

December 2019

***Stay awake! You also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.*** (Matthew 24: 37-44)

A voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way if the Lord, make straight his paths. (Matthew 3: 1-12)

***You shall bear a son ... called Son of the Most High ... for nothing is impossible with God.
May it be done to me according to your word*** (Luke 1: 26-38)

Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord should be fulfilled. (Luke 1: 39-47)

***Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist;
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he*** (Matthew 1: 2-11)

***Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us".*** (Matthew 1: 1-25)

***She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them
in the inn.***

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests. (Luke 2: 1-14)

Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. (Luke 2: 15-20)

***In the beginning was the Word. The Word was God,
To those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his
name.*** (John 1: 1-18)

What was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a Nazarene. (Matthew 2: 13-23)

***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. We ask this through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.***

1

The man who sins through disbelief, through lack of trust, is a madman

2

Without divine grace, could you have been victorious in all the crises and spiritual battles which you
have had to face?

3

Open your soul more and more to divine hope...

4

Have more trust in the divine mercy which is the only refuge of the soul

5

Humble yourself before the compassion of our God.

6

Our God is always ready to welcome and raise up the one who acknowledges his nothingness before him.

7

Flee from even the slightest shadow of anything that makes you think highly of yourself.

8

Reflect upon and keep before your mental gaze the great humility of the Mother of God, our Mother.

9

The more (Mary) was filled with heavenly gifts, the more deeply did she humble herself.

10

As gifts increase in you let your humility grow.

11

You must consider that everything is given to you on loan.

12

The increase of gifts must always burst forth from your heart in the form of continual thanksgiving.

13

Place your faith in the divine assistance.

14

Be certain that one who has defended you up to the present will continue His saving work.

15

If nature suffers and demands its rights, this is a condition of man's life as a wayfarer.

16

Man was created to enjoy happiness and his trials are a consequence of sin.

17

As long as we remain in this world we shall always feel a natural aversion to suffering.

18

Embrace and submit to the (cross) for love of God.

19

It is the flesh that is weak, but God wants the spirit and not the flesh.

20

Cling tightly all the time in spirit to the divine will.

21

Serve the Lord with a joyful heart, for divine love will never grow less in your soul.

22

Have boundless trust in the divine mercy.

23

God loves you very much.

24

Continue to trust, to hope and to love.

25

Praise be to God in the highest heavens!

26

May the Holy Spirit fill you with His most holy gifts.

27

May it please this God of goodness to behave as a loving Father and not as a righteous judge.

28

Watchfulness, prayer and humility are the arms needed to overcome all temptations.

29

One does not do wrong without being aware of it.

30

Be sincere and the Lord will love you more dearly.

31

Jesus is closely united with you. Listen to His voice. Put away the fears you have. God is with you.

*** Advent ***

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.

TO THE BLESSED TRINITY

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.

(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:

ANTIPHONARY 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, forever 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, 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 Spirit, for ever.

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

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.