



# Friends of ST. PEREGRINE

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. PEREGRINE NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2020

[www.servite.org](http://www.servite.org)

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## Dear Friends of St. Peregrine,

Welcome to God's healing grace for all of us.

Last Summer, I was able to attend the first Saturday of August, outdoor Mass in honor of St. Peregrine at our Sanctuary of our Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon. Over 700 people attended the Mass and blessings with St. Peregrine's relic. I felt the joy of the Lord to see so many pilgrims there from Vancouver, Canada, Seattle, WA, Portland, OR, and from all around the world!

As we hear in the Psalms of Sacred Scripture: "Blessed be the Lord for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was beset as a city under siege... Love the Lord, all you his saints. The Lord preserves the faithful... Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord." (Psalm 31:21, 23, 24)

Yes, the Lord does bless us with courage and God's miracles of life. It has been reported that over 4,000 healings have happened in Lourdes, France. Recently, there was the first documented miracle recorded at Our Lady of Knock Shrine in Ireland from a woman who was cured from MS in 1989.

Although we do not have to go far to receive God's courage and healing strength, a man from India came with his family this past June to the National



### The five-parish St. Peregrine Support Group leaders, Johnsburg, IL

Shrine to report his cancer healing through the intercession of St. Peregrine. He used the St. Peregrine oil and felt the Holy Spirit's presence. He has moved to New Jersey and came to Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica, Chicago, to attend Sunday Mass and give thanks and praise to God.

We have received many reports by phone and email of persons who have been spiritually touched because they put their faith in God and through the healing intercession of St. Peregrine. One woman in Orlando, Florida had a spot on her bladder. The resulting biopsy denoted cancer. Through prayer and the blessings of St. Peregrine, she recalled that as she took the MRI scan for further tests, she felt God's spirit "like warm water flowing over her to soothe her anxiety." When she went to see her doctor a week later to discuss her treatment

options, the doctor said with a smile, "You are in remission. I will see you in three months for a check-up. No need for therapy right now." Praise the Lord. We rejoice with this family.

The goodness of the Lord truly has blossomed all around us. I received a positive review of my book "Jesus the Healer: St. Peregrine, the Helper" Gordon Nary, editor of the website Profiles in Catholicism. He wrote: "The most important feature of this book is the collections of letters to Father Chris from people of all ages. Some of them from children made me cry - the first time that I have ever cried reading a book. Father Chris also has a novena to St. Peregrine which I strongly recommend to all who have cancer... This book is a national treasure and should be given to every person with cancer and their caregivers globally." Thank you, Mr. Nary, for your review and recommendation.

Thank you always for your prayer support for God's consolation and your financial gifts to keep this newsletter coming to your door. As the six-year-old boy who took all of his savings for a trip to Disney world and used them to buy hot dogs for those burdened by Hurricane Dorian in South Carolina said, "to give is to live." From the mouth of babes, he has summed up the Greatest Commandment in five words. Praise God for his healing message for all of us.

God bless you, your family, friends and caregivers,

### **Fr. Chris Krymski, OSM**

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

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## **St. Peregrine Prayer**

"Lord Jesus of love and goodness, we praise you for the gift of courage that you share with us today. Thank you for the circle of caregivers, our doctors, nurses, family and friends. May our lives blossom with greater faith, hope and charity. May we see our lives as precious gifts to God right now, no matter how big; no matter how small. We ask this in Your Name and through the intercession of Blessed Mother Mary and good St. Peregrine. 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  
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**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.**

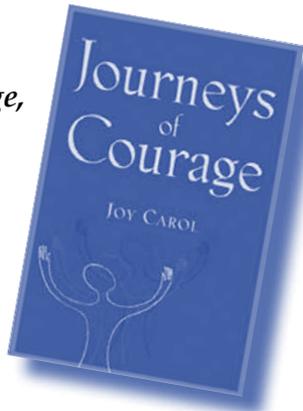
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## Book Review:

*"Journeys of Courage, Remarkable Stories of the Healing Power of Community" by Joy Carol*

Archbishop Desmond Tutu has said that this book is "a superbly crafted collection of moving stories to inspire all of us!"



