

December 2016

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths ... and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. (Luke 3: 1-6)
I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Luke 3: 10-18)
Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled. (Luke 1:39-45)
Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favors rests. (Luke 2: 1-4)
Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and men. (Luke 2: 41-52)

Ever-loving and all-providing God, Father-Son-Holy Spirit - we love, we forgive, and we ask forgiveness of You. May we love others and thus be life-giving in You for them. You loved us into life and love us each moment toward eternal life. ... The Word was made flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of Your only begotten Son, 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 ... May the redemption Jesus' life, death, and resurrection acquired for us, through His sacred humanity and divinity, cleanse us and open our hearts towards one another. May the birth we celebrate of Jesus in Bethlehem be a sign of His rebirth in the Spirit in each one of us. We ask this Father, through Jesus Your Son en-fleshed in human nature, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, living and reigning forever. Amen.

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| 1
Charity is the measure the Lord will use to judge us. | 17
Be careful about (giving in to) false humility. |
| 2
Save souls by praying always. | 18
Do not anticipate the accidents of life with apprehension. |
| 3
Strengthen yourself with the Eucharistic food. | 19
Virtues are like a treasure. |
| 4
We all have duties. Let us fulfill them with fidelity and constancy. | 20
This life is a continual battle. |
| 5
It is difficult to become saints. Difficult, not impossible. | 21
Jesus will turn and listen to your pleas. |
| 6
The Christian must seek to renew and perfect him/herself always. | 22
If Satan makes a lot of noise, that is a sign that he is outside. |
| 7
Fill your soul with recognition for Our Lady. | 23
We must love the Lord without seeking personal gain. |
| 8
Let us invoke the assistance of Mary in this day dedicated to her. | 24
Love is a torment, but a sweet torment. |
| 9
Jesus sees, knows, and weighs all your actions | 25
Let us thank Mary for giving us Jesus. |
| 10
Look at the brighter side of things. | 26
Praise the Lord. You will be greatly compensated. |
| 11
Dealing with others, use kindness to attract them. | 27
You must have courage in every weakness. |
| 12
During the day, enter into the silence of your heart. | 28
Be modest with your gaze. |
| 13
Do not stop in the middle of the journey. | 29
Do not fear future difficulties. Trust in God. |
| 14
Keep knocking at the door of divine pity. | 30
Do not be troubled. Be gentle. |
| 15
Jesus looks into the depths of the heart. | 31
Run, because the road is long and time is short. |
| 16
Regulate everything with prudence. | |

HAPPY ADVENT

BLESSED and JOYFUL CHRISTMAS

You are always in my prayers and Masses, but especially at this beautiful time of the Christian Year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017

* Advent *

To the Blessed Trinity
(everyday)

Most Blessed Trinity whom I adore, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Help me to be firmly rooted in Your Will today, as if my soul were already in eternity. May nothing be able to trouble my peace or make me leave you. Stay with me, Lord, and lead me more deeply into your Mystery. Grant me peace and serenity today. In the love you bore our Father, Padre Pio, make our hearts your dwelling place that we may never abandon You. As Spiritual Children of Padre Pio, who bore the marks of Jesus' saving Sacrifice, make us vigilant in faith, constant in hope, and undying in our love for You and all people. You live and reign forever. Amen.

Prayer to Padre Pio
(everyday)

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, you came, as the Baptist of old, into the spiritual wilderness of our world. You were a messenger sent to prepare people's hearts for the Lord to enter them. Pray that I may be a fertile ground in which God's Word may enter and live. Padre Pio, you want your Spiritual Children to live in God's Will and graces. Pray that we accept His Way to walk, His Truth to speak, and His Life to live. As we joyfully await and celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus, pray that we may follow the prompting of the Holy Spirit, live more fully the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and thus come to the Father, Source of all Life, Whose love for us endures for ever and ever. Amen.

(The following Antiphons are read as brief intercessions every day. The Antiphons are titles given to the long-awaited Messiah. The Church prays them during the week before Christmas in the Liturgy of the Hours and as the alleluia verse at Mass. We use them in prayer this month as our daily invocation for the Savior to bless and protect us.)

Preparatory Prayer

Lord Jesus, you came to save your people. Blessed are we who celebrate Your wonderful Incarnation. Hear us as we pray with the prophetic titles that Israel of old offered in hopeful anticipation of Your coming:

Antiphony Intercessions
(everyday)

Wisdom of our God most high,
teach us to walk in the paths of knowledge

Leader of Ancient Israel,
rescue us with your mighty power.

Flower of Jesse's Stem,
save us without delay.

Key of David,
free those imprisoned in the darkness of ignorance.

Radiant Dawn:
shine on those lost in the darkness of spiritual death.

King of all nations:
save humanity, your own creation.

Emmanuel,
you are God's presence among us,
save us, your people

Our Lady, Mother of the Redeemer:

Holy Mother Mary, ever-virgin yet fruitful woman, in the name of all humanity, your availability to the Father's Will offered the Eternal God a dwelling place in time. I thank you for your openness to the Divine challenge to become the Mother of the redeemed, as You trustingly accepted to be the Mother of the Redeemer. With hopeful heart, you awaited the fulfillment of the Father's Will. You gazed with awe at the Eternal Love you held in your arms and faithfully accompanied Jesus in His life through His ministry even to the Cross. Be with me today and every day, that I may await the Lord in joyful expectation of His coming in glory. May I gaze with awe at His Hidden yet Real Presence in the Mystery of the Eucharist, where He is enfleshed in those who receive him. Mother of the Redeemer and redeemed, the Christ and the Christian, lead me to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Who lives for ever. Amen.

Holy Father, St. Pio of Pietrelcina, lover of the Eucharist, pray for us.

Holy Father, St. Pio of Pietrelcina, lover of Our Lady, pray for us.

Holy Father, St. Pio of Pietrelcina, lover of Christ's Mystical body, the Church, pray for us.

**** Christmastime ****

Father, you gave the human race eternal salvation through the motherhood of the Virgin Mary. May we experience the help of her prayers in our lives, for through her we received the very source of life, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

(Pray following Antiphon everyday):

The Word was enfleshed in humanity and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the only begotten Son of God, Jesus the Christ.

(Conclude with the following prayers):

God of time and of eternity, with Christmas joy we praise you for the year gone by and for all that lies ahead. The Birth of Jesus opens our eyes and our hearts to the beginning of a new year of salvation. Your Son comes among us to bring glad tidings to the poor and to proclaim peace to all people of good will. May Jesus whom I adore as my Lord and Savior help me to live in The Word, Who leads me to you who lives with Him and the Holy Spirit, for ever. Amen.

Holy Mary, Mother of God and my Mother, pray to God for me, who have recourse to you. Pray that one day I may enter the fullness of eternity, as Jesus, through You, became one with us in all things but sin, entering into time. Amen.

Holy Patriarch, Saint Joseph, Messianic Father of Jesus, your Foster Son and our Savior, pray for us, now and at the hour of death. Together with your beloved spouse, our Most Blessed Mother Mary, lead us to Jesus, that as you, we may live in His presence and pass from this life with Jesus and Mary at our side.

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, Father and Guide for many who seek a deeper encounter with Jesus and Mary, as we celebrate Jesus' birth in time, pray for us that we may be worthy to have Him come into our hearts. The Christ Child of Bethlehem calls us to that spiritual childhood that you never lost. Pray for us that we may be the children of God we were created to be. Be our guide and advocate as we strive to live in the Father's will, through Jesus His Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.