



Spring 2025

CYPRESS SPRINGS MERCEDARIAN PRAYER CENTER

“OPENING THE DOOR TO CHRIST”

-Sister Dulce Maria



Mercedarian Sisters of the
Blessed Sacrament

17560 GEORGE O'NEAL ROAD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70817 – 225-752-8480 – WWW.CYPRESSSPRINGSPRAYERCENTER.ORG
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“I AM THEIR LORD”

“ARE YOU STILL WONDERING IF I AM THERE?”

A Prayer Partner once asked Sister Dulce, “Why did Papa give you this healing gift?” Sister answered, “The healing is just an attention getter. Papa wants us to know how present He is in our lives so we can turn to Him.” Over the years we at the Ministry have learned to pay attention to the times that Papa will have a message for us through Sister Dulce. We know to grab our phones and start recording Sister’s message from Papa when she starts talking. One such time was on April 12, 2023, during lunch at the Ministry, Sister Dulce shared a message from Papa for us. He told us of His death on the cross and of His suffering:

“I did the suffering, I did the building them (My children) back into the Grace of God, into My Grace. There’s nothing in the world I wouldn’t do for them. There is nothing I would deny them, except all those things which will separate them from Me. All those things which separate their minds and their souls. All those things that will separate them from happiness and from correct living in their lives so they can be happy with Me in heaven when it is their time. There is nothing to fear, there is nothing to worry about. I AM THE POWER, I AM THEIR LORD, but I am also their Father and their Mother. I love them with strength, with compassion, with acceptance because they are Mine. I brought them into being with the help of their parents. They belong to no one but Me, not even to their marriage vows to each other. There is no way that I will allow you to separate from Me unless you make a choice, a very sad choice. Walk away from Me and you have walked away from life. You will have no joy. Even in a million dollars you will find no joy. Even in terrible, passionate affairs you

will find no joy. Even in an illicit love, you will have no joy. Love comes from Me. Love is holy, love is pure, love is self-giving, it is generous, it is kind, it is forgiving. It is putting yourself last and putting the world, your children, and your friends and even your enemies first. Do not be afraid. Have you not seen Me die for you on a cross? I did not die for drama. I died because I love you, and you don’t even believe that, do you? Have you gone that far away from Me? Are you still wondering if I am there? It is a sorrow. I send you My Apostles, I send you My Priests, I send you My Prophets, I send you My Saints and you still don’t believe! So be it. Make your choice. Your time is limited. The choice you make is permanent. Unless you choose to obey Me and do My will, you will not have a part in Me nor I in you, because I created you for Me. Not for sin or death. Don’t worry about dying. Your body is going to die, but you are not. You’re going to live forever. Pick where you want to live while you are still alive. That is all I have to say for now. Receive My love and blessing.”

*Private Revelation
April 12, 2023*



Sister Dulce Maria



DANNY'S CROSS WAS HEAVY

By Danny and Ann Farris

"Sometimes it seems our cross is unbearable, and we panic, thinking we will never be able to complete the course....God will never allow us to be tested beyond our ability to endure. He will always make a way. As Jesus fell under the agonizing weight of the cross, His Father sent Simon of Cyrene to help Him carry it." – Fourth Sorrowful Mystery, Jesus Carries the Cross

Danny was diagnosed with Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Maxillary Sinus in January, 2001. At the time of his diagnosis, Sister Dulce was living in San Antonio, TX. We had recently heard of Sister through Danny's cousin, Fr. Jeff Bayhi. Fr. Jeff's brother, George met with Sister Dulce in Fall of 2000 with his mother, Margaret Bayhi who was suffering from a disease of the spine. Danny's parents, Rita and Tinker Farris, were also with George. After this meeting the process to invite Sister Dulce to come to Baton Rouge began.

