

# August 2014

*Give them some food yourselves.* (Matthew 14: 13-21)

*Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.* (Matthew 14: 22-23)

*Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it.* (Luke 11: 27-28)

*Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.* (Luke 1: 39-56)

*O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.* (Matthew 15: 21-28)

*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* (Matthew 16: 13-20)

*Whoever wishes to follow me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.* (Matthew 16: 21-27)

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*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

When people ask me for something, I don't think of what I can give, but of what I don't know how to give.

2

When you are in a state of abjection, raise yourself above the earth, like the kingfisher who builds his nest on the masts of the ships; raise your heart and your thoughts to God Who alone can console you and give you the strength to blessedly endure your trials.

3

Walk cautiously and prudently, and even though you advance slowly, you will go far.

4

Let us be horrified by mortal sin, and never pause in our advance to blessed eternity.

5

Love God a lot, because He wants to help you.

6

(Love more) By doing your duty with precise and honest intentions and by observing our Lord's law. If you do this with constancy and perseverance, your love will increase!

7

Pray for the perfidious and for the fervent.

8

Only love can appeal to what is indomitable in us, and the language of love is the conviction of trust.

9

The conformity to the will of God is the surest way to Heaven.

10

Remain in the hands of Our Lord, completely resigned, offering Him your remaining years, and pray that He will help you to use them in the kind of life that will be most pleasing Him.

11

The devil is strong with people who fear him, but weak with those who despise him.

12

"Remember that he who flees from temptation, wins!"

13

There are joys so sublime and sorrows so profound, that words can never express them!

14

When we lack charity, we impair the roots of the tree of life, endangering its existence.

15

Whoever begins to love must be ready to suffer.

16

Try doing everything with love, with a lot of love, with all your love.

17

When you are in a state of abjection, raise yourself above the earth, like the kingfisher who builds his nest on the masts of the ships; raise your heart and your thoughts to God Who alone can console you and give you the strength to blessedly endure your trials.

18

The Lord sometimes makes you feel the weight of the cross. Although the weight seems intolerable, you are able to carry it, because the Lord, in His love and mercy extends a hand to you and gives you strength.

19

What a great grace it is to begin to serve our good Lord while still at a young and impressionable age!

20

Without God we do not get to Paradise.

21

Until now, your life was like that of a child; now the Lord wants to treat you like an adult. Since the trials of an adult are superior to a child's, you are at first disconcerted; but before long, your soul will be at peace, and you will be calm.

22

Let us repeat often to ourselves: 'God sees me, and by my actions He will judge me.

23

I have nothing in particular to rebuke you for, except this rather bitter perturbation in you, which keeps you from enjoying all the sweetness of the cross. Correct this fault, and continue to do what you have been doing, because you are doing well.

24

To lack charity is to wound the pupil of God's eye. What is more delicate than the pupil of an eye?

25

Go to the tabernacle in spirit when you are not able to do so physically!

26

I understand that temptations seem to tarnish, rather than to purify the spirit; but let us hear what the saints have to say, and for that purpose it suffices to choose Saint Francis de Sales from among so many: 'Temptations are like soap, which, when spread over the clothes, seems to stain them, but in reality, purifies them'.

27

If we are calm and patient, we will not only find ourselves, but also our souls, and God.

28

It is easier for the earth to exist without the sun than without the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

29

Let us listen to the voice of our conscience, to the voice of the royal prophet: 'Today, if you hear the voice of the Lord, do not turn a deaf ear'.

30

Prudence has eyes, and love has legs. Love, which has legs, would like to run to God, but its impulse is blind, and it would often stumble if it were not for the eyes of prudence. Prudence, when it sees that love should be restrained, offers its eyes.

31

Thank God and kiss His hand that smites you, because it is still the hand of a Father who smites you because He loves you.

## 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.