

April 2020

*Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
hosanna in the highest.* (Matthew 21: 1-11)

If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.

As I have done for you, you should also do. (John 13: 1-15)

I came into the world to testify to the truth. Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews. I thirst.

It is finished. And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit. (John 18: 1 – 19:42)

Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.

He is not here for he has been raised just as he said. (Matthew 28: 1-10)

Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.

Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.

The other disciple also went in, and he saw and believed. (John 20: 1-9)

Peace be with you. My Lord and my God. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.

(John 20: 19-31)

How slow of heart to believe all the prophets spoke! Stay with us for it is nearly evening, and the day

is almost over. Were not our hearts burning within us

while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us? (Luke 24: 13-35)

*O God, we have seen how You worked our salvation through the sufferings, death and resurrection of
Your Son, Jesus Christ and gave us Padre Pio as a living example of Your Son's obedience to Your will.
You blessed Padre Pio with the five wounds of Christ Crucified, making Him an inspiring witness to the
saving love of Jesus in our world, and a powerful reminder to us of Your infinite mercy and goodness.*

*Help us, O Lord, to imitate Padre Pio's devout faith, prayerful holiness, patient forgiveness and his
loving compassion toward all people. Amen.*

1

I urge you not to lose heart in face of all the trials.

2

You must learn to suffer in a Christian manner.

3

Don't be afraid.

4

No suffering, no matter how low the motive, will go unrewarded in eternal life.

5

Trust and hope in the merits of Jesus.

6

Poor clay will become pure gold which will shine in the palace of the king of heaven.

7

Desire nothing except what the Lord wants.

8

May the grace of the divine Spirit always be with you to console you in all your trials.

9

Continue to trust in the Lord.

10

Place your confidence in Jesus.

11
(Jesus) will know how to comfort your soul even when it is tossed about in the stormy sea.
12
Never be afraid of the enemy's enticements.
13
Remain faithful to the Lord and (always be) on your guard.
14
Build up your strength by prayer and holy humility.
15
What are you afraid of? Is our God not faithful to His promises?
16
Have recourse with more childlike trust to Jesus.
17
Turn to (Jesus) at all times
18
(Turn to Jesus) even when the devil tries to cast a pall over your life by showing you your sins.
19
Lift up your voice loudly to (Jesus).
20
Express your spiritual humility, heartfelt contrition, and your vocal prayer.
21
God's power triumphs over everything.
22
Humility, contrition and prayer abolish the distance between man and God, but humble and suffering
prayer prevails over God Himself.
23
Ask with loud cries for help to walk all the time in (God's) sight.
24
Draw near to Jesus to receive His embrace that sanctifies and saves us.
25
(Serve) Him with genuine affection, (carry) out in holy works His heavenly doctrine we profess by our
words.
26
He Himself will come as He has promised, full of mercy and love.
27
Let us approach and receive the bread of angels with great faith and love in our hearts.
28
If we love Jesus let us stir ourselves up and keep far from all that smacks of worldliness.
29
Let us love Jesus more and more. Let us remain united with Him always.
30
Let us open our hearts to trust.

Litany of the Stations of Easter Joy

The 15 "Stations of Joy" From Resurrection to Pentecost The "Stations of Joy" each commemorate one of the passages in Scripture when the Resurrected Jesus tried tenderly to convince us of His Resurrection, to change our sorrows into joys. A sad Christian is not a convincing Christian ... let us try to pray and live these "Stations of Joy" during the glorious Paschal time, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. The 40 days of Lent are intense ones for a

Christian, but the 40 days of Paschal time, from the Resurrection to the Ascension, should be the most joyful, ending an extra 10 days later with the glory of Pentecost. (The Scriptural citations after each Station of Joy are offered for anyone who might desire to use a Station a day as a personal point of meditation)

NB – Please continue to recite the Litany of the Stations until Holy Saturday. From Easter to Pentecost, recite the Litany of the Stations of Joy.

(*) Indicates the refrain to be said after each Station: THROUGH YOUR GLORIOUS RESURRECTION, GRANT ME THIS GRACE, LORD JESUS.

I Lord, through Your glorious **Resurrection**, may I live in the gift of Your love, joy and peace, and witness the New Life You offer those who believe in You. (*) [Mt.28, Mk.16, Lk.24/28, Jn.20-21]

II Lord, through Your **encounter with Mary Magdalene** after Your Resurrection, may I hear You speak my name each day in the depths of my heart and respond by proclaiming Your love to others in my life. (*) [Jn.20, Mt.28, Mk.16]

III Lord, through Your **encounter with the other Holy Women** and instruction to tell the Good News to the disciples of Your Resurrection, may I be fearless in proclaiming my Faith in You to everyone. (*) [Mt.28,8-10; Lk.24, 10-11]

