

FROM RACHEL MUHA

Dear Franciscan University Family,

Three pain-filled months have passed. Three months of heartbreak, questions, and rumors. Three months of re-living each morning the horror of Brian's and Aaron's last hour on earth.

Three months of comfort and consolation from God, the Blessed Mother, you, family, friends, and strangers. Three months of such an outpouring of love and grace. Thank you and God bless you for doing such a great work!

What should we do in the months ahead? I think about our Blessed Mother, and I wonder: what did she do? How did she spend the rest of her life without her Son? We don't have to know particulars in order to answer that question, we just have to know Mary: Full of Grace, Full of Love, Full of Charity. She gave of herself with one purpose in mind: to bring honor to her Son, to honor His Name and His Life.

How did she do it? By *praying*, especially for Judas, Pontius Pilate, the High Priests, the Roman soldiers, and for all those whose hearts weren't converted yet. By *forgiving* and *loving* her Son's enemies. By living the most exemplary Christian life anyone could live: being *cheerful* even though she was suffering; *remembering*, even when it was painful to do so; being *charitable* even while welcoming the charity of others.

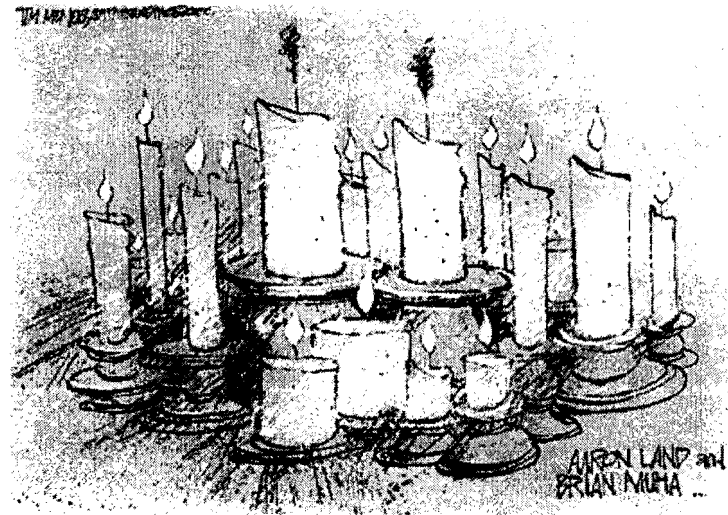
What should we do? Pray for each other, for and to Brian and Aaron, for the suspects. Talk to Brian and Aaron as two Franciscan University students whom you can now turn to and who will understand completely all

your struggles with homesickness, new friends, new classes, and more. Forgive each other always and love each other. Be friendly, helpful, welcoming. Remember Brian and Aaron as two of your brothers who were trying to follow Christ. Remember them as two American boys faced with all the temptations of our culture and trying to battle against them, armed with their Catholic faith. Tell people your good memories of Brian and Aaron. Think of something you liked about them and try to live that.

Follow Mary. She devoted her life to spreading her Son's Goodness as far and as wide as she could. Brian and Aaron, now that they are with God, love us all more than we could know, and they want only one thing from us: to become more Christ-like, to help Mary spread His Goodness. This is the moment.

God bless you and keep you.
You are in my prayers always.
With love,

Rachel Muha



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