

**THE PADRE PIO
PRAYER GROUP
of Cleveland**

Spiritual Director:
Fr. Edward J. Janoch

Chaplains:
Fr. William E. Browne
Fr. Kevin C. Shemuga

Group Leader:
Cindy Russo, OFS

**MISSION &
VISION:**

To carry out the works, words and devotion of St. Padre Pio through prayer and charitable works where we can touch lives and change souls.

Our vision is to create more Spiritual Children and lead souls to heaven.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS:**

Oct 5 -
Padre Pio Prayer Group Gathering beginning with Rosary at 8:00 AM and Mass at 8:30 AM, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 9080 Shepard Rd, Macedonia

Oct 13 -
St. Padre Pio Day at Sorrowful Mother Shrine (see website for details)

Check the online Community Bulletin Board on our website to view upcoming events in the area



St. Padre Pio Prayer Group Newsletter

FEAST DAY 2019

SPECIAL EDITION

The Saint Whom We Celebrate Today

It is my honor to write an article about our dear Saint Padre Pio on the occasion of his feast day.

Saint Padre Pio was born on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy and was baptized the next day on May 26. Saint Padre Pio's birth name is Francesco Forgione. His parents were Grazio Mario Forgione and Maria Giuseppa Di Nunzio. Saint Padre Pio's family was very religious and his parents instilled in him a true love of God. Francesco was eventually called to become a Capuchin Franciscan Friar and his father, Grazio Forgione, even came to America to help him to become a Friar! On September 27, 1899, Saint Padre Pio received the Sacra-

Friar Pio was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on August 10, 1910. In September of 1907, Saint Padre Pio received the visible Stigmata for a short time and begged God to take them away. In August of 1918, Saint Padre Pio received the grace of Transverberation of the heart, which is a wounding of the heart to show closeness to God. Over 100 years ago, on September 20, 1918, Saint Padre Pio received the visible Stigmata while praying in the choir loft of the Old Church of Our Lady of Grace. Saint Padre Pio would have these marks for 50 years. In June of 1919, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith began to limit public access to the Saint.

On June 9, 1931, the Holy See ordered Saint Padre Pio to stop all activities except for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in private. In 1933 Pope Pius XI ordered the reverse on the ban of Saint Padre Pio celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass publicly. Pope Pius XI stated that he was badly informed about Saint Padre Pio. On September 23, 1968, Saint Pio died in his cell at 2:30 in the morning with the Stigmata healed. Saint Pio is notorious for hearing Confes-

sions for 15 hours a day. He was Beatified on May 2, 1999 by Pope Saint John Paul II and Canonized by the same Pope on June 16, 2002.

Jake's

Corner



Written by: Jake Snyder

ment of Confirmation. On January 22, 1903, at age 15 he received the Holy Habit of the Capuchin Franciscan Order and was given the name Pio. In 1907 he professed his final vows.

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Saint Padre Pio was the second Saint I ever learned about. Saint Padre Pio was a source of hope for all those who met him. People would come to him and pour out their struggles to him, but he never complained about anything. Saint Pio truly teaches us to trust in God and to be humble. Saint Pio was zealous in bringing God to all people who met him. He did this especially by bringing the mercy of God to all by hearing Confessions for hours on hours every day. Saint Padre Pio teaches us to help one another carry our struggles and to unite our sufferings to Our Blessed Lord on the Cross. Saint Padre Pio often got less than 2 hours of sleep!

The Saint teaches us many important lessons, but the most important of all is humility. He was subject to

many tests and medical examinations because of the Stigmata, but he never complained. Saint Padre Pio was criticized by many but never complained. Saint Padre Pio was banned from celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for 10 years, and he was obedient. Saint Padre Pio never wanted to draw attention to himself. He only wanted to draw people to God. Saint Padre Pio's life reminds me of the Gospel for Sunday, September 8th, which was Luke 14: 25-33. That Gospel passage tells us of how Jesus tells us to put Him first in our lives. As Spiritual Children of Saint Padre Pio, may we imitate the life of our beloved Saint. I leave you with a prayer of Saint Padre Pio: "May your heart always be the temple of the Holy Spirit. May Jesus be the helmsman of your little spiritual ship. May Mary be the star which shines on your path and may She show you the safe way to reach the Heavenly Father." Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, pray for us.

Padre Pio's Own Words About Himself

"I'm a mystery to myself."

"My true mission will begin after my death."

"When I am in heaven I will be able to do more."

"I pray constantly."

"I'm only a poor friar who prays."

"I belong entirely to everyone."

"Everyone can say: Padre Pio is mine."

"I offer myself as a victim for everyone."

"The Mass is the complete union between Jesus and me."

"I will never tire of praying to Jesus."

"I want to save souls by continuous prayer."

"I am all aflame although there is no fire."

"A thousand flames consume me."

"My sufferings are pleasing."

"I suffer only when I don't suffer."

"I want to suffer but in secret."

"I desire nothing else than to love and suffer."

"Jesus, let me suffer, and let me die from suffering."

"I suffer because I cannot win all my brothers to God."

"I suffer as much as anyone who has the whole of humanity on his back."

The Padre Pio Prayer Group of Cleveland



Monthly Prayer Group Gatherings are held on the first Saturday of each month. Our Gatherings consist of Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mass, Guest Speakers and Refreshments. You can read the Mission & Vision of our Prayer Group on the front page of this newsletter. As a catalyst to pass on the work and words of St. Padre Pio, our goal is to pray, support those in need, and carry out charitable works to lead others back to Christ and the Church, just as St. Pio did in his days on earth, and become his Spiritual Children, something that he hopes to obtain in us all as followers of Jesus Christ. We look forward to seeing you at one of our Upcoming Events listed on the front page of this newsletter.

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