

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 #38:

Focus Point: There is an old Catholic tradition dating back to the 15th century that on August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption, there is a healing power in the waters of the sea placed there by the Blessed Mother. Some coastal parishes process to the ocean, carry a statue of Mary, toss flowers into the water, pray the Magnificat and sprinkle Holy Water into the ocean. Many believe that healing can occur by wading in the water. Some bring the ocean water home in bottles. Regardless of the *details* of what people believe, this tradition is a **testament** to the **strength** of our Catholic belief in the power of the Blessed Virgin Mary to intercede with her beloved son, Jesus, on our behalf! It is a **testament** to the **power** of prayer in our lives! It is a **testament** to the **love** of our mother, Mary, for all of us who ask sincerely and humbly for her help with our difficulties, and for her guidance in our lives!

Prayer for Strengthening our Belief in the Power of Mary:

Dear Lord, open my eyes to the power of Your Mother's love for me. Help me to turn to her in time of need. Encourage me to pray to her openly and honestly. Dear Mary, hold me in your loving arms and bring me the comfort of your love and your tender care. Teach me to accept the will of your Son, and to turn to you as an example of patience and holiness. Treat me as a child who does not know where to turn. Look at me with your eyes filled with love and compassion, and listen to my heartfelt petitions. Please pray with me and keep me on the powerful path of prayer to you. May my trust in you bring me into a closer relationship with Jesus! 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!