July 2020

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever receives you, receives me. And whoever receives me, receives the one who sent me. (Matthew 10: 37-42) Blessed are your eyes ... and blessed are your ears ... many prophets and righteous people desired to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. (Matthew 13: 1-23) The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear. (Matthew 13: 24-43)

The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field ... like a merchant searching for fine pearls ... he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. (Matthew 13: 44-52)

ANIMA CHRISTI: Soul of Christ, sanctify me. / Body of Christ, save me / Blood of Christ, inebriate me. / Water from the side of Christ, wash me. / Passion of Christ, Strengthen me. / O good Jesus, hear me. / Within Your Wounds, hide me. / Do not let me be separated from You. / From the evil enemy, defend me. / In the hour of my death, call me. / And bid me come to You / That with the saints I may praise you. / Forever and ever. / Amen.

1 Open your soul more and more to divine hope. How good our God is! Have more trust in the divine mercy. Unworthiness prevents from asking for more graces; I am becoming unworthy of heavenly favors. Jesus needs those who groan with him at human sinfulness. 5 May the charity of Jesus always be blessed. 6 (Jesus 2 charity) knows how to mix the sweet with the bitter and convert transitory sufferings of life to eternal reward. 7 As regards your spiritual state, I recommend that you never fear. 8 I exhort you to confide more in divine mercy. 9 (Humble) yourself before the mercy of God (Thank) him for all the favors he wants to grant you. 10 (Humility and thanksgiving before God) defy and overcome all the anger of hell. 11 He who has helped you up to now will continue his work of salvation. 12

Without divine grace would you have been able to overcome so many crises to which your soul was subjected?

13

He who has helped you (from the beginning) will continue (to help you always).

14

Be as every follower of the Nazarene should be.

15

Be extremely modest in everything.

16

(Modesty) is the virtue which more than any other reveals the affections of the heart.

17

Nothing more widely represents the good or bad of a soul than the greater or lesser regulation of the exterior (actions).

18

You must be modest in your speech, in your laughter, in your bearing, in your walking.

19

(Do not act) out of vanity to display one Is self, nor out of hypocrisy to appear to be good in the eyes of others.

20

(Do what you do) for the internal virtue of modesty which regulates the eternal workings of the body.

21

Always be diligent.

22

See that the education of the mind is always coupled with the education of the heart and of our holy religion.

23

To love God as much as he deserves is not possible for us creatures.

24

God commands us to love him in accordance with our strength: all our soul, mind and heart.

25

God understands very well our intention, which is upright and holy before him.

26

God knows very well the reason why many good desires are not realized. Do not afflict yourself. The soul always profits.

27

If nothing but mortification for the soul were gained, it would still be a marvelous thing.

28

Be patient in bearing your imperfections.

29

When you are unable to take big steps to the Lord, be content with small steps and patiently wait until you have legs to run.

30

We will never acquire perfect sweetness and charity, if it is not exercised in (and through) adversities.

31

Always keep Jesus present in your mind.

Prayers to Padre Pio

Sunday

Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, loving father, you bore the visible wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ on your body. Christ asked you to carry His 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 God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 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 a loving Mother as She can give. We beg you to pray for us to our Heavenly Mother, and to 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, forgive our sinfulness, 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 explate 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 to 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 the Suffering 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, faithful father, you surrendered yourself to God to share in the salvific plan of God and offered yourself as a victim with Jesus in the Spirit 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 2s 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.

- 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. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.