

## 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 #30

Focus idea: December is a busy and demanding month! We feel the pressure of “getting ready” for Christmas! We want so badly to show our love to those we care about, by giving the perfect gift, or preparing the perfect meal! Can we possibly find the time and the motivation to share what we have with those that we don’t even know? Jesus asks us to *give up* what we have and *follow Him*! In today’s world, we probably couldn’t give up *everything* that we have, but maybe we could “take on” the needs of others who are struggling. Start small - challenge yourself to give up just **one** thing that you enjoy doing this holiday season. Devote that time to pray for the needs of others or even better yet, volunteer that time to be helpful to others. Fr. Joy suggests that we allow Jesus to search our hearts, and “let His light reveal the mercy, goodness, and generosity that is already there”. Now we just need the will to **act** upon our own goodness. Rest assured that God will then be blessing **you** with His priceless gifts of love, pride and appreciation!

### Prayer for a Meaningful Christmas season:

Dear Jesus, Christmas brings such joy and warmth into my heart. Please help me to realize that not all of Your children are so wonderfully blessed. Help me to recognize the needs of others who are struggling in my neighborhood and throughout the world. Help me to be thankful for the sacrifice that You made for my salvation, and to show my appreciation by making my own sacrifice for others. Help me to realize that You have great love for **all** of Your children and that I should also. Help me to always be appreciative of Your *great* love for me, especially during the moments when I am unworthy. Thank You for the true happiness that Your love brings to me, and strengthen me so that I may help others to find that happiness as well! 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!

