

FIRST PONTIFF FROM LATIN AMERICA IN HISTORY

Pope Francis dies

The death occurred at 7:30 a.m., after the pontiff suffered a respiratory crisis

VATICAN MEDIA



The news comes a few hours after the pontiff participated, this Sunday, April 20th, in the 'Urbi et Orbi' blessing.

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Pope Francis died this Monday at the age of 88, according to the Holy See officially reported early in the morning. The death occurred at 7:30 a.m. and, as confirmed by the Vatican, the pontiff suffered a stroke. Although this has been identified as the main cause of death, the Holy See has indicated that the Pope also suffered other subsequent complications, possibly derived from the hospitalization. It has also been indicated that he di-

ed at his usual residence, the Casa Santa Marta, located in Vatican City.

His death has been confirmed by the spokesman for the Holy See: «With great sadness we announce that the Holy Father Francis has died today in Vatican City. He has been a faithful servant and committed to the faith, peace and those most in need,» he declared. It should also be noted that the event is a prominent event in the liturgical calendar, since this April 21st coincides with Easter Monday, a significant holiday for the Ch-

ristian world.

The news of his death comes less than 24 hours after Francis publicly participated in the traditional 'Urbi et Orbi' blessing, celebrated on Sunday, April 20th in St. Peter's Square. During the ceremony, the pontiff delivered his Easter message to thousands of faithful, and later walked around the square with the pope mobile to greet those present, in what would be his last public appearance.

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Francis was elected Pope on March 13th, 2013, becoming the first pontiff from Latin America and the first Jesuit to hold the position. In this way, Francis has been at the head of the Catholic Church for more than a decade; more specifically, for more than 12 years.

The Pope's health had already generated concern in recent months. The Holy Father had suffered several episodes of pneumonia and respiratory complications that required hospitalization. His last admission took place on February 16th at the Gemelli Hospital in Rome, from where he was voluntarily discharged on March 23rd. Despite the medical discharge, his condition remained fragile. In this context, the Holy See has organized a rosary prayer in St. Peter's Square, in Vatican City, during the afternoon of Easter Monday, which has brought together thousands of faithful in a sign of mourning. ●

Pope Francis' last appearance was this Sunday in the traditional 'Urbi et Orbi' blessing

INSTITUTIONAL REACTIONS TO THE DEATH OF POPE FRANCIS

Vives: «Francis was a living sign of love for the poor and the excluded»

The co-prince highlights his commitment to renewing the Church

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Following the announcement of the death of Pope Francis, this morning around 07:30, numerous authorities and public figures from around the world have expressed their condolences. The Principality has already made public the first signs of mourning, highlighting the spiritual and human legacy of the pontiff, who has been at the head of the Catholic Church since 2013. The episcopal co-prince of Andorra and archbishop of Urgell, Joan-Enric Vives, has expressed his deep grief over the death of Pope Francis, whom he described as “a father and shepherd of the universal Church”. In an emotional and grateful statement, Vives highlighted the spiritual and pastoral legacy of the late pontiff, underlining his dedication, generosity and commitment to an open, close and committed Church to the most vulnerable.



Meeting between the Episcopal Co-Prince of Andorra and Archbishop of Urgell, Joan-Enric Vives, and Pope Francis.

“His pontificate has been very rich, courageous, dedicated and generous, as he was. It has been a constant message of fratern-

Macron also offers his condolences, reflecting on his defense of peace and equality

►► The French Co-Prince and President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, has also wanted to join in mourning the loss of the pontiff. In a message published by X, he wrote: «Pope Francis has incessantly defended peace, he has excelled in hospitality and fraternity. His disappearance is a great sorrow.”

nity, of understanding between peoples and cultures, and of bringing those most distant together,” said Vives, recalling that Pope Francis “did not want to resign despite the voices that pointed out his illness, and found formulas to continue being present and close to the people, as he had always wished.”

Vives highlighted the universal character of the pontiff, who “wanted to be a shepherd for all and embrace all nations and cultures,” and recalled that “he knew to be a man from the periphery” and that he acted so that all peoples felt welcomed and represented. “He had a very broad



Joan-Enric Vives

EPISCOPAL CO-PRINCE

“He has had a very rich and dedicated pontificate. His constant message of fraternity has supported the poor”

sense of poverty: for children, for men and women whose dignity had not been recognized, especially valuing significant gestures such as hugging a man with tumors, approaching groups that are often marginalized, such as LGBTI people, immigrants, prisoners, women and children.

In the internal sphere of the Church, he highlighted Francis’ work in the fight against abuses and corruption: «He has continued intuitions of previous popes, especially Benedict XVI, to wash the Church of its filth, with more legislation and more transparency.” In this sense, he has highlighted the effort to eradicate the abuse of minors, promote respect for children and protect the weakest. He has also mentioned his attention to the most disadvantaged, such as the homeless in Rome. ●

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