We met with a radiation oncologist at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center in Baton Rouge, LA for scans. The radiation oncologist was very positive and felt this type of cancer had a 95% cure rate. We were then referred to a Head and Neck Surgeon at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. By the grace of God, the appointment with MD Anderson was for the following Monday morning at 8AM! A miracle, as most initial appointments take several weeks to get scheduled! The surgeon at MD Anderson explained that the cancer was in the maxillary sinus and that he would have to remove Danny's upper left palate and teeth on that side and any teeth that may pose a problem in the next 5 years. And depending on how the tumor was growing, his left eye may also need to be removed. After surgery he was to have radiation.

We spoke with Sister Dulce by telephone – she said she would be praying for Danny and to trust in God. The surgery went well; margins were clear and Danny did not lose his eye. He was then fitted for his prosthesis. Doctors agreed that radiation treatment was necessary and that could be done in Baton Rouge.

In late April 2001, we met with Sister Dulce for the first time in Baton Rouge, LA. Sister prayed with us and told us that Danny would be OK but that it would take

quite some time. We noticed right away an incredible sense of joy and peace with Sister, an immediate sense that whatever may happen, God was with us. By May 2001, Danny had finished radiation, and scans reported the cancer was in remission. Praise God! We were so relieved and grateful for God's mercy and blessings.

In September 2001, Danny began experiencing severe pain again on the left side of his upper jaw, with severe headaches and nausea. Scans showed that the cancer had returned on the facial nerve on the left side of his face in the same area as the initial cancer. The survival rate had dropped from 95% to 5%. Treatment began in October 2001—6 weeks of chemo, then radiation and chemo for another 6 weeks. Doctors were giving Danny the strongest chemo available. Treatment was absolutely brutal. He was in constant, severe pain, had lost over 50 pounds and could barely eat enough to survive.

At one of our meetings with Sister, Papa told us, "Danny, it is not your time to go home." And "Ann, Trust Sister." We were so thankful for Sister's prayers, constant encouragement and sufferings she offered for us. There were so many miracles throughout this time and we knew it was due to Sister's intercessory prayers to Papa. There was an outpouring of help from family and friends who prayed for us, cooked meals for us, financially supported us and helped take care of our daughter, Elise, who was 3.5 years old. Recovery took time but with Sister's Prayers, Danny was able to open his mouth enough to eat some green beans. It had been over 10 months since he was able to eat food.

Danny was weak physically but remained very strong mentally. We continued to meet with Sister Dulce a few times each month for prayers and encouragement. With each setback, we grew more in our faith, grateful for Sister's prayers and that Danny was still with us.

In April 2003, Danny had a seizure at home. Reports from scans showed the cancer had spread to his brain. **Sister Dulce prayed over Danny, by phone, and Papa told her that Danny did not have cancer.** Sister told Danny to follow the doctor's recommendation. While Danny was waiting to have the scans, **Danny felt Our Blessed Mother tell him that it was not cancer.** We continued with the treatment the doctors recommended—another 3 month round of chemo. Danny developed a blood clot, but thankfully, with Sister's prayers and medication the blood clot dissolved.

After 3 months of chemo, scans showed there was no change. His doctors at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center agreed the cancer was "stable". When we met with his doctors at MD Anderson, they reviewed the scans and determined that **Danny did NOT have cancer,** just as Papa had told Sister a few months prior. The doctors actually said **"We really don't**

know what we are looking at on a PET scan of the brain but this is not cancer". He had osteoradionecrosis from the radiation over the last 2 years.

MD Anderson said there was nothing more they could do. Surgery was not recommended to remove the osteoradionecrosis in the temporal lobe of the brain because of the 2 maximum doses of radiation in the same area. The doctors said the skull may collapse if they tried to remove the mass.

Danny remained on anti-seizure and steroid meds but continued to have severe pain, nausea, and dizziness and could barely eat or drink. We met with Sister Dulce many times over the next 6 months for prayers and encouragement.

February 2004

Danny had a severe seizure at his brother's home and was transported to ER at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center. The ER Doctor told me Danny had had an aneurysm. Danny was in and out of consciousness and was moved to a private room in the ER.

