

September 2015

He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak. (Mark 7: 31-37)

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. (Mark 8: 27-35)

Whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me. (Mark 9: 30-37)

There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me...

For whoever is not against us is for us. (Mark 9: 38-48)

Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God, grant us in our misery that we may do for Your sake alone what we know you want us to do, and always want what pleases you; so that, cleansed and enlightened interiorly and fired with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be able to follow in the footprints of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and so make our way to you, Most High, by your grace alone, you who live and rule in perfect Trinity and simple Unity, and are glorified, God all-powerful, for ever and ever. Amen. (St. Francis of Assisi)

1

Persevere in your vocation that our Lord calls you to, and do not be afraid, because in this perseverance you will sanctify yourself.

2

Resign yourself, because suffering borne in a Christian manner will sanctify you.

3

You suffer, but you must rejoice too, because one day your suffering will change into joy.

4

You must know that Jesus himself suffers in you, for you, and with you.

5

Jesus has not abandoned you, and he will not abandon you.

6

Suffer everything, the trial of abandonment too, but God is always with you.

7

Nothing but submission to the divine will brings me some little peace.

8

Exceeding sweetness as the soul turns its gaze on God...

9

Where better could I serve you, O Lord, if not ... under the banner of the Poor One of Assisi?

10

Jesus, seeing my embarrassment, smiled at length, and that smile left an ineffable sweetness in my heart, so that sometimes I truly felt it so near that I thought I saw his shadow.

11

My flesh, my entire being, rejoiced in the Savior, my God.

12

O my God, may infinite praise and thanks be rendered to you ... You ... confided a very great mission to your son, a mission which is known to you and me alone.

13

My Father! How have I corresponded to that mission?! I don't know. I only know that perhaps I should have done more, and this is the reason for my present uneasiness of heart.

14

Arise once again, O Lord, and free me first and foremost from myself; do not allow him whom you called ... to be lost.

15

O Lord ... confirm in your grace those whom you confided to me, and do not permit any of them to be lost.

16

Be vigilant, and fortify yourself more and more with prayer and the beautiful virtue of humility.

17

May the little ship of your spirit have the strong anchor of trust in divine goodness, and keep before the eyes of your soul God's promise.

18

Whoever confides in (God) will not be confused, and he "opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble," that we should "watch and pray that we might not enter into temptation."

19

So when you feel oppressed by temptation, the means to oblige God to come to your aid is through humility of spirit, contrition of heart, and confident prayer.

20

It is impossible for God to be displeased with this demonstration (of humility, contrition, and prayer), impossible for him not to come to our aid and give in.

21

It is true that God's power triumphs over everything, but humble and suffering prayer triumphs over God himself!

22

By constantly using (humble and suffering prayer), you will always succeed in rendering yourself pleasing to God.

23

(Humble and suffering prayer) will envelop (God's) justice in loving pity, to the point of obtaining everything you wish from him: forgiveness for your sins, the grace to overcome all your enemies, holiness, and eternal health.

24

We must take care never to be upset by any disaster whatsoever which may befall us.

25

Perturbation is never free from imperfection, originating as it does in egoism and self-love.

26

When we are perturbed, the enemy's attacks are more frequent and direct, for he takes advantages of our natural weakness, which prevents us from following the straight path or virtue.

27

The enemy of our salvation knows only too well that peace of heart is a sure sign of the divine assistance, and hence he lets slip no opportunity to make us lose this peace.

28

Always be on your guard ... Jesus will help us.

29

Lift up your heart all the time, and let us pray with a pure heart a contrite and humble heart, so that the enemy may be quite unable to touch your soul ...

30

I cannot but share with you willingly the suffering that weighs upon you, while praying more diligently to the good God for you and wishing you from our most sweet Jesus the spiritual and material strength to pass through (this trial) ...

Daily Prayers in Honor of St Pio of Pietrelcina

Sunday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, loving father, you bore the visible wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ on your body. You carried the Cross for all humanity. In bearing the physical and moral sufferings that continually tortured your body and soul you became a martyr of love for all people. We beg you to intercede for us with our Almighty Father that we may have the courage to accept the great and small crosses of life that transform individual suffering into a sure link that leads us to eternal life.