I agree with Archbishop Tutu in that all of us need to hear how restoration can happen for a community as well as for individuals through God's gift of courage.

Many persons have given their outlook on how they have survived trauma as well as how to be caregivers for others who have survived trauma. The Rev. Cari Jackson speaks of caring for souls in the section regarding the 9/11 terrorist attacks:

*"In our work as 'ministers,' we work with other people's spirits, other people's hearts and minds. I don't believe any one of us has the right to engage in such sacred work if we don't also do self-care. We all must engage in healthy self-care for the good of others and ourselves."*

I enjoyed this profound book that addresses how to energize one another from trauma to health because of finding creative ways to bolster our courage. We all need those God-given ways to see purpose out of pain and Christ's healing out of any heartache.

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## Glory to God Story...

"All praise, honor and glory to God and thanks to St. Peregrine for his intercession to God for me!"

In June of 2015 I was told that I needed surgery. When I went to the doctor for lab work, they

told me that I had a red blood cell cancer call Polycythemia Vera. They could not give me the surgery because I had too many red blood cells. There is no cure so I ran home to Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica and found Fr. Chris, sitting in the back of church in a pew. It was like he was waiting for me. So I sat down next to him and began to tell him about my health. He blessed me with the St. Peregrine Relic and prayed over me. The hospital decided to take out a large bag of my red blood cells so that I could have the surgery. I was very sick for a long time when I went back to the doctor for treatments for the red blood cell cancer. I was told that they can give you pills or take out red blood cells periodically. There is no known cure for this illness. I went to the lab for more blood tests and they told me that I would undergo a series of blood draws. They did not start the treatments then but soon after the fourth test they said I no longer had an evidence of this cancerous disease. Praise God!

Two months ago in March 2019, I had a lump in my abdomen that they sent me for testing after an ultrasound. They said that I needed to see an Orthopedic Oncologist right away. Once again, I ran to Our Lady of Sorrows to Fr. Chris, and we went to the St. Peregrine Chapel to be blessed with the relic. Monday, May 2, 2019, I had a two hour magnetic MRI test done. It seemed like they kept repeating the same test over and over again. After completion, I was brought upstairs to see the oncology doctor. They said that they found no sign of the lump in my abdomen. The MRI detected there was no tumor present. I give all praise and honor to God and thanks to St. Peregrine for this great help, Amen."

**- Geraldine, Chicago**



**Send prayer petitions for yourself, your friends, family and loved ones to our website: [www.servite.org](http://www.servite.org).**

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

*“Dear Saint Peregrine, Thank you for your devotion to Our Lord Jesus Christ and for your intercession in our healing...”*

*Dear St. Peregrine, I came last year sick and this year healed and cancer free. In Jesus Name, I thank you and love you.  
- Blessings always, Cheryl*

*Dear St. Peregrine, Thank you for your intercession in restoring my health to curing me of my cancer in six months of my treatment.  
- Anthony from India.*

*In Thanksgiving for Jeff's healing...*

*Thank you, St. Peregrine for going on my journey with thyroid and breast cancer. I'm well. Thank you...”*

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!

## **“When is St Peregrine’s actual Feast Day...”**

A question we hear frequently at the Shrine is, “When is St. Peregrine’s actual Feast Day?” If you look it up on the internet, you will have reason to be confused. Hopefully the following explanation will help.

St. Peregrine died on May 1, 1345, but this day in the Church calendar is occupied by the memorial of St. Joseph the Worker. Therefore, St. Peregrine’s feast would be celebrated on the closest free day. But, May 2 is occupied by the obligatory memorial of St. Athanasius and the Feast of the Apostles Philip and James falls on May 3. Therefore, in the current Servite liturgical calendar, the feast of St. Peregrine is “fixed” on May 4. That is the day on which Servites celebrate the Feast... except in St. Peregrine’s hometown of Forli, Italy, where in his basilica it is celebrated as a patronal Solemnity on May 1.



**Basilica of St Peregrine, Forli, Italy**

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.