



Ordine Dei Chierici Regolari Minori

Preposito Generale
Via della Tribuna di Campitelli 6/A, 00186 Roma
Tel +1 201-655-8020
frgencrm@gmail.com

February 3, 2022

Dear Brothers,

This morning, I received the sad and shocking news of the assassination of our own Father Richard Masivi, CRM. We condemn this murderous act and we pray that due justice will be served soon. We, as a religious family, mourn during this time, united along with the religious community and the parish of St. Michael the Archangel where he was assigned.

As you well know, on February 2nd, he was returning from a celebration which focused on the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life. He, who so generously gave his life to God through the profession of the evangelical councils in our religious family, had his life taken from him in a violent and despicable manner. He experienced the shadow of the cross and the shedding of his blood will be, in the words of Church Father Tertullian, the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church. Reflecting on this, Cardinal Timothy Dolan noted that “Sharing faith is ‘planting seeds,’ because Christianity is powerful. Seeds start small and grow into new lives and purposes”

Father Richard’s death is a seed that has been planted in the hearts of those who loved him, especially his family, his religious community and his parishioners. Though he was ordained only in 2019, his religious life and priesthood were a model to many. He desired to reflect the integrity of what it means to be a good “Caracciolino.”

I cannot help but to think of the words of Our Lord from the Gospel of Saint John, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me” (John 14:1). The Lord encourages us, in this difficult situation, not to lose hope but to keep ourselves focused on him. John 11:25-26, states “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.” Father Richard’s death is not the final story but rather the beginning of new life. The loss that we experience is a witness to and recognition of the good that he did and the love that he showed to us when he was among us.

The Book of Revelation 14:13 states, “I heard a voice from heaven say, ‘Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” said the Spirit, “let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them.” Father Richard died a good religious and a good priest. His life will be remembered not only by the African Delegation, but by our entire religious family world-wide. In his death, he died in the Lord. Let us pray for him, for his family, and for our own religious family. May we be full of gratitude to God for our brother, for his friendship as a religious and for his work of ministry which had touched so many.

Ad Maiorem Resurgentis Gloriam



Ordine Dei Chierici Regolari Minori

Preposito Generale

Fr. Richard thank you for your life testament, thank you for your gift of religious and priestly life. I also extend my deepest condolences to the family of Fr. Richard, relatives and friends. We are all mourning but we mourn with faith, hope and love.

May Fr. Richard's Soul rest in God's eternal peace!

AMRG!

Fr. Teodoro Kalaw, CRM
Superior General

