



FONDAZIONE
Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza

Centro Gruppi di Preghiera di Padre Pio

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO, 28th December 2020

Dear brothers and sisters of Padre Pio's Prayer Groups,

another year has come to an end. A difficult year, which put a strain on our existence, but at the same time helped us to rediscover the beauty and value of life.

Prayer Groups from all over the world joined together begging the Lord with one voice and living faith and faced together, with prayer, this common "enemy".

Last October, the **Feast of the Holy Rosary** marked the beginning of this pastoral year which has our missionary life as its commitment: we have been called to live the Rosary not as a prayer made up of words alone, but as a prayer of the heart, capable quenching Jesus's thirst for His brethren.

Despite having difficulties organizing our Conferences, I know that almost all the Groups meet regularly for the Eucharist, Adoration and monthly Catechesis. A sincere thanks to the Spiritual Assistants and Group Leaders for their commitment, despite a thousand difficulties

I remind you, now, of an important appointment, which we must all try to live in memory of Padre Pio and our commitment to be his true spiritual sons and daughters.

On January 22, the day of the 117th anniversary of the anniversary of Padre Pio taking the habit, we will celebrate the **Day of Fidelity** and together we will renew the baptismal promises, a sign of divine life received in Christ. This will be an occasion to publicly confirm our commitment to fidelity to the Gospel that we have presented to Padre Pio so many times on a personal level.

It is important that in the following days, you communicate to the International Center of Prayer Groups if you were able to carried out this beautiful initiative and - possibly - that you send us some photographs.

Dear brothers and sisters, we have a new year full of hope ahead of us; let us welcome the Lord with love in our hearts and the ever burning desire to "*be thirsty for your brothers's wellbeing*".

In Christ crucified and risen.

Padre Franco MOSCONE crs
Archbishop Manfredonia-Vieste-San Giovanni Rotondo
Director for Padre Pio Prayer Groups