

Pope Francis has departed for the Father's House

Vatican Press Office statement. Camerlengo Farrell's announcement from Casa Santa Marta: "At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the Father's house. He dedicated his entire life to the service of the Lord and the Church."

21/04/2025

At 9:45 AM, the Vatican announced the death of Pope Francis from the Casa Santa Marta with these words:

Cardinal Kevin Joseph Farrell sadly announced the death of Pope Francis, saying:

“Dear brothers and sisters, it is with profound sorrow that I must announce the passing of our Holy Father Francis. At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the Father’s house.

His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and His Church. He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with fidelity, courage, and universal love, especially for the poorest and most marginalized.

With immense gratitude for his example as a true disciple of the Lord Jesus, we entrust the soul of Pope Francis to the infinitely merciful love of the Triune God.

Pope Francis's medical condition progressively worsened, and on Tuesday, February 18, his doctors diagnosed bilateral pneumonia.

After 38 days in the hospital, the late Pope returned to his Vatican residence at Casa Santa Marta to continue his recovery.

In 1957, when he was in his early 20s, Jorge Mario Bergoglio underwent surgery in his native Argentina to remove a portion of his lung, which had been affected by a severe respiratory infection.

As he aged, Pope Francis frequently suffered bouts of respiratory illnesses, even cancelling a planned visit to the United Arab Emirates in November 2023 due to influenza and lung inflammation.

In April 2024, the late Pope Francis approved an updated edition of the liturgical book for papal funeral

rites, which will guide the yet-to-be-announced funeral Mass.

The second edition of the *Ordo Exsequiarum Romani Pontificis* introduces several new elements, including how the Pope's remains should be handled after his death.

The confirmation of death takes place in the chapel, not in the room where he died, and his body is immediately placed in the coffin.

According to Archbishop Diego Ravelli, Master of Apostolic Ceremonies, the late Pope Francis had asked that funeral rites be simplified and focused on expressing the Church's faith in the Risen Body of Christ.

"The renewed rite," said Archbishop Ravelli, "seeks to further emphasize that the funeral of the Roman Pontiff is that of a pastor and disciple of

Christ and not that of a powerful person of this world."

pdf | document generated automatically from <https://opusdei.org/en-ng/article/pope-francis-passed-away-on-easter-monday-at-the-age-of-88/>
(23/02/2026)