A neurosurgeon met with me and said Danny's condition was critical. I explained Danny's history of cancer from the past three years. The Dr. replied, "Well, your husband is dying. There is nothing more we can do but keep him comfortable." **Remembering what Papa had told me through Sister Dulce 2.5 years prior that it was not Danny's time to go home**, I told the neurosurgeon that the MD Anderson doctors said the PET scan of the brain was inconclusive and they had no idea what they were looking at and I doubted he did either. God would decide when it was time for Danny to go home.

The neurosurgeon recommended medications to keep Danny comfortable as putting him on life support was extremely risky. He said that intubation through Danny's mouth was not an option because his mouth could not be opened wide enough for the tube. Intubation through a tracheotomy was also not an option because his blood was too thin. The only option left was nasal intubation which has a high risk of aspiration in patients with head and neck cancer. I told him I understood the risks, but still wanted Danny to be put on life support.

When the doctor walked out, I called Sister immediately and explained Danny's condition. She told me to put the phone to Danny's ear. Then she said in a very loud voice "Danny, wake up! Danny, wake up!" Her intercessory prayers to Papa were beautiful. I could feel Papa's presence with us in the room. Her voice reminded me of how Jesus spoke to Lazarus after he died. After praying, Sister told me to get Fr. Jeff Bayhi and Danny's parents to the hospital right away and to keep in touch with her. His brothers contacted Fr. Jeff and brought their parents to the hospital. While sitting next to Danny holding his hand and praying for

guidance, and thinking he had suffered so very much, I spoke to him in his coma like state, "Do you want to stay here with us, do you want me to keep fighting for you?" He squeezed my hand so tightly as if to scream "Yes!" That squeeze of his hand gave me the courage and strength to keep going, keep fighting. Fr. Jeff arrived and gave Danny the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Danny's parents arrived and through tears showed their love and full support for their son.

Danny was moved to another room for the intubation procedure. Even though Danny was in and out of consciousness he still had unbelievable strength, so much so that they had to restrain him. We sat outside the room in the hospital hallway and could hear his screams from the pain of the intubation. Then there was a long quiet. The doctor came out and said he was able to successfully intubate Danny through the nose and no aspiration had occurred. Praise God!

Danny was transported to the ICU where he remained in critical condition. Sister Dulce called me a few hours later to check on Danny. She told me she could see Danny's soul separating from his body last night and that the Angel of Death was there. I listened in awe as Sister told me how she appeared before Papa, asking Him to please allow Danny to stay with us, that he was so young and had a wife and young daughter to raise. She said Papa told her, "OK, I will give him 20 years." Sister asked Papa again for more time, that 20 years wasn't long enough, he needed more time. Papa then smiled and told her, "OK, I'll give him 40 years." My heart was so full of thanksgiving for all that God allowed through Sister's prayers and sacrifices. (to be continued)

(Danny Farris was one of the first cancer patients Sister Dulce worked with when she came to Baton Rouge in 2001. Theirs is a story of tremendous Faith and Trust in God.

Danny's story is not over. There is more, but we did not want to change one word in it so we decided to tell it in two editions of our newsletter. You won't want to miss the rest of Danny and Ann Farris' story. Coming in our Fall 2025 Newsletter.)





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MERCEDARIAN PRAYER CENTER

"OPENING THE DOOR TO CHRIST"
-Sister Dulce Maria



Mercedarian Sisters are
Blessed Sacrament

Saint Joseph ALTAR

Sunday, March 16, 2025
12 pm - 4 pm

*Sister Dulce's Altar is
dedicated to the
sick and dying*



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225.752.8480
www.cypressspringsprayercenter.org
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TRANSFORMATION

ENCOUNTER
SCHOOL OF MINISTRY
BATON ROUGE CAMPUS

"When we encounter the glory of the Lord
we are transformed into his likeness
from one glory to glory." (2 COR 3)

MAR 20

WITH JEFF CAVINS



Jeff Cavins is recognized both nationally and internationally as an exciting public speaker and bible teacher. He communicates the Catholic faith at a level that everyone can understand, taking theological truths and expressing them in a practical way. He is the creator and founder of the popular Great Adventure Bible Study series published by Ascension Press. Jeff and his wife Emily host annual pilgrimages to the Holy Land and have guided thousands of pilgrims in the steps of Jesus, Mary and the disciples. Jeff received an MA in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville. He is the Director Emeritus and teacher at the Catechetical Institute at the St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Jeff and his wife Emily of forty years are the proud parents of three daughters, Carly, Jacqueline and Antonia and grandparents of three, Dominic, Francesco and Fiona.



