

# January 2013

*He was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel ...* (Luke 2: 16-21)

*On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother ... and did him homage.* (Matthew 2: 1-12)

*You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.* (Luke 3: 15-22)

*Do whatever he tells you.* (John 2: 1-11)

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.* (Luke 4: 14-21)

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*Eternal Father, in this YEAR of FAITH, WE BELIEVE ... The Word was made flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the only begotten Son of God, Jesus the Christ. ... And confidently we pray: Pour forth we beg you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may, through His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. We ask this through the same Christ Our Lord, Who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

1

Keep a vigilant watch over yourself, especially as regards the abominable vice of vainglory which is ... the consuming moth of devout souls.

2

Always be on your guard, and we can never fight too hard against the tireless enemy, who is always there on the doorstep of our every action.

3

Have by no means the will to offend God even to the slightest extent.

4

Even when you feel oppressed by the great number and atrocity of your offences ... Then more than ever should you come to the feet of Jesus Christ.

5

Humble yourself ... ask with loud cries for God's mercy-his forgiveness of your faults-for help to walk all the time in his sight.

6

Have no doubt that this merciful and clement God will stretch out a compassionate hand ... to lift you up.

7

If Jesus manifests himself, thank him, and if he remains hidden, thank him just the same.

8

I urge you to pray continually to the heavenly Father that he may always keep you close to his divine heart.

9

May he make you hear his loving voice more and more clearly and lead you to correspond with increasing gratitude.

10

Ask Jesus with boundless confidence ... to draw you after him ... wherever he goes.

11

I beg you ... to calm your anxiety ... for this seems to me to be a real waste of time on our way to eternity.

12

All our good actions are invariably soiled, if I may use the expression, by a certain lack of confidence in God's goodness.

13

Anxiety over one's spiritual state, actually a lack of confidence in God's goodness ... is a very slender thread, it is true, which keeps the spirit tied down, but it prevents the soul ... from acting with holy freedom.

14

May the good Jesus always console you ... and give you even more strength to overcome and defeat our common enemy ... Do not fear him at all; trust more and more in ... our Jesus Christ, who never leaves you alone.

15

Let us adore in silence God's designs ... as a further test of faithfulness ... Pray to the Lord that all may work for his glory and for the good of souls.

16

Obey then ... and be at peace, for it is only the obedient one who cries victory.

17

Gather together all your sisters and encourage them ... to be faithful ... by frequenting the sacraments.

18

You must assure them that, in the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist, in this sacrament of love, we have true life, a blessed life, and true happiness.

19

In (the Eucharist) we receive not only those graces that perfect us but the very author of these graces.

20

Draw near to Jesus ... to receive his embrace and a kiss that sanctifies and saves us.

21

I understand that temptations seem to stain rather than purify the soul, but this is not really the case ... however, pray to Jesus that he may not allow you to be tempted.

22

For ourselves who have been called ... to reign ... are enlightened by God's true light, let us fix our gaze on the splendor of the heavenly Jerusalem.

23

Dear God, when you pour yourself into the little vase of my being, I suffer the agony of not being able to contain you.

24

Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear our prayer.

25

Do not put off till tomorrow what you can do today. ... Let us listen to the voice of our conscience ...: *Today, if you hear the voice of the Lord, do not turn a deaf ear.*

26

Desire what you told me, but let this be in a calm manner, and be patient in awaiting the Lord's mercy.

27

The One who has helped you so far will continue his work of salvation.

28

Don't have any doubts about the divine assistance, don't turn in upon yourself because of the many (difficulties that may) continually surround you ...

29

For (trusting patiently in God's response to your prayers) everything will turn out for God's glory and the salvation of your soul.

30

Let us make an effort to ensure that the supper which we satisfy the body may be a preparation for the altogether divine supper of the most holy Eucharist.

31

Never rise from the table, moreover, without having given thanks to the Lord. If we act in this way, we need have no fear of the wretched sin of gluttony.

## ***Prayer to Padre Pio***

(every day)

Padre Pio, I thank you and praise God in you for making His Name known more profoundly in our hearts. You bore the marks of the Savior's saving Passion and became a refuge and support for all who sought your guidance. Your patient ministry of reconciliation brought numberless souls back to God, so that rescued from the evil one, they could praise and glorify God in their lives. From your place in heaven watch over us and keep your hand on each one of us that we may always walk the path that leads to God, the Source and Goal of all life, who lives and reigns Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### ***Thanksgiving Psalm - Psalm 111 (adapted)***

#### ***Sunday***

We thank You Lord with all our heart. Great are Your works. They are to be pondered by all who love You. I thank you and praise you for the gift You have given us in Padre Pio. Lord, Your compassion and love help us to remain faithful to our Baptismal promises, deliver us from evil, and strengthen our love for You. As we journey each day this week with Padre Pio, our Spiritual Father and Guide, help us to praise Your Name in all that we do. As Spiritual Children of Padre Pio may we live each day in prayer, sacrifice and service to all. We praise You and give glory to the You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as in the beginning, now, and forever. Amen.

### ***Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas***

*(Adapted to Padre Pio and every day of the week)*

#### ***Monday***

Almighty ever-living God, I am privileged and blessed to approach you in your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, especially in His Divine Presence in the Eucharist. I thank you for giving me Padre Pio as Spiritual Guide and living image of your Suffering Son. May his prayers keep me always faithful and lead me close to You. Amen.

#### ***Tuesday***

Eternal Father, I come as one sick to the doctor of life, as one unclean to the fountain of mercy, as one blind to the radiance of eternal light, as one poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Padre Pio offered many the opportunity of experiencing your healing grace. Grant that I may always seek and work for that spiritual wholeness that comes from You and You alone.

#### ***Wednesday***

Lord Jesus, You are King of kings and Lord of lords. With humble reverence, with purity of faith, with repentance and love, and the determination that will help to bring me to salvation I

place myself in your presence. Padre Pio urged us to seek You always in all things. Grant that your Servant Pio may be the sure guide that leads me to You and through You to the Father.

#### ***Thursday***

Lord Jesus, with reverence, gratitude, and adoration, I recognize your loving presence in my life and its power to transform me. Padre Pio sought that transformation every moment of his life through his intimate relationship with You. Help me to live a life of active prayer that allows me to be in Your presence wherever I am and whatever I do.

#### ***Friday***

Holy Spirit of the Father and the Son, I acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, as my Lord and Savior, and know that in You and through Him I am numbered among the beloved children of the Eternal Father. Padre Pio desired that we live as sisters and brothers, children of the same Father. May I always allow your love to shine through in my life for all.

#### ***Saturday***

Holy Spirit, on my earthly pilgrimage, I receive the precious Body and Blood of my Savior Jesus Christ under the mysterious veil of the Eucharistic Sacrament. Padre Pio celebrated with abandonment to your presence and was transported to the heights of intimacy with God. May I one day see You, my God, face to face in glory. You live and reign for never and ever. Amen.

### ***Concluding Prayer***

(everyday)

#### ***Holy Virgin Mary,***

Mother of God and my Mother.

#### ***Daughter of the Eternal Father,***

pray that we recognize our unity as children of the One Father.

#### ***Mother of the Only-Begotten Son,***

pray that we accept each other  
as sisters and brothers in the same Jesus.

#### ***Spouse of the Life-Giving Holy Spirit,***

pray that we be open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit,  
leading us to the fullness of life.

#### ***Mary, Virgin Made Church,***

Mother of the Mystical Body of Christ,

First Tabernacle, First Monstrance,

be with us in life's journey,

and help us see and follow