

February 9, 2016

Dear Monsignor Marine,

I am writing in a follow up with information as to Padre Pio. Previously my friend, Marie Lis gave you a copy of my testimony of healing by Padre Pio. I would like to add the following information regarding further need of healing from Padre Pio for my son, along with the outcome of my endless prayers to Padre Pio.

My son had been ill with severe hepatitis and was waiting for a liver transplant. He was capable of living a fairly normal life, except for severe interruptions of expiration of his illness. He then would bounce back and continue on waiting. During this period of a number of years I, of course was worried and did pray for him. Later toward the last year of his illness he became very very ill with numerous trips to the hospital. He lived in Texas so my contact with him was constant with the telephone. During the last year he called at least 4 or more times a week.

We had so many meaningful conversations and discussions about life, religion and Padre Pio where I would use Padre Pio's saying of don't worry Rusty, I am in constant communication with Padre Pio. I was on a daily basis and sometimes even more.

I would wake up in the night with worry and pray and pray to Padre Pio, sometimes getting up and reading a book I have on Padre Pio plus the bible. I knew in my heart he would heal Rusty as he had me. I never doubted that he would help him receive a liver transplant before it was too late. Two years ago he went into severe failure and passed away in only a few days. I was stunned, as in my heart I knew Padre Pio would save him.

During these last month's one day my son told me, "Mother I am not afraid to die, but I don't want to" I asked him why he was not afraid? He replied, "Mother because of all the things I learned in Sunday school." I was so grateful as I never dreamed that all those years of "getting Rusty and his sister to Sunday School and church" meant so much to him or that he even retained the lessons he learned. (I was not a Catholic at that time but went to a Protestant church)

I am certain you are wondering my reason for writing this letter to you; it is to relate to you another side of prayer to Padre Pio. At first, after my son's death, I felt he, Padre Pio, let me down in not helping my son receive a lifesaving liver transplant. I still pray to Padre Pio for understanding but not with the fervor that had proceeded before Rusty's death.

The point I am making that as time has passed I have come to understand that just because we pray and pray for something, we are not answered in the way we hope. We may never understand why our prayers were not answered, but in my heart I know that there is a reason that my son was taken. Maybe to help his family and friends realize how important life is and take better care of themselves, or other reasons I am not privileged to know. I do know in my heart that Padre Pio heard me and still listens to my prayers along with thanks that he must have intervened with God to give Rusty those last years

and maybe time for him to reflect on life or to have in his heart that he would meet both Jesus and God and his life would have no pain, only joy. I don't know the answer to this but know that because we ask for a certain thing, Padre Pio will help us at times and go in another path for a reason we are not to know in this life.

I hope these thoughts will give you my insight into one person's trauma with faith and hope with Padre Pio and still see the love in his eyes, which are penetrating.

I think it is admirable that you have a shrine to him and are going to celebrate his life with an upcoming festival.

Sincerely,
Gloria Fiorillo
Newtown, PA