Free & open to the public. Scan above to register!
encounterschool.org/batonrouge



NIGHT

PART 1
Seeking God's
Glory in Worship
(6:00 pm)



PART 2
Renewal of the
Mind Teaching
(6:30 pm)



PART 3
Adoration & Prayer
Ministry
(7:15 pm)



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Prayer Center
17560 George O'Neal Road Baton
Rouge, Louisiana 70817



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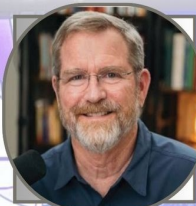
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SISTER DULCE MARIA AND

THE MERCEDARIAN SISTERS OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
ARE PROUD TO HOST



Jeff Cavins

Jeff is a Catholic author, speaker and Bible teacher. His credits include "The Great Adventure Study Bible" program, "The Bible in a Year" & "The Catechism in a Year" podcasts in collaboration with Father Mike Schmitz and becoming an integral part of the exciting new Hallow App.

Retreat Details

- Saturday, March 22, 2025
- Tickets \$70
- Call for more info: 225-752-8480
- Register at: <https://jeffcavinsretreat.eventbrite.com>
- Registration 7:00am - 7:45am
- Mass 8:00am Chapel of Divine Providence
- Seminar 9:00am - 3:00pm

Ticket price includes continental breakfast and lunch

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Passion of Christ

*With Reflections by Sister Dulce Maria
Inspired by Our Blessed Mother, Mary*



This ninth annual presentation of the Passion of Christ features individuals who will identify with a specific station through real-life challenges and sufferings.



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All Proceeds Benefit:
Cypress Springs Mercedarian Prayer Center
The Sister Dulce Foundation, Inc.
a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

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www.cypressspringsprayercenter.org



April 4, 2025

5:00pm-8:00pm

\$15 Donation
Includes event & food provided
by Tony's Seafood, Cajun
Catering, & Chef John Folse

Dinner: 5:00pm to 6:45pm
Program begins at 7:00pm
outdoor event (Weather Permitting)

Tickets:
<https://Passionofchrist.eventbrite.com>
or Call: 225.752.8480

CYPRESS SPRINGS MERCEDARIAN PRAYER CENTER

"Opening the Door to Christ." —Sister Dulce Maria



Shepherd's Staff

GIFT SHOP



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On Canvas



Madonna and
Child



Olive Branch Ring



Sacred Lamb
Stuffy



Ceramic Rosary

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April 4, 2025
5:00pm-8:00pm

MOTHER OF GOD

A	N	G	E	L	U	S	B	L	C	E	P	A	G	A
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ADORATION

AGAPE

ANGELUS

BETHESDA

CONSECRATE

CUTLERITE

DOCETISM

EPISTLE

EVANGEL

HELVIDIAN

HUMANITARIAN

JEEBUS

JESSE

LOYOLA

OSEPH

SOCINIANISM

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, March 16, 2025, 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
St. Joseph Altar

Thursday, March 20, 2025, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
MSBS Night of Adoration, Special Guest Jeff Cavins
Encounter School of Ministry Transformation Night

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Jeff Cavins Retreat

Friday, April 4, 2025, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
The Passion of Christ

Sunday, October 12, 2025, 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
17th Annual Dining by Design—Sister Dulce's Birthday

SHEPHERD'S STAFF GIFT SHOP OFF-SITE EVENTS

April 11-12, 2025-Spring Market at the Mill, New Roads, LA

September 25-27, 2025-Tinsel & Treasures Holiday Market, Lafayette, LA

November 9-10, 2025-Merry Market Christmas Market, Gonzales, LA

November (TBA) 2025-Holiday Market at the Mill, New Roads, LA

For more information call 225-752-8480 or email ministry@csmpc.org