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 #32

We clearly live in a world that is mult-icultural and multi-problematic. In all corners of the world, personal crises invade all cultures and classes. Where do we turn when life's many problems hit home? We are all united as children of God and all dependent on Him for strength, peace and hope. God is the only constant in our lives - always there to inspire us and bless us with His grace and love. How is it that some people become despondent, and others calmly formulate a plan of action? The answer lies in prayer. Prayer opens a dialogue with God. Prayer allows us to form a meaningful relationship with God. And prayer helps us to form a partnership with God, bringing us the comfort that we all constantly seek! Fr. Joy reminds us that, "God never tests us beyond what we can endure. The effect of our trust in God is that we will rise above our difficulties with strength and confidence!"

Prayer for True Belief in the Power and Peace of Prayer:

Dear Jesus, please help me to truly trust in the power of Your love to bring me peace and comfort in the difficult moments of my life. Help me to turn to You through sincere prayer. Help me to seek an honest, genuine and constant relationship with You in times of sorrow AND in times of joy! Please continue to fill the emptiness inside of me when I am scared, or afraid of what lies ahead. Help me to explore new ways to pray and to recognize that praying the rosary or a novena shows my steadfast belief and my dedication to You. Help me to expand the number of people that I pray for, and help them to learn to find Your comfort through their own prayers. Remind me to enjoy the feeling of Your love inside my heart, and to show my appreciation by the way that I live my life. Let me live in Your love all the days of my life as I try to live my life in Your image and likeness. 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!