



The day of fidelity

22 January 2022

Anniversary of the Religious Dressing of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

Every year our Prayer Groups are called to confirm their commitment of fidelity to the Gospels, following the spirituality of Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, their founder.

THE RITE OF THE OATH OF FIDELITY

The rite of this commitment of fidelity is celebrated on the day we commemorate the dressing of Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, January 22 (or another day agreed upon with the Spiritual Assistant). If Holy Mass is celebrated, this rite can be performed after the homily or before the final blessing.

Song

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

the Lord is with you.

and with your spirit

Let us open our spirit to his voice, and in remembrance of our Baptism and in prayer we show our gratitude to the Lord for the gift of faith.

We give thanks to the Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Jesus says: “I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness”. (John 12:46)

Lord Jesus, our light, make it possible for us to walk in the light of your Word and live in the light of your friendship.

Psalm 91

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.
He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.
You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place-- the Most High, who is my refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.



“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.”

Amen

O God, good and faithful, You create the existence of man and renew him, look with love at the people you have chosen and call incessantly new generations to establish their friendly relationship with You, so that, according to your promise, they can joyfully receive as a gift the dignity of children of God. For Christ our Lord.

Meditations from the writings of St. Padre Pio

Pray to this divine Lover for me; this beloved Spouse of our souls, that he may accomplish the work he began in me. [...] He has shown me that not only would he be my Saviour, my supreme Benefactor, but a devoted, sincere and faithful friend of my heart; eternal and infinite love, consolation, joy, comfort, my entire treasure.

[...] A sad but most sweet voice echoed in my poor heart; it was the warning of a loving Father who pointed out to his son, the dangers he would encounter in the struggle of life. It was the voice of a benevolent Father, who wanted his son’s heart detached from infantile, innocent love; it was the voice of a loving Father who whispered in the ears and heart of the son in order to detach him totally from the clay, from mud, in order to jealously consecrate himself entirely to Him.

Ardently, with loving sighs, with inexplicable groanings, with sweet and suave words He called him to himself, to make him totally His.

[...] Where better could I serve you, O Lord, if not in the cloister, under the banner of Saint Francis of Assisi? And He, seeing my embarrassment, smiled at length, and that smile left an ineffable sweetness in my heart, so that sometimes I truly felt it so near, that I thought I saw His shadow. And my flesh, my entire being rejoiced in the Saviour, in my God.

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Where possible, those who have chosen to be part of the Prayer Group arrange themselves around the altar.

Brothers and sisters, through Baptism, in Jesus’s Passover we were buried with him in death to rise to new life. In various ways, the Lord has led us to learn about the spirituality of Padre Pio and to look at him as a model in following and imitating Christ poor and obedient to the Father. Following his example, we renew the promises of our Baptism, committing ourselves to recognise the voice of Jesus who calls us by name and invites us to follow Him.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

I do

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

I do

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

I do

God and Father of Jesus, who freed us from sin and made us to be reborn from water and from the Holy Spirit, through the intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina may He protect us with His grace, in the Lord Jesus, for eternal life.

Amen



Let us invoke together the intercession of Mary Most Holy, of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina and of all the saints, so that with their help we can be persevering in our purposes:

Holy Mary, Mother of God	pray for us
Saint Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	pray for us
St. John the Baptist	pray for us
St. Joseph	pray for us
Holy apostles and evangelists	pray for us
St. Peter	pray for us
St. Paul	pray for us
St. Mary Magdalene	pray for us
Saint Benedict	pray for us
St. Dominic	pray for us
Saint Francis of Assisi	pray for us
Saint Clare of Assisi	pray for us
Saint Pio of Pietrelcina	pray for us
St. John Paul II	pray for us
Saint Teresa of Calcutta	pray for us
Saints of God	pray for us

FIDELITY COMMITMENT

Brothers and sisters, the Church invites us to live in the spirit of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, the charism of prayer and help to the suffering, living our fidelity to the Gospel to be salt of the earth and light of the world, we now publicly renew that commitment of fidelity that many times, on a personal level, we presented to Padre Pio, invoking his protection.

O Father, you have chosen and called us to be «nurseries of the faith, the fertile soil of love»,
we commit, here in front of our community,
to be ministers of prayer and service to the sufferings;
to renounce sin with serious commitment;
to grow in virtues, especially within our families;
to share our journey in this Prayer Group,

following the spirituality of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina and the teachings of the Church.

We promise fidelity to the Pope, to our pastors and to the commitments we take on the common journey with the brothers and sisters of our Group.

In the footsteps of Saint Francis of Assisi, we choose to welcome the needy, to support the poor and be loving and respectful of creation.

Virgin Mary, You who guided the journey of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, welcome our holy desires and accompany us on our journey towards holiness.

Amen.

Our Father...

the Lord is with you

and with your spirit

May Almighty God, through Whom You we were born to a new life from the water and the Holy Spirit, bless you all, so that wherever you will be, you may be living members of his Church: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen

May the Almighty God give you His peace: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.