

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 #42:

Focus Point: Some people feel that they are especially “blessed” by God. Maybe they are just luckier in life than others. Regardless of which way you look at it, most of us would agree that we are certainly fortunate to have so many comforts in life beyond the basic necessities. Our hearts go out to those born into poverty, disease and homelessness. Many have no source of comfort. Many are without knowledge of our loving God, the source of all comfort. Having just celebrated Thanksgiving, we are filled with feelings of love for our family, and **genuine gratitude** for opportunities that have provided us a comfortable life. We show our gratitude by embracing the corporal works of mercy, especially during the holiday season. As Fr Joe reminds us, “The core of our faith is sacrificial living and sacrificial loving. This is what God is about. This is what Jesus is about. In charity we do the best we can in our daily lives to help those less fortunate. Pray **hard** that we will be inspired by the Lord to achieve this for our world!”

Prayer for Having an Attitude of Gratitude and Acting On It

Dear Lord, Thank you for the comforts of life that I was born into. Thank you for providing opportunities for me to earn a living and provide for myself and my family. Thank you for the gift of my parents who brought me up to believe in You and who nourished my Catholic faith, so that I may feel Your love, comfort and support. Help me to **feel** a strong and motivating sense of genuine gratitude. Help me to feel a sense of responsibility for my fellow man, and an **urgent** desire to help those less fortunate. **Please** inspire me with an idea of how I can help those in need both physically **and** spiritually. Gift me with Your grace that I might stick with it and **continue** to do my part to better mankind. And may my attitude of gratitude bring me **immense** joy, and a deeper, more loving relationship with You all the days of my life. 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!

