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 #46:

Focus Point: Are we living in a world overcome by darkness or inspired by light? Most of us would agree that the answer is "both"! Through the media, we have a worldly awareness, and can see selfish individuals creating pain, misery and heartache. And thankfully we can also see their selfless counterparts who give their all to bring relief and comfort to those who are suffering! The world has been struggling with the forces of good (those inspired by God's love in their lives) vs evil (those who have turned away from God) throughout history! God sent Jesus to be the "light of the world", to guide our hearts to choose a life that models that of His Son. So think about where you fit in. The fact that you are reading this means that you are probably "part of the good". This Holy Week, as we follow Jesus through the events of His passion and death, may we come to realize the depth and intensity of His love, and the magnitude of His sacrifice for our salvation! Our *individual* salvation must be *earned* through prayer and good works. As Fr Joy explains it, "There is a great need for people to minister to the community. Everyone is welcome to serve the Church. Jesus is calling each of us to serve Him in a very special way!". May we find our own personal lights, and actively use them to "spread the Light of Christ" through our community and our world.

Prayer for Commitment to "Spreading the Light":

Dear Lord, Shine Your Light upon me to strengthen me. Shine Your Light through me that I might make a difference in Your world. Inspire me to use my talents to help make positive changes in others, for Your glory! May my actions reflect Your peace and hope in a world that needs to feel Your presence and Your healing so desperately! May all of us "working for the good" overcome our personal hesitations, elevate our priorities, and model our lives after that of Jesus. Imagine how brightly our lights will shine! Amen.