

Padre Pio - Prayer Anthology

Prayer #17

Focus idea: Thanksgiving is just around the corner! While we are all thankful for many things, we are probably most thankful for our family and friends because they bring love and tenderness into our hearts. They help to lessen our sorrows, and to bring our joys to a higher level. While we are thankful for what God has *given* to us, do we ever express our thanks for God Himself? Or for the warm, embracing and steadfast love that He has for each and every one of us? God is *also* there to lessen our sorrows and enhance our joys! He loves us *unconditionally!* And if we *are* thankful for our amazing God, how do we *show* our thanks? Fr. Joe asks us to “Pray to the Holy Spirit to give us direction for how we should live our lives. Pray that He will *inspire us* to be caring people who love one another, and who *act* on that love.” Let our actions reflect the thanks that we feel in our hearts for the God who is continuously blessing us with His graces and His strength!

Prayer for an Inspired Thanksgiving:

Dear Holy Spirit, come into my heart and open my eyes that I might see clearly all of the many gifts that God has given to me. Help me to see that God’s presence in my life is the most special gift of all! He is continually calling me into a closer relationship with Him; help me to answer His call! Help me to pray more openly and more sincerely, and *more often*, that I might deepen our relationship! Help me to be thankful to Him by instilling in me a passion to care for others, especially those less fortunate. Inspire me to spread the message of Jesus by my example, and to make the presence of His love for us felt deeply in each and every heart! Amen.