



**Padre Pio of Pietrelcina Prayer Groups**  
*Follow the path on which the Lord has placed you*

## **Vigil for the liturgical feast of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina**

22nd September 2021

### **Entrance hymn**

### **Silent Adoration**

#### **Community adoration prayer**

We adore, oh Christ, your glorious Body  
born of the Virgin Mary;  
for us you wanted to suffer,  
for us you offered yourself a victim on the cross  
and from your torn side  
you poured out the water and blood of our ransom.  
Accept, Lord, my entire freedom.  
All that I am, have and possess, you have given me:  
I give you everything back,  
and I surrender myself fully to your will.  
Just give me your love, with your grace,  
and I feel rich enough,  
and I don't ask you anything else.  
(from the Roman Liturgy)

### **1. Let us listen to the Word of God**

#### **Introductory hymn to the Word of God**

#### **Let us pray**

O Father, who wanted to communicate with us in so many ways,  
but only in your Son Jesus did you place the fullness of your revelation,  
grant us to know how to listen to his word, to possess it in our heart  
and to know how to pass it on to our brothers.  
You who live and reign forever and ever.

#### **From the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians (3,1-17)**

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



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*Padre Pio's Prayer Groups are called to live their own history by sanctifying the family, their work and all the things they do, in the awareness that it is the Lord who has placed each of us on the path we are following.*

### **From a letter from Padre Pio of Pietrelcina to Antonietta Vona and her family**

But my good daughters, I strongly recommend those poor hearts of yours to you. Take care to render them more pleasing to our Master day by day, and see to it that this coming year is more fertile in good works than the one just gone by, given that at the same pace with which the years pass by and eternity approaches, we must redouble our courage and raise our spirits to God, serving him with greater diligence in everything that our vocation or Christian professions obliges of us. Only this can render us pleasing to God: It can free us from the big world that is not of God, and from all our other enemies. This alone, therefore, can bring us to the port of eternal salvation.

Let us face the present trials to which divine Providence subjects us, but let us not lose heart or become discouraged. Let us fight valiantly and we will obtain the prize of strong souls. Remember, my daughters, the words the divine Master one day said to the apostles and which he says to you today: "Let not your heart be troubled". Yes, my daughter, let not your hearts be troubled in the hour of trial, because Jesus promised his real assistance to those who follow him.

Therefore, in the hour of battle let us remember Jesus, who is with us, who suffers with us and for us; let us remember Jesus fighting for us and with us. Let us have recourse to him and we will always obtain relief. By doing this we will always sing victory before God.

Therefore, live tranquilly, my daughters, follow the path on which the Lord has placed you and, in a holy manner, diligently try to keep Jesus satisfied and pleased; this Jesus who suffers the abandonment of his Father for love of us, and by whom this heavenly Father wanted you to be accompanied. So just like a bee who is carefully making the honey of holy devout practices, also make the wax of domestic affairs, because if the former brings it a sweetness pleasing to Christ, who while he lived in the world nourished himself with butter and honey, as Scripture tells us, the latter superabounds with glory for him, because it serves to make lighted candles for the edification of one's neighbour. God who has taken you by the hand with special care, is guiding you to the port of eternal salvation: let us confide in him and have no fear.

May Jesus make your hearts more and more his. Long live Jesus and in him I take my leave of you and bless you all along with Giuseppina.

*P. Pio, cappuccino*

[To Antonietta Vona, San Giovanni Rotondo 2nd January 1918, III, 6, 832]

*Homily or moment of personal reflection*

### **2. Offering of one's life**

The Gospel highlights how Jesus generously offered his life to the Father for the good of men. His was not an impulsive or reckless gesture, but it was part of a project of God: from the beginning the Father knew that Jesus' solidarity with men would lead him to have to accept their ambiguities, their wickedness, an unfair trial and death. The action of the Holy Spirit makes him strong and capable of transforming so much evil into a gift of perfect love.

Offering our life to God, what we are, our poverty, but also the poverty of others, whether they do us wrong or do not do us good, unites us profoundly to Jesus; clinging to his cross, we will walk with him to glory.

*After a moment of silence, the hymn from the letter to the Philippians can all be recited together*

### **Canticle (Fil 2, 6-11)**

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not count equality with God  
a thing to be grasped,

but emptied himself,  
by taking the form of a servant  
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,



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he humbled himself by becoming obedient  
to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and bestowed on him  
the name that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth,

and every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*A brazier can be placed in front of the altar and, as a sign of offering one's life, each (or a representative of the faithful) infuses a little incense into the fire.*

### **Offertory hymn**

### **3. Prayers of intercession**

Let us invoke God's love with faith and living hope and let us express our intentions.  
Everyone reads an intention freely

*Let us pray together and say: Lord hear us!*

- For Pope Francis: may he be a living witness of God's love for men. Let us pray.
- For all the rulers of the Earth: May the Holy Spirit enlighten their minds to make right choices for the peoples they run. Let us pray.
- For the sick: may they feel God's comfort in trial and offer their suffering for the good of our communities and for the conversion of sinners. Let us pray.
- For our community gathered here: may it be ever more welcoming and generous in its service to the neediest. Let us pray.
- For young people in search of their way: be a traveling companion for them, Lord, and lead them to the discovery of their human vocation. Let us pray.
- For Prayer Groups spread all over the world: may they place the service of their own prayer at the service of the Church and are true beacons of light and witnesses of faith. Let us pray.
- For the Home of Relief of Suffering: may the Lord help us to feel it ours in charity and guide all the operators in fidelity to the mission that Padre Pio gave them..

### ***Our father***

### ***Let us pray together***

Lord Jesus,  
with joy we prostrate ourselves in adoration  
at your holy altar.

With you, oh Jesus,  
everything is about eternal life,  
everything is light that illuminates life,  
everything helps to continue the journey  
everything is sweetness ... even pain!

You are a copious source of the purest joy.  
Joy that we begin to feel here,  
in the valley of tears,  
and which will be full when you reveal your glory to us:  
the joy of faith will be replaced by that of vision.



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Lord Jesus, You, living bread which came down from heaven, You are enough for us

We don't need others.

You are our life.

You are our joy.

You are our everything.

We rely on you:

our comfort, our joy, our peace. Amen.

### 4. Benediction

#### Eucharistic hymn

*Let us pray*

Lord Jesus Christ, who in the admirable sacrament of the Eucharist have left us the memorial of your suffering, make us adore with lively faith the holy mystery of your Body and your Blood, to fill us always with the benefits of redemption. You are God ...

*Blessed be God.*

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints. Amen.

### Hymn to Padre Pio

Image of Christ,

marked with His Blood,

effigy of the Cross

in the body of the Church!

You know, good Cyrenean,  
what it is to perform in you  
the trials and sufferings of our Savior;

You know, good Cyrenean,  
what it is to carry the weight  
on the shoulders of your many brothers.

The Father, who is moved,  
celebrates the prodigal son.

Bring to life, Padre Pio,  
beside those who are far away,

and the Father who is in heaven  
and shows mercy,

for you faithful servant  
brings peace to those who return.