

# February 2014

*My eyes have seen your salvation, a light for the revelation of the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel.* (Luke 2:22-40)

*You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world.* (Matthew 5: 13-16)

*Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No'.* (Matthew 5: 17-37)

*Love your enemies. Pray for those who persecute you ... Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.* (Matthew 5:38-48)

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*Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, pure father, you loved your Spiritual Children very much. How many of your children were acquired at the price of your blood! Pray that we who have not known you personally, may also be numbered among your Spiritual Children. Through your fatherly protection, saintly guidance, and the spiritual strength you gain for us from God, at the moment of our death may we encounter you waiting for us at the Gates of Paradise.*

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1

May Jesus always be in the midst of your heart, to fill it and make it abound with his holy love.

2

Long live the lovable will of the divine Father who arranges everything with admirable wisdom for his glory and our sanctification.

3

During the day, when you are unable to do anything else, call on Jesus even in the midst of all your occupations.

4

(Jesus) will come to stay united to your soul always, through his grace and holy love.

5

Fly in spirit before the tabernacle when you cannot go there with the body, and there express your ardent desires.

6

(In the spirit or in person before the tabernacle) Speak to, pray to, and embrace the Beloved of souls.

7

May Jesus fill your soul with all his choicest graces and enable you to experience more and more the happiness of the cross when carried with a Christian spirit.

8

How sweet is the word 'cross'! Here at the foot of Jesus' cross souls are clothed in light and inflamed with love.

9

How sweet is the word 'cross'! Here at the foot of Jesus' cross ... here (souls) acquire wings to bear them upward in loftiest flight.

10

May the same cross always be our bed of rest, our school of perfection, our beloved heritage.

11

We must never separate the cross from the love of Jesus, otherwise it would become a weight which in our weakness we could not carry.

12

May the Sorrowful Virgin obtain for us from her most holy Son the grace to penetrate more deeply into the mystery of the cross and like her to become inebriated with the sufferings of Jesus.

13

The surest sign of love is the capacity to suffer for the beloved.

14

Since the Son of God endured many sufferings for pure love, there is no doubt that the cross carried for him becomes as lovable as love itself.

15

Despite everything that is taking place within me, I feel alive in me the hope to not despair... I feel I must say to Jesus with Job: *I will hope in you even in desperation.*

16

Be resigned so that you can say with the prophet: *Lo, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness.*

17

Suffer with resignation because there is good reason for this, and it is wanted by the one who wants to make you similar to his only Son.

18

Do not be afraid. He who has placed you in this suffering is pleased with you.

19

You must know also that Jesus himself suffers in you, for you, with you, so as to join you to his passion ...

20

God has not abandoned you and he will not abandon you.

21

It is not justify but love crucified that is crucifying you and wants you united to his most bitter suffering ...

22

Your fear for your past life is futile, because our Lord has already cancelled these defects from your soul.

23

Equally futile is your anxiety for the future, since the present is a crucifixion of love.

24

Do not be anxious to seek God outside of you.

25

(God) is in you and with you, in your sighs and in your seeking, like a mother who incites her child to seek her while she hides behind him.

26

May Jesus be always in our hearts and transform us entirely into himself!

27

(To the medical personnel of the Casa Sollievo) You have the mission of curing the sick, but if you do not bring love to the sickbed, I do not think the medicines will be of much use.

28

Love cannot manage without words ... Bring God to the patients (and) it will be of more worth than any other cure.

***Praying the Month dedicated to the  
Hidden Life of Jesus  
and His Preparation for the Ministry***

*(Pray this paraphrase of the Our Father, composed by our Seraphic Father St. Francis of Assisi, and let the words and reflection you recite each day help you to appreciate and pray more confidently and lovingly this beautiful prayer that Jesus Himself taught us)*

**Our Father** most holy: Our Creator, Redeemer, Consoler, and Savior:

**Who are in heaven:** In the angels and the saints, enlightening them to know, for You, Lord, are light; inflaming them to love, for You, Lord, are love; dwelling in them and filling them with happiness, for You, Lord, are Supreme Good, the eternal Good, from Whom all good comes without Whom there is no good.

**Holy be Your Name:** May knowledge of You become clearer in us that we may know the breadth of Your blessings, the length of Your promises, the height of Your majesty, the depth of Your judgments.

**Your kingdom come:** That You may rule in us through Your grace and enable us to come to Your kingdom where there is clearer vision of You, perfect love of You, blessed companionship with You, eternal enjoyment of You.

**Your will be done on earth as in heaven:** That we may love You with our whole heart by always thinking of You, with our whole soul by always desiring You, with our whole mind by always directing all our intentions to You, and by seeking Your glory in everything, with all our whole strength by exerting all our energies and affections of body and soul in the service of our love and of nothing else; and we may love our neighbor as ourselves by drawing them all to Your love with our whole strength, by rejoicing in the good of others as in our own, by suffering with others at their misfortunes, and by giving offense to no one.

**Give us this day:** in remembrance, understanding, and reverence of that love which our Lord Jesus Christ had for us and of those things that He said and did and suffered for us.

**Our daily Bread:** Your own beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Forgive us our trespasses:** through Your ineffable mercy through the power of the passion of Your beloved Son and through the merits and intercession of the ever blessed Virgin and all Your elect.

**As we forgive those who trespass against us:** And what we do not completely forgive, make us, Lord, forgive completely that we may truly love our enemies because of You and we may fervently intercede for them before You, returning no evil

for evil and we may strive to help everyone in You.

*And lead us not into temptation:* hidden or obvious, sudden or persistent.

*But deliver us from evil:* past, present, and to come

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***Prayer to our Heavenly Mother***

Hail, O Lady, holy Queen, Mary, holy Mother of God, who are the virgin made Church, chosen by the most Holy Father in heaven whom He consecrated with His most holy beloved Son and with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, in whom there was and is all fullness of grace and every good.

Hail, His Palace!  
Hail, His Tabernacle!  
Hail, His Dwelling!  
Hail, His Robe!  
Hail, His Handmaid!  
Hail, His Mother! ...

***Prayer Entrusting Ourselves to God***

***Blessed are You, Lord, our God!***

You are God alone.  
To you, Almighty Father,  
Creator of the Universe and all Humanity,  
through Christ, the Living One,  
Lord of time and history,  
in the Spirit who makes all things holy,  
be praise and honor and glory.  
I place my life in Your hands.  
Never let me be parted from you;  
do with me as You please...  
Your will be done for ever. ***Amen.***

***Prayer to St. Pio of Pietrelcina and God's Will***

**Padre Pio of Pietrelcina**, loving spiritual father and guide of souls, pray that we may seek always and only to live the Will of the Father. Like Jesus, may we always say: *Father, Your will, not mine, be done.* Pray for us that we, your Spiritual Children, like you, may abandon ourselves to the love of the Father, *Whose love is everlasting*, and in that eternal Love, find the fullness of Life. Present our prayer to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

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