

## Padre Pio Prayer Anthology

*Our first parish prayer anthology will include many types of prayers. We will begin our collection with prayers that you can use to develop a relationship with God that is more personal and intimate.*

### Prayer #22

Focus idea: Easter, the day we celebrate the end of Christ's torturous earthly suffering and His triumphant resurrection, is also a day for us to be surrounded by His love and to show our humble and sincere gratitude for His most precious gift of redemption! He gifts us with His light and grace, and His promise to be our strength, hope and inspiration! Have we made ourselves worthy of His gift? Our human nature makes it a constant struggle to avoid temptation, and to live our lives as Jesus did. We know what we are supposed to do. It's the "doing it right" part that's hard. If we spend time with our Risen Lord in prayer, we will form a stronger bond with Him, and in doing so, we will be able to find the courage and determination to take His Light into the world. By caring for our fellow man, we can **be** the person that God **wants** us to be! In Fr. Joe's words, "It's God's inspiration in our hearts that gives us the strength and motivation to **act** on our ideas for doing good!" Happy Easter, and may God reward your sincere efforts with magnificent peace and joy!

### Prayer for motivation to care for others:

Dear God, help me to keep in perspective the things that are happening around me. Help me to focus on the "bigger picture" and to see clearly how fortunate I am, no matter what my struggles are. Help me to be grateful for my faith, most especially the knowledge that you are always at my side to support and guide me. Help me to not "brush aside" those less fortunate, and to actively "seek out" ways that I can be helpful. May I never disappoint you with my efforts. May my life bring "light" to others, and may others see that light in me. May my life encourage others to **be** a light for someone else. And may the efforts of the countless good people in our world, bring

You the great joy that You deserve, for everything you have given to us and inspire us to be! Amen.

Closing thoughts: Tell Jesus what is in your heart. Thank Him for your gifts and most of all, thank Him for loving you with His most sacred heart!