes, hospitals and prayer centers across the country. Please help us spread the good word that others are praying for those with serious illness. Thank you and God bless!

At the National Shrine of St. Peregrine (Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica in Chicago), a healing Mass and blessing with the relic of St. Peregrine is celebrated at 11:00am on the third Saturday of the month. There is a healing Mass and blessing in Spanish on the second Saturday of each month, also at 11:00am.