

August 2013

Take care to guard against greed ... one's life does not consist of possessions. (Luke 13: 13-21)

Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. (Luke 12: 32-48)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Luke 1: 39-56)

I have come to set the fire on earth, and how I wish it were already blazing! (Luke 12: 49-53)

Strive to enter through the narrow gate. Some are last will be first, some are first will be last. (Luke 13: 22-30)

Father in heaven, You have made us for yourself; Our hearts are restless until they rest in you.

*In Padre Pio of Pietrelcina You have given us a renewed image of Your Crucified Son,
to inflame the hearts of a world grown cold to Your everlasting love.*

Fulfill our longing through Jesus, for a world that hungers for peace and justice, for a world that longs for love.

*Padre Pio celebrated the great mystery of Your love and became one with the Eucharistic Bread of Life, Jesus,
Whose Body and Blood we offer and become when we are consumed as we consume.*

*Grant that we may witness to Jesus, as Padre Pio of Pietrelcina did,
and be moved, as he was moved, to relieve the suffering of others.*

*Jesus alone can satisfy the hungers of the human family. By the power of Your Holy Spirit,
through the intercession of our Heavenly Mother Mary and her devoted and loving child Padre Pio of Pietrelcina,
lead us to You, that we may one day share the fullness of life.*

You are God, living and reigning with the Son, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

1
Calm the tormenting anxieties of your heart, and banish from your imagination all those distressing thoughts and sentiments suggested by Satan to make you act badly.

2
Jesus is always with you, even when you do not feel his presence.

3
Jesus is never more close to you as he is during your spiritual battles.

4
Jesus is always there, close to you, encouraging you to fight your battle courageously.

5
Jesus is there to ward off the blows of the enemy so that you may not be hurt.

6
For pity's sake, I beseech you by all that you hold sacred not to wrong (Jesus) by entertaining the slightest suspicion that he has abandoned you for even a single moment.

7
Always remember the reason why the Son of God came to earth, that it was in order to save us.

8
Always be calm ... and do not fear. Jesus is and always will be totally yours.

9
Be strong and overcome everything with your constancy.

10
I know that the cross is a token of love, and earnest of forgiveness, and that love which is not fed and nourished by the cross is not true love but merely a flash in the pan.

11
The false disciple of the Nazarene feels the cross weighing enormously on his heart, and very often he goes in search of the compassionate Cyrenean who relieves and comforts him.

12
We do not commit sin without first being aware of it.

13
There is a need for a little more docility in your attitude.

14
Deep down in my soul, it seems to me, God has poured out many graces of compassion for the sufferings of others, especially with regard to the poor and needy.

15
The more a soul loves God the less it feels this love.

16
Resignation to God's will in all life's adversities, that ardent desire to see God's kingdom established in one's heart and in the hearts of others, are the clearest proof of the soul's love for the Supreme Good.

17

The best way to avoid falling is to lean on the cross of Jesus, with confidence in him alone, who for our salvation desired to be nailed to it.

18

Praise be to God who never withdraws his mercy from (us).

19

Take heart and be sure that God is with you ... Do not wait for Tabor in order to see God. You are already contemplating him on Sinai without realizing it.

20

When the enemy makes a noise, it is an excellent sign: It is a sign that he wants your will and therefore is still outside it.

21

During the period of spiritual aridity, be humble, patient, and resigned to divine will, and do not give up anything you used to do in times of spiritual joy.

22

True love does not consist in receiving many consolations at the service of God, but rather in always having a ready will to do all that God is pleased to order for our spiritual advantage and his glory.

23

Praise and bless the Lord more and more for the steadfastness he gave your soul in courageously bearing all the trials to which the heavenly Father's goodness subjected you.

24

Do, on your part, whatever you possibly can to carry out ... what truly is God's will ... Let your zeal ... be devoid of any defect.

25

Let (your zeal for fulfilling God's will) not be bitter, fussy, aggravating, or uneasy, but let it be sweet, benevolent, gracious, pacific, and uplifting.

26

Patience is most perfect when it is less mixed up with anxiety and worry. I hope that God will free you from these two inconveniences.

27

(We are) free to be holy.

28

(When we lack confidence in God's goodness) the soul greatly offends our heavenly Spouse, and ... our most sweet Lord deprives us of many graces, simply because the door of our heart is not thrown open with holy trust.

