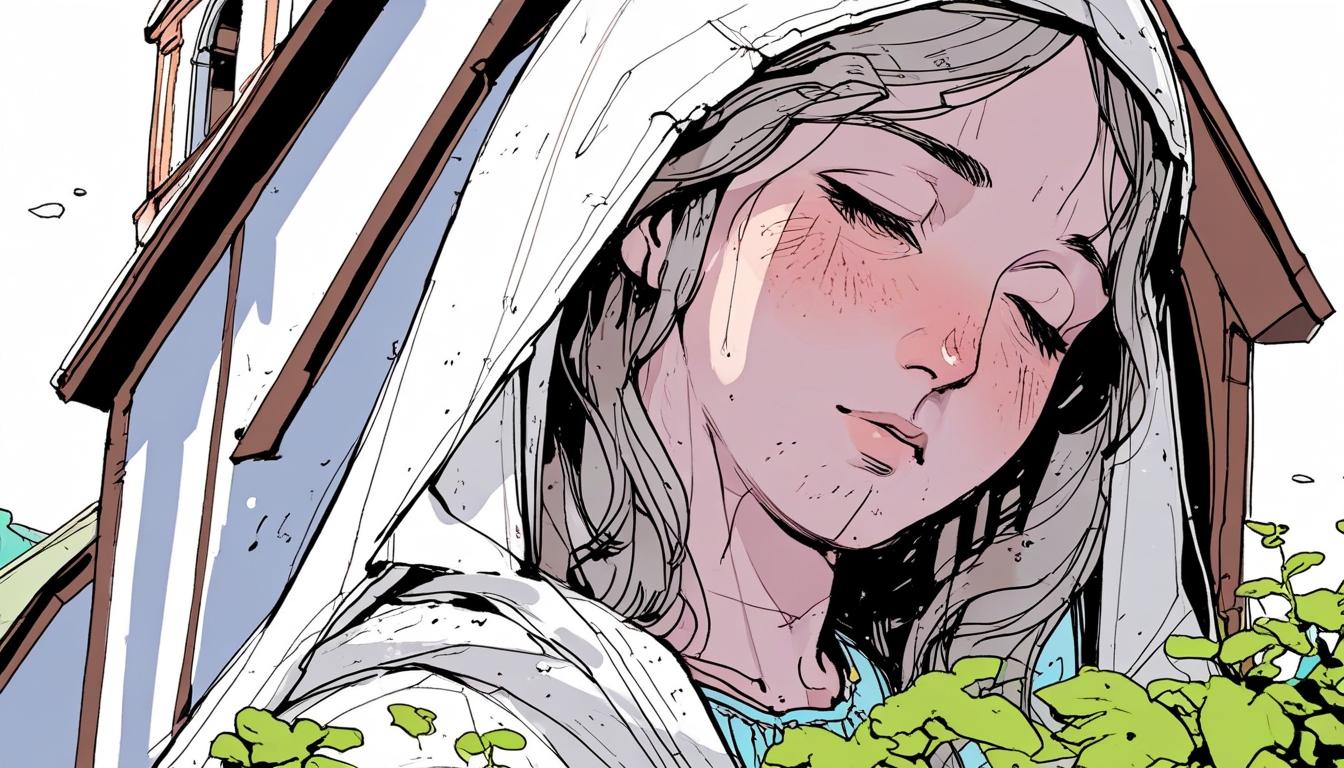
# Virgin Mary statue reportedly sheds tears days before Pope Francis’ death



A statue of the Virgin Mary was reportedly seen shedding tears just days before the death of Pope Francis, sparking widespread speculation and attention. The incident took place in Aguas Claras, a town in the Norte de Santander department of Colombia, during Good Friday Easter celebrations.

The phenomenon was witnessed during the traditional Sermon of the Seven Words at St John Eudes Parish. This sermon refers to the seven sayings of Jesus Christ on the cross, a significant part of Good Friday commemorations. Attendees described seeing what appeared to be tears running down the statue's cheeks, an event that many considered miraculous.

The moment was captured on video, which quickly circulated across social media platforms. Viewers expressed a range of emotions and interpretations. One comment read, "It's a sign that God doesn't like human evil, and that's why our mother cries in silence." Another described the event as “a miracle, how beautiful,” while others reflected on the Virgin Mary’s sorrow, linking the tears to deep compassion and pain.

Just days later, the Vatican confirmed the death of Pope Francis at the age of 88. The announcement, made via the Holy See’s social media, stated: "Pope Francis died on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025, at the age of 88 at his residence in the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta." A Vatican spokesman said, “Dearest brothers and sisters, with deep sorrow I must announce the death of our Holy Father Francis. At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the house of the Father."

The spokesman highlighted the late pontiff's dedication, stating, "His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and of His Church. He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with fidelity, courage, and universal love, especially in favour of the poorest and most marginalised."

Plans are now expected to begin for the selection of a new Pope, a process traditionally governed by the College of Cardinals. The Diocese in the nearby town of Ocana has not yet issued an official statement regarding the reported phenomenon associated with the Virgin Mary statue.

The timing of the Virgin Mary statue’s weeping and the subsequent announcement of Pope Francis’ death has led to a variety of reactions among onlookers, though the Church has not formally commented on the incident.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.catholic.org/news/international/americas/story.php?id=69091> - Reports on Virgin Mary statues weeping blood/tears in multiple locations, though not Aguas Claras, demonstrating precedent for similar phenomena being documented by Catholic media.
* <https://www.coasttocoastam.com/article/faithful-flock-to-crying-virgin-mary-in-colombia/> - Documents a separate 2023 Colombian Virgin Mary weeping incident, showing regional familiarity with such occurrences though not the specific Aguas Claras event.
* <http://www.mangaloretoday.com/today/Virgin-Mary-statue-starts-crying-BLOOD-and-stuns-worshippers.html> - Details a 2016 Bolivian Virgin Mary statue weeping blood, illustrating historical context for similar claimed miracles in South America.
* <https://sarajevotimes.com/dna-analysis-unveils-truth-behind-medjugorjes-weeping-virgin-mary-statue/> - Provides analysis methodology for investigating weeping statues through DNA testing, relevant to potential future verification processes.
* <https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html> - Official Vatican website where papal death announcements and statements about miracles would be published, though currently contains no mention of either event described.