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 #35:

Focus Point: How wonderful it must have been to have lived in Jesus's time and been able to have seen first hand the kindness and mercy that He showed to others! Imagine the joy and inspiration that those individuals felt having met Jesus in person! That love and inspiration has been passed down through the generations, and grown exponentially! Look at how so many of us respond in times of crises. We model Christ's earthly behavior, as we sacrifice to help others that are helplessly suffering. But not *ALL* of us do. Many act selfishly, and even worse, many are the *CAUSE* of the needless suffering of others! Is it within our power to try to remedy this situation? How can we effectively change the hearts of others to make the world a better place? Fr Joe tells us that, "Jesus resides in the heart of each and *EVERY* one of us." We need to *PRAY* that the spirit of Jesus will overpower whatever evil exists in each individual, so that their newly converted and caring hearts will act with compassionate love for *ALL* of God's children! Our work lies ahead of us in *SO MANY* ways. Pray sincerely and *PRAY NOW!*

Prayer for Conversion to Living by Christ's Example:

Dear Jesus, You have entrusted us to care for others. Many have chosen a different path in life, becoming selfishly sinful and hateful of others. Help the embers of the flame of Your compassionate love to ignite within their hearts. Enlighten their minds to see the sinfulness of their past actions, and lead them to a lifetime conversion of heart, mind and spirit. Help *ME* to be a part of that conversion, by inspiring and motivating *ME* to be a living example of goodness, mercy and love. Help *ME* to teach kindness to others by **showing** kindness to others. Be at my side each day to love me and guide me along a path that will lead me and those that *I* have inspired to live by Your loving example. 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!