IV Lord, through Your **encounter with Two Disciples from Emmaus** who were enlightened on the road and recognized You in the Breaking of the Bread, may I hear Your Word with an open heart and always acknowledge You truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar. May I joyfully acknowledge You without hesitation as the two of Emmaus did. (*) [Lk.24: 13-35]

V Lord, through the **Peace, Pardon, and the Paraclete** You offered as the first gifts of Your Resurrection, may I cooperate with God's grace and be a source of forgiveness and peace to others. (*) [Jn.20: 21-23]

VI Lord, through Your **manifestation to the Doubting Thomas**, may I come to recognize You in the wounds and scars of those who suffer in any way, and acknowledge You before all people as My Lord, and My God. (*) [Jn.20: 24-28]

VII Lord, through Your **appearance and concern for the needs of the Apostles** who went fishing and Your eating with them as a sign that it was truly You alive, grant that I recognize You in the ordinary moments of life and trust that You assist me in my needs. Let my faith in You be proof enough for me. (*) [Jn.21,1-14]

VIII Lord, through Your loving **encounter with Peter on the Shore** and Entrusting to Him the Responsibility to Shepherd Your Flock, may I always be faithful to the Church and those called to Shepherd Your people. May I never forget that where there is Peter, there is the Church, and where there is the Church, there are You Who guide guard and protect us through our shepherds. (*) [Jn.21: 15-17]

IX Lord, through Your loving **encounter with Mary Your Mother** after Your Glorious Resurrection, may I always foster a deep love and devotion for our Heavenly Mother. May I celebrate her exalted place in the mystery of our salvation, and confide in Her almighty intercession for all God's children. (*) [Jn.20, Acts 1]

X Lord, You commanded Your followers to **Go and Preach the Gospel** to all Creation. May I be a living Gospel of peace and blessings to all that through my words and actions others may come to know, love and serve You. (*) [Mt.28: 19-20]

XI Lord, through the **Five "Signs" of a Christian**, may I cast out the demons of addiction and inappropriate life; speak the language of love, joy and peace; be fearless before the serpents of hatred, jealousy and unfaithfulness, remain unharmed by the poison of slander, injustice, sickness, be a healing touch for those who find life wearisome and lonely. (*) [Mk.16: 17-18]

XII Lord, You **Promised to Remain Always With Us**. May I trust in Your Presence and find strength and courage in knowing that You are always with me, to guide, guard and protect me. (*) [Mt.28: 19-20]

XIII Lord, through Your **Glorious Ascension** to the Right Hand of the Father, may I look to the heavens for strength and protection as I confidently keep my feet well-grounded on earth, fulfilling whatever is the Will of the Father entrusted to me for His glory, my salvation, and the good of others. (*) [Jn.6:53; Mt.6:11]

XIV Lord, through Your **Promise that Your Followers would be Baptized in the Holy Spirit** to be witnesses of the Resurrection to all the world, may I be truly wise and always follow the Father's Will through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit in my life. (*) [Act.1:4-8; 12-15]

XV Lord, through the **Descent of the Holy Spirit** on the Early Christian Community gathered in the Upper Room together with Mary, may my heart burn with an inner fire of love and enthusiasm for the Faith, that in the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit, I may fearlessly proclaim that You are Jesus, Son of God, Lord and Savior, in Whose Name we find salvation. (*) [Acts 2]

LORD JESUS, help me to walk with You each day of my life. The sorrow and joy, the pain and healing, the failures and triumphs of my life are small personal deaths and resurrections that lead me closer to You. Give me the faith and trust I need to walk with You in the new life Your Resurrection brings. May I journey with You to Calvary and beyond, that I may share in the fruits of Your Glorious Resurrection. With Padre Pio to accompany me, I patiently and joyfully confide and trust in You, my Lord and Risen Savior, in Whose Name I find salvation and eternal Life. You live forever. Amen.

MARY, MOTHER OF OUR REDEEMER and our most Blessed Mother, be with me always. You comforted Jesus on the road to Calvary by your silent and loving presence; you held his lifeless body close to your Immaculate Heart, as you offered the sadness and suffering that only a mother can feel when she sees the suffering of her child; look on me as you looked at Jesus. Hold me close to your mother's heart in my moments of temptation and sin, that His marred image in my frail nature, may not succumb to temptation and sin. Pray for me that I may be a LIVING IMAGE OF JESUS alive and well in the heart of one who believes and loves Him ... Dear Mother, You were a constant support and strength to our Father, Padre Pio throughout his lifelong Calvary, until he came to the promised reward offered all God's faithful children. Accompany me, that I also may share in the graces and joys of the Resurrection.

PADRE PIO OF PIETRELCINA, by a singular grace you were blessed to participate in the mystery of the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through your ministry, God revealed the marvels of His mercy to numberless souls. Pray for me, that, like you, and through your loving intercession, I may remain with Christ in His Passion so as to joyfully attain, as you, to the glory of the Resurrection. Intercede for me with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who is God for ever. Amen.

