

Disfigured man pope kissed speaks to media

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"He touched my face and when he was doing it, I only felt love," said the [disfigured man who Pope Francis kissed](#) [1] in a touching moment caught on camera earlier this month.

Vinicio Riva, 53, gave an exclusive [interview](#) [2] to the Italian magazine *Panorama*. [Read about it in English here](#) [3].

"I tried to speak to say something but I was unable to," Riva, who lives near the Vicenza province, said according to a TIME translation of the interview. "The emotion was too strong. It lasted a little longer than a minute but it felt as if it were eternity."

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Links:

[1] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/francis-chronicles/francis-kisses-holds-man-neurofibromatosis>

[2] <http://www.today.it/rassegna/papa-francesco-bacia-vinicio-riva.html>

[3] <http://world.time.com/2013/11/18/disfigured-man-kissed-by-pope-it-felt-as-if-it-were-eternity/>

[4] <http://ncronline.org/email-alert-signup>