

St Peregrine, friend and healer of the sick and injured



For years now I say a daily prayer to St. Peregrine to intercede to our Lord for healing for friends and Family. He has helped many people in my life, some of which doctors were amazed at the recovery. To this day they are convinced that it was St. Peregrine who interceded on their behalf.

One such person was not Catholic, actually not religious at all. She had stage 4 breast cancer. The doctors told her in her case they had to give her a extremely potent chemo treatments and warned her she would be deathly sick. A few months later she told me, "I think there is something to this St. Peregrine thing of yours". Then she told me about the chemo and despite the treatments she never got sick and further those treatments made her cancer free. She told me "I honestly think this St. Peregrine helped me."

Another person who I used to see on my morning rosary walk told me about her friend Dominic and how he was so sick with cancer he had to be fed by a tube. I told her I would add her to my daily St. Peregrine list. A month later I saw her and she told me, "I am so glad I ran into you today, Dominics feeding tube is out and he is eating regular food again, I am Jewish, Dominic is Catholic but I really think St. Peregrine helped him".

Another women told me she was going in for exploratory surgery and asked for prayers. I told her I would ask St. Peregrine for help. She told me the doctor was 80% sure there would be cancer. He was amazed that the results came back that showed no cancer at all. She is also convinced that it was St. Peregrine that came to her aid.

Below is the daily prayer I use.

Prayer to St. Peregrine for Sick Relatives and Friends

*Saint Peregrine,
as a humble Servant of Mary,
you experienced human weakness and the pain and suffering of sickness.
Knowing that medicine and human knowledge have limits,
we pray for all those involved with the medical profession
that they will be a true source of healing and comfort to all people.*

*Like you, we also turn to God in our suffering.
Just as Jesus reached out and touched you with His healing hand,
we pray that the following sick person(s) will be strengthened in body and spirit
and cured of their illness by Jesus Christ through your intercession:*

(here mention the name(s) of your sick relatives and friends)

*In gratitude we pray for all the people of the world
that they will come to know you, St. Peregrine,
and the love that God has for each of them.
Amen.*

History of St. Peregrine

In 1283 Saint Philip, Prior General of the Friar Servants of Saint Mary, attempted to lead back to obedience to the Apostolic See the citizens of Forlì then under interdict. He was driven out of the city with insults and violence. While this true follower of Christ was praying for his persecutors, one of the crowd, an eighteen year old by the name of Peregrine of the famous Laziosi family, repented and humbly asked Philip for forgiveness. The holy Father received him with love. From that moment the young man began to scorn the vanities of the world and to pray most fervently to the Blessed Virgin, asking that she show him the way of salvation. A few years later, guided by the Virgin, he received the habit of Our Lady in the priory of Siena where he dedicated himself to her service. There, together with Blessed Francis of Siena, he committed himself totally to the Servite life.

After some years he was sent back to Forlì where, because of his love for God and Our Lady, he gave himself to the recitation of psalms, hymns and prayers, and to meditation on the law of God. On fire with love for others, he lavished a wealth of charity on the poor. It is said that he miraculously multiplied grain and wine during a severe shortage in his area.

Above all else, he was outstanding in his love for penance; in tears, he would reflect on the errors which he thought he had made and would frequently confess to the priest. He afflicted his body with various forms of mortification: when tired he would support himself on a choir stall or a rock; when overcome by sleep, he preferred the bare earth to a bed. As a result of this type of life, at the age of sixty he suffered from varicose veins which degenerated into cancer of the right leg.



His condition deteriorated to the point that a physician, Paolo Salazio, who visited him in the priory, decided, with the consent of all the friars, to amputate the leg as soon as possible. The night before the operation Peregrine dragged himself before the crucifix in the chapter room. There he became drowsy and seemed to see Jesus descend from the cross to heal his leg. The following day, the doctor arrived to perform the amputation but could find no sign of the cancer, or even of a wound. He was so shocked that he spread the news of the miracle throughout the town. This only increased the people's veneration of Peregrine. The saint died of a fever about 1345 when he was almost eighty years old. An extraordinary number of people from the

town and countryside honored him in death. Some of the sick who came were healed through his intercession.

His body rests in the Servite church of Forlì where it is greatly honored by the people. Pope Paul V declared him blessed in 1609 and Pope Benedict XIII canonized him in 1726.