29

May you be consoled by the sweet thought of your love for Jesus and of being loved by him much more in return.

30

Let us ask Jesus for the grace to love him and to see him loved more and more.

31

How often do we receive from Jesus this kiss of peace in the most holy Sacrament? ... and let us show our gratitude for it. What precious gift can we wretched mortals desire from God?

Praying the Month of August

Sunday : *(Recite the entire prayer "Stay With Me, Lord" as an act of entrustment to God and resignation to His Holy Will)*

Monday: Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often...Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without meaning and hope...Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness...Stay with me, Lord, to show me Your will.

Tuesday: Stay with me, Lord, so that I can hear Your voice and follow you...Stay with me, Lord, for I desire to love You ever more, and to be always in Your company...Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be always faithful to You... Stay with me, Lord, for as poor as my soul is, I wish it to be a place of consolation for You, a dwelling of Your love.

Wednesday: Stay with me, Jesus, for it is getting late; the days are coming to a close and life is passing...Death, judgement and eternity are drawing near. It is necessary to renew my strength, so that I will not stop along the way, for that I need You...It is getting late and death approaches. I fear the darkness, the temptations, the dryness, the cross, the sorrows. O how I need you, my Jesus, in this night of exile!

Thursday: Stay with me, Jesus, because in the darkness of life, with all its dangers, I need You...Help me to recognize You as Your disciples did at the Breaking of the Bread, so that the Eucharistic Communion be the light which disperses darkness, the power which sustains me, the unique joy of my heart.

Friday: Stay with me, Lord, because at the hour of my death I want to be one with You, and if not by Communion, at least by Your grace and love. Stay with me, Jesus, I do not ask for divine consolations because I do not deserve them, but I only ask for the gift of Your Presence. Oh yes! I ask this of You.

Saturday: Stay with me, Lord, for I seek You alone, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit, because I love You and I ask for no other reward but to love You more and more, with a strong active love... Grant that I may love You with all my heart while on earth, so that I can continue to love you perfectly throughout all eternity, dear Jesus.

(Every day recite the following prayer)

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, You were generously endowed by God, the Giver of all good gifts, with the gifts of the Spirit, signing your body as a living witness to the saving Passion and Death of Jesus, His Son. Many looked upon the reflection of the Crucified Jesus in your body and experienced anew God's saving mercy. Through your ministry, God reconciled penitents to Himself and invited them to taste His sweetness in the Holy Eucharist. Through your powerful intercession before God, pray for us, that we may follow your example of prayer and penance and come to follow more closely our Risen Lord, so that one day we may rejoice with you in that kingdom where God calls all His faithful children to live in the light of His love and eternal peace.

Pray for us Saint Pio of Pietrelcina.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray

God of mercy and love, you called St. Pio of Pietrelcina to extend the mystery of the cross visibly into the lives of sinners and sufferers, that they might be converted to believe in the Gospel. Through his intercession, strengthen all believers in the willingness to take up the cross daily and follow Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

(Pray at least one of the following each day)

(Act of Faith)

O my God, I firmly believe that You are one God in three Divine Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I believe in Jesus Christ, Your Son, who became a man and died for our sins, and who will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Amen.

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, pray for me. Pray that my faith not falter. Pray that I believe with the strength of faith that supported you when others would not believe in the working of the Spirit in your life. Pray that I may always believe, especially in those moments when I would question. Help me to say always, with Mary Our Mother, YES to all God asks.

(Act of Hope)

O my God, trusting in Your infinite goodness and promises manifested through Your inspired Word, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins *through Your divine mercy and compassion*, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

Amen.

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, pray for me. Pray that I never lose hope. In the trials and tribulations of life, pray that I trust in providence and await the Lord's saving help. Pray for me that I have the strength to bear my crosses as you bore yours, with my heart set on the crown awarded those who persevere trusting in the Lord's never-failing assistance.

(Act of Love)

O my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because You are all-good and worthy of my love. I love my neighbor as myself for love of You. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon of all whom I have injured. Amen.

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, pray for me. Pray that I learn to see in my sisters and brothers the face of Jesus, and that I may look at them with the eyes of my heart. Pray that God's love for me may be the measure I use in responding to those with whom I share life's journey. Help me to love others, as you loved all people, even those who persecuted you.

