

Prayer #25 - 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 #25

Focus idea: The month of July typically fills us with national pride. If you think about all the things we value so highly about our country, you can't help but realize that they are all possible because of the idealism, spirit, and determination of our forefathers and our citizens! We have the opportunity for a good life, but we also have the responsibility of carving out opportunities for future generations. ***Do we feel the same responsibility for the future of our church? And our parish? What are we doing to make our church and our parish stronger? And to spread our faith?*** The opportunities that ***we have*** to worship and receive Jesus in the Eucharist were made possible by the idealism, spirit and determination of the Apostles, and ***many*** that followed. ***Now it's up to us to enhance the future of our church!*** We have it in us, we just have to find the idealism, spirit and determination to spread it!

As Fr Joy expresses it, "With and in and through the Holy Spirit we make things happen. We need to make things happen within our church"!

Prayer for the strengthening our church:

Dear God, help me to feel responsible for the future of **OUR** church. Inspire in me the motivation to be an **active** participant in my parish. Bless me with a joy that shows on my face, that others may realize what the love of God can do for each of us! Help me to feel truly thankful for the gift of receiving the Eucharist at mass. Help me to come to church with the intention of giving thanks to You for filling my heart with Your peace, love and joy. Help me to realize that Your love for me has helped to make me a kind and loving person. Help me to share my gifts with everyone. Help others to see the true happiness that I have found through my love for You. Make them realize that they can feel that love and happiness too, and that the way to that happiness is through a more intimate and steady relationship with You. Call them back to You and to the church. 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!