Prayer #24 - 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 <u>personal</u> and <u>intimate</u>.

Prayer #24

Focus idea: We have just celebrated the energizing and inspiring feast of Pentecost. Is your heart ablaze and empowered with the "Fire of the Holy Spirit"? It is now **our** mission and **our** responsibility to "go out and tell the good news"! **Now** is the time to show others the benefits, joys, and comforts of our faith! Are we brave enough to engage those we know in a conversation about rekindling their relationship with God? Do we dare ask them to join us at mass? The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Let **June** be the month that we ask Jesus to pour out the love, passion and strength that is so vibrantly present in His Sacred Heart into **our** hearts. May we **use** this gift to enkindle in others the desire to seek a close and tender relationship with our loving God. As Fr. Joe has said, "May we be able to find a way to touch others so that they might see the Face of God, and **feel** His love, strength and mercy!"

Prayer for sharing our faith:

Dear God, help me to be thankful for the gift of my faith and to realize the importance of faith in my life. Help me to never take this gift for granted, and to nurture it with loving care and attention, so that through prayer, it continues to grow stronger every day. Help my prayer time become personal and intimate time with God, so that I can *feel* His love *deeply* within my heart. Help me to *always* turn to Him for comfort and strength, and to realize that it is *His* love that will bring me the peace of mind, and the warmth and contentment that provides me with true happiness! Inspire me to find the words and actions that will make the strength of *my* faith obvious to everyone I meet. Help me to convey with *exhilaration* that loving God is a wonderful, overpowering and joyous experience, that no one should *ever* miss! 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!