

Dear Monsignor/Father,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

Opportunity for Parishes to Host Relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

I am writing to inform you of the opportunity the Saint Pio Foundation has extended to our parishes to host the relics of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina beginning in March 2023.

The first-class relics available include a crust of Saint Pio's wounds, cotton gauze stained with Saint Pio's blood, and a lock of Saint Pio's hair.

The link here <u>https://www.saintpiofoundation.org/relics-tour-media</u> will provide more information and includes photos of the relics

Each parish willing to host the visit of the relics of Padre Pio would be responsible for the following as requested by the Saint Pio Foundation:

- Guarantee the safekeeping of the relics during the veneration and while the relics are in its care.
- Make available petitions and prayer intention envelopes to those visiting the relics of Padre Pio throughout the duration of the veneration. The envelopes will be provided by the SaintPio Foundation and any collected free-will donations shall be the property of the SaintPio Foundation.
- Celebrate a Mass in honor of Saint Pio, which includes a special or second collection in support of Foundation's tour of the relics. If the parish is not able to conduct a special or second collection, the Foundation would be most appreciative of the hosting parish providing an additional free-will donation.

- Should the parish wish to make devotional items available for purchase by the faithful visiting the relics of Padre Pio, the devotional items should be exclusively those provided by the Saint Pio Foundation at a discounted rate.
- The Saint Pio Foundation is the only American entity authorized by Mr. Elia Stelluto, Padre Pio's photographer, to publicly offer personalized items and authentic photographs of Padre Pio. A detailed list of the available devotional items and their prices can be provided upon request.

The Saint Pio Foundation is also able to offer the following additional services that can enhance your parish's veneration experience.

- An opportunity to purchase nine (9) photographs of Padre Pio (high resolution and printed on hardboard, measuring 40 x 60 inch each) that may be used to create a photo gallery focused on the life of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina. This opportunity is made possible thanks to a recent partnership between the Saint Pio Foundation and Mr. Elia Stelluto, the personal photographer of Padre Pio. Low-resolution images of photos selected for the photo gallery are available for your review at www.saintpiofoundation.org/padre-pio-photo-gallery.
- A speaking engagement by one of the Saint Pio Foundation's keynote speakers, who have deep knowledge about the life of Padre Pio. This opportunity is separate from the hosting of the relics of Padre Pio, and it shall be offered only when the veneration of the relics of Padre Pio has been confirmed. Speaking at conferences around the world, they have made it their mission to spread his teachings and legacy, and we are delighted to present these speakers to those who wish to learn more about Saint Pio.

There are no additional requirements for a parish to host the collection of relics. All the logistics costs (custodian of the relics travelling with the relics, hotels, meals, etc.) will be covered by the Saint Pio Foundation. Donations from a hosting parish to help the Saint Pio Foundation defray its costs would, however, be greatly appreciated.

The Saint Pio Foundation will be able to provide any additional information or tutorial videos that would facilitate organizing the hosting of the veneration of the relics of Padre Pio.

Should you be interested in hosting and desire to reserve a date to receive the relics of Padre Pio for your parish, please send your request via email to the Saint Pio Foundation at <u>relicstour@saintpiofoundation.org</u>. Please indicate a total of three different dates or time frames you wish to receive the relics of Padre Pio. Due to great demand, the relics might not be available during Padre Pio Week (September 18-24).

For additional information about the Saint Pio Foundation, please visit <u>https://saintpiofoundation.org/</u>

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan websites, adw.org and adw.org/es, are updated regularly with current information for you to share with your community. Please see <u>adw.org/coronavirus</u> for information related to Covid-19. Daily news and information about our parishes, schools, and ministries are also available at <u>cathstan.org</u> and <u>elpreg.org</u> for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office, please know that you can email me at <u>FarrellT@adw.org</u> or call my office line at 301-853-4507 or my cell at 202-531-4550.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am Sincerely in Christ, **Terence J. Farrell** *Chancellor and Executive Secretary of the Curia*



The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington