

*"The Lord is Kind and Merciful..." Ps. 103*

**The Lord is kind and merciful.** Truly, He hears our prayers.

January 20, 2026, was the day when I was gifted with a *"second life."* Fr. Francis Garbo, my kidney donor, my hero and now my brother, has shown us a tremendous act of sacrifice. Through him and those others who have come forward to get tested to be my potential living donor, God has manifested His desire to respond to our prayers.

***Blessed be God!***

Four days from the successful transplant procedure at Sutter Health CPMC in San Francisco, I was discharged with plenty of medicines and instructions as a Post-Discharge Transplant Kidney Patient. I am being closely monitored by my Transplant Doctors with my daily vitals check; routine lab works and virtual visits for the next three months. I noticed, my energy increases each day. Lab results are promising. I just need to stay healthy and keep myself away from contracting any bacteria or infection. I'm on a very strict diet and in full isolation for the next three months.

I thank Archbishop Cordileone for his prayers and for the appeal for prayers from the priests and deacons of the Archdiocese on behalf of Fr. Francis and myself.

Thank you for the prayers that were offered on our behalf. They've kept us more courageous and trustful in God's love and mercy.

Likewise, please know of my heartfelt prayers for you and your parishioners.

**Fr. Ray**

# Thank You

Greater love has no one than this,  
than to lay down one's life for his friends.  
-John 15:13



*All is Grace. Everything we have has been given to us. We can claim nothing. (St. Paul)*

We give thanks to God for His constant presence, for the hands that heal, and for two priests whose brotherhood reflects Christ's love so beautifully. We thank God for the successful kidney transplant operation on January 20, 2026. We were being taken care of by the doctors, nurses, and staff at the Van Ness Sutter Hospital.

We are now both in our respective parishes and have begun our journey of healing and recovery. Last Friday, I slowly did some walking exercise, completed office administrative tasks, checking the churches and parish facilities in the area. I already celebrated the weekend masses and greeted the parishioners in the church and auditorium. One parishioner jokingly told me that I am really healing well for I am already checking around and giving orders, here and there...Haha.

Thank you to Archbishop Cordileone, the clergy and countless faithful for your prayers and support. I am grateful to my parishioners and friends who provided me with 'meal train', my daily meals and care.

May the Lord who cannot be outdone in generosity shower you with his choicest blessings.

*"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; My Spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"* (Luke 1:46...)

**Fr. Francis**