



**Upon the death of Brother Anthony Freeman, LC, the Legionaries of Christ makes the following statements with the chronology of the events and the result of the medical examination:**

1. Brother Anthony Freeman, LC, died on the night of April 1-2, at the age of 29, at the International College of Legionaries of Christ in Rome. The death was due to a dilated cardiomyopathy according to the result of the medical examination communicated to the congregation today, Friday, April 6.
2. On April 1, Brother Anthony, after finishing spiritual exercises, served the Easter Sunday Mass presided by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, carrying the processional cross. That afternoon he met with some people and in the evening, he dined with his community.
3. On April 2, at 11:15 a.m., about 40 brothers from his community, accompanied by the rector, went on a trip in several vehicles to a place near Sorrento to have a few days of rest and relaxation.
  - a. Brother Anthony had agreed with the trip organizer that he would travel on April 2 to Sorrento by train to visit some people before arriving to the place where the community would stay, and then he would call to let the organizer know if he needed to be picked up or would catch up with the rest of the group on his own.
  - b. On April 2, at departure, the brothers noted his absence and the ones in charge assumed he had left by train early as planned. During the trip, one of his companions tried to contact him by phone but got no reply. When they stopped to eat, he told the rector that it was strange that Brother Anthony did not respond, and the rector told him to send a message to the superior in Rome to ask if they had any news of him.



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- c. Between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m., still on April 2, they went to look for him in his room and found him dead. They proceeded to call the competent authorities so that they could initiate the pertinent investigation that would clarify the situation.
4. As soon as the news of his death was known, Brother Anthony's superiors contacted his relatives to inform them of what had happened and to encourage them during this painful time. Some Legionaries visited Brother Anthony's parents at home to accompany them.
5. We are deeply sorry for his absence. We wish to take this opportunity to thank God for the gift of Brother Anthony's life, his example and joy, as well as the countless messages we have received. His life was a gift to us and we ask Our Lord to grant him eternal rest and to console his family and friends with Easter hope.
6. For more information about the funeral, journalists can contact Father Aaron Smith, LC ([asmith@legionaries.org](mailto:asmith@legionaries.org), +39 328 987 2615).
7. Brother Anthony Freeman, LC, was born in Houma, Louisiana, USA in 1988. He entered the Novitiate of the Legionaries of Christ in Cheshire, Connecticut, in 2005. He studied classical humanities in Spain and obtained a licentiate in philosophy, with a specialization in philosophical anthropology, at the Regina Apostolorum Pontifical Athenaeum in Rome. He made his perpetual vows on August 10, 2013. He was studying his third year of theology and his diaconal ordination was to take place on July 7 in Houston. He wrote [\*One Step Closer: 40 Doses of Motivation, Hacks, and Experiences to Share with Millennial Catholics\*](#). [Rome Reports](#) recently published [a story about the book](#) including an interview with Brother Anthony. Brother Anthony had a [YouTube channel](#)

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in which he regularly shared personal reflections on his life and on faith; an [Instagram account](#), with more than 12,000 followers; a Facebook page called *Catholic Life Coach*; and [a website](#) where he shared religious reflections and personal experiences.

8. [Click here](#) for a gallery of photographs of Brother Anthony Freeman, LC.