Monday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, holy father, you now live with our loving Father and God Jesus Christ. You grew in holiness and resisted the seductions of the Evil One. You were physically beaten by the infernal spirits of evil who sought to force you to leave the road to holiness that you had chosen to follow. Pray for us to God that through your intercession and in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we may find the spiritual courage to

renounce sin and be strengthened in faith until death.

Tuesday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, virtuous father, you loved Our Blessed Mother very much. You were gifted every day with the graces and comforts that only She can give. We beg you to pray for us to our Heavenly Mother and place our sins and petitions in Her hands. As at Cana in Galilee, may She intercede for us that Her Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, may hear Her prayers on our behalf and inscribe our names in the Book of Life.

Wednesday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, chaste father, you taught us to love our Guardian Angel as you loved yours so much. Your Guardian Angel was your constant companion, guide, defender and messenger. The Angels even brought the prayers of your spiritual children to you. Since they are a presence of the Living God who help to avoid the disgrace of sin and are always ready to indicate the road that leads us to goodness and keep us from evil, pray that we too may learn, as you, to appreciate the ministry of our Guardian Angels and speak to them that we may be receptive to their inspiration and learn to obey them at all times.

Thursday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, prudent father, you loved the Souls in Purgatory so much and taught us to love them as well. You offered yourself as a victim to expiate their sufferings in Purgatory. Intercede for us with Our Lord and God Jesus Christ that our hearts may be filled with compassion and love for the Holy Souls. Following your example, we too desire to assist the Holy Souls and reduce their time of affliction in Purgatory. We ask that our prayers and sacrifices may grant them relief in their sufferings, the holy indulgences necessary to liberate them from their place of torment and a speedy entrance into the eternal joys of heaven.

Friday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, obedient father, you loved the sick and infirm more than yourself because in them you saw Jesus. In the name of God you performed miracles of healing in body, soul and mind. Your intercession with God healed the ills of past and present and strengthened people to respond with confidence to future challenges. Those who came to you regained a sense of spiritual integrity as you re-kindled hope in their lives, and encouraged them to renew the spirit in their hearts. Through the intercession of Our Heavenly Mother, may we experience your powerful assistance and be healed in our bodily and spiritual needs, and gratefully give praise and thanks to God for all his blessings.

Saturday: Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, holy father, you fulfilled the salvation plan of God and offered yourself as a victim to free all people from their bondage to Satan. Pray for us to God. Intercede for all those people who have no faith, that they cooperate with God's gifts and grow in a strong and sincere faith, and thus be converted to the Lord, through a sincere and heartfelt repentance of their sins. May those whose faith is weak grow strong in their Christian life, and may the faithful children of God continue with greater commitment on the road to salvation.

Closing Prayer: 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.

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, humble father, you truly loved our Holy Mother the Church. Ask God, the Lord of the Harvest, to send laborers into His vineyard. May He fill the world with many and holy priests who are filled with the strength and inspiration that comes only from God. Intercede for us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, that she may lead to unity all our brothers and sisters who call upon Jesus, as Lord and Savior. May they find their unity in the one great family of God in Christ on earth, so that the Church may be a beacon of light and sure hope of salvation in the storm-tossed sea of life.

Through the concern and commitment with which you attached yourself spiritually to all those who sought you as spiritual guide, accompany us at every moment on our earthly pilgrimage towards heaven.

There we hope one day to contemplate the glory of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, our God Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

V - May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

R - Through it the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

V - You bore the wounds of Christ on your body.

R - That we might learn the value of the Cross

V - Pray for us St. Pio of Pietrelcina

R - That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ

Let us pray

Almighty and eternal God, by a singular grace you allowed your priest, St. Pio of Pietrelcina, to participate in the mystery of the Cross of your Son, and through his ministry, you revealed the marvels of your mercy. Grant that through his intercession we may remain one with Christ in his Passion so as to joyfully attain the glory of the Resurrection.

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 by His Love as we consume Him in Holy Communion.

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.

By the power of Your Holy Spirit, and through the intercession of Padre Pio, 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. Amen.