

## **PRAYER ANTHOLOGY # 74**

**FOCUS POINT : August is a meaningful month as we traditionally devote the month to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and on the 15th of August we honor the Solemnity of the Assumption during which we commemorate the Blessed Mother's ascent into Heaven, Body and Soul. Her assumption gives us hope for eternal life. And we at St Pio look forward to the Blessing of the Water on that day when we all gather to join in the Procession from the Parish to the ocean. As we pray, our Priests bless the water and toss the floral wreath into the ocean after which we fill our bottles with the blessed water. How lucky we are to be members of a parish so close to the sea that we are able to be part of a glorious and spiritually filled custom. As we give thanks and glory to our Blessed Mother, we can also have heartfelt thanks for being part of such a vibrant and welcoming church community. We are thankful for our fellow parishioners who organize this day and the lovely dinner afterward during which we are fortunate to come together as a church family. And we have so much appreciation and gratefulness for our benevolent parish Priests who continue this beautiful ceremony for us each year!!!**

### **PRAYER FOR GRATITUDE TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY**

**Dear Lord, As we celebrate the assumption of the Blessed Mother, I pray for her constant intercession, guidance and graces. I ask for her protection with gratitude for the sacrifice of her only Son. Each day, I pray to follow her example of humility and trust in God's perfect will. Our procession on the day of the Assumption is a public expression of our Catholic faith and our devotion to Mary. Please help me to always remember how blessed I am to be part of such a compassionate and loving group of people that make up our parish. I see You in each one of them and their devotion to You is a wonderful example for me. I pray to remain indebted to my church community and give back and serve in the ways that I can. Let me always remember each of them in my prayers and thank You for the gift of putting them in my life. Amen**