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Pope Leo XIV's surgery reveals lung cancer

By OSV NEWS

ROME (OSV News) — Pope Leo XIV has been diagnosed with lung cancer following a 90-minute surgery on Oct. 13 during which surgeons removed the lower lobe of the pope's right lung. Dr. Stefano Margaritora, chief thoracic surgeon at Rome's Gemelli Hospital, led a medical team in the video-assisted technique operation.

In a joint statement with Dr. Luigi Carbone released just before 10 p.m. Rome time Oct. 13, the doctors said that the "examination confirmed the diagnosis of lung adenocarcinoma, as suspected by the preoperative tests."

"The Holy Father was in the operating room for about three hours; the surgery itself lasted approximately 90 minutes," the statement said. "After the surgery, the pope woke up as expected and, following a brief period of observation, returned to his room on the 10th floor."

The pope underwent the surgery in the late afternoon Oct. 13 after being admitted to Rome's Gemelli Hospital at 1 p.m. Rome time. Pope Leo was expected to remain for one week of recovery in Rome's Gemelli Hospital, located atop Monte Mario, the highest hill in Rome. The Vatican has canceled all of the pope's scheduled audiences through Oct. 20.

Special to The Message

The third annual Race for Vocations was a huge success, according to organizers, and they credit many people and organizations for "playing a huge part in helping us Glorify God and in spreading the word about vocations."

In an email to the Race for Vocations Team following the Oct. 3 race, Anna Bragin wrote: "What an incredible weekend! Thank you to everyone who ran, walked, volunteered, prayed, donated and supported our team. Together, we brought mind, body and spirit together to celebrate and support holy vocations in our community."

The Race for Vocations challenges participants to prepare both spiritually and physically as they train. Throughout their preparation, participants pray intentionally for vocations, share

Race for Vocations celebrates 'incredible' third year



Submitted photo

A portion of the Race for Vocations team, about a third of participants, pose for a photo.

prayer intentions with one another and unite their physical sacrifices for the flourishing of their own vocations and those of others.

In its third year, Bragin reported there were well over 100 participants during training, and 55 participant prayer intentions were carried through every mile and offered up during race preparation.

"Whether this was your first race or one of many, we are proud of your accomplishment and thankful for your participation in the Race for Vocations," she said. "Well done!"

An event of this scale takes a team, and Bragin said they are deeply grateful to the individuals and groups who made the Oct. 3

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Pope Leo declares death penalty 'inadmissible' attack on dignity of human person

CNS photo/Vatican Media

Pope Leo XIV offers his blessing during Mass with students from the pontifical universities in Rome in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 8. On World Day Against the Death Penalty Oct. 10, the pope said that justice can be upheld and the common good of humanity can be safeguarded without relying on capital punishment.



By Vatican News, OSV News

VATICAN CITY (OSV News) — Pope Leo XIV has posted on his official X account that the Catholic Church holds the death penalty to be "inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person."

In a post published Oct. 10, on the World Day Against the Death Penalty, the pope noted that justice can be upheld and the common good of humanity can be safeguarded without relying on capital punishment.

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Father Boeglin named 2026 Hoosier German-American

Special to The Message

On Oct. 3, at the Athenaeum in Indianapolis, the Indiana German Heritage Society recognized Father John Boeglin as the Hoosier German-American for 2026. Father Boeglin is a senior priest for the Diocese of Evansville, and he serves as Vicar for senior priests. He currently resides in Haubstadt, Indiana.

The Indiana German Heritage Society recognized that Father Boeglin has been a tireless ambassador, more than four decades, for the Indiana German-American heritage, inspiring others to value and preserve the traditions that have shaped so many Hoosier communities.

Father Boeglin is still extremely active in preserving and promoting the German culture in Southwestern Indiana. Even in his senior priest status, he continues to do so through German Masses and presentations.

According to a biography of Father Boeglin on the Indiana German Heritage Society website, Father Boeglin remains fluent in German and has intentionally continued using and promoting the language



Submitted photo by Father John Boeglin

The Indiana German Heritage Society recently recognized Father John Boeglin as the Hoosier German-American for 2026.

throughout his retirement, recognizing that language is one of the most impor-

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Editor's note: There will be a brief break in our Permanent Diaconate features. They will resume in late October, so please check back.