

**THE PADRE PIO  
PRAYER GROUP  
of Cleveland**

**Spiritual Director:**  
Fr. Edward J. Janoch

**Chaplains:**  
Fr. William E. Browne  
Fr. Michael Petkosek  
Fr. Kevin C. Shemuga

**Group Leader:**  
Cindy Russo TOF

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS:**

**Jun 11 -**

**Global Rosary Relay  
for the Sanctification  
of Priests at Noon at  
Our Lady of Lourdes  
Shrine in Euclid (see  
page 3)**

**Jun 11 -**

**Special Feast Day  
Mass for the Sacred  
Heart of Jesus,  
Rosary at 6:00 PM  
and Mass at 6:30 PM,  
Our Lady of  
Guadalupe Church**

**Jun 16 -**

**St. Padre Pio's  
Canonization  
Anniversary (2002)**

**Jul 3 -**

**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**

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



# St. Padre Pio Prayer Group Newsletter

JUNE 2021

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 6

## Is Your Marriage “Happy” or “Holy”?

Marriage helps us become more like Christ. Is marriage designed to make us “happy” or “holy”? Actually, it makes us both. God created marriage to be much more than a relationship that meets our needs and gives us happiness. That’s why holiness always outweighs happiness. In fact, God’s preeminent goal for your marriage is not your mutual happiness at all — it’s Christlikeness. As Paul explained, “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son ...” (Romans 8:29). God designed marriage to provide: partnership, spiritual intimacy and the ability to pursue God — together. You find happiness if you cooperate with God’s purpose for your marriage. But He wants so much more than happiness for you; He wants joy. He wants impact. He wants your marriage to have significance and spiritual power and a compelling attractiveness that turns people’s heads.

Venerable Fulton Sheen spoke of 3 rings in marriage, the engagement ring, the wedding ring and the suffering. Those who are married know this to be true. Marriage is not always easy. It begins with a honeymoon and will be filled with many hardships, difficulties and trials. For a marriage to work, mutual love, sacrifice and faithfulness are necessary.

A Catholic’s relationship with God is a spiritual marriage. It too, requires mutual love, sacrifice and faithfulness. Those who are spiritually espoused to God need to be faithful in good times and in bad, in health and in sickness, in riches and in poverty. St. Joseph and Blessed Virgin Mary were always faithful to each other and God. God designed marriage — with its joys and its trials, its ups and its downs, its good times

and its bad times — to help you to grow to be more like Christ. Your main goal is to help your spouse become a saint. This process isn’t easy. It’s not supposed to be. But once you understand that fact, marriage’s inevitable conflicts and rough times don’t feel quite so threatening. This seems so simple; a great marriage is the outcome of becoming “Christlike.”

Look to St. Joseph and Blessed Virgin Mary. They are our role models. Ask them to guide you and pray for your marriage. This perfect union is one that St Bernadine of Siena describes when he says: “Mary and Joseph were but one heart and soul; they were two in one same mind, one same affection, and each of them was the other’s second half, because Our Lady and St. Joseph were, so to speak, only one person. The heart of Mary with that of Joseph, and the heart of Joseph with that of Mary, who ever could imagine a union so intimate, a grace so great!”

You must live Cor 13: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, love keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. Faith, hope and love are virtues. But the greatest of these is love.

Bless your spouse by making the sign of the cross on their forehead every night before you go to sleep. That is a beautiful act of love.

Renewal of Wedding Vows will take place at our Padre Pio Gathering on June 5.



## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST *CORPUS CHRISTI*



For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “*This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*” In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, “*This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are ill and infirm, and a considerable number are dying. — *I Corinthians 11:23-30*

This June 6<sup>th</sup> the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ [*Corpus Christi*]. As Catholics, we are blessed to have the Real Presence of Christ among us, hidden in what looks like a communion wafer and wine, but in reality becomes, not only the Body and Blood of Christ, but also His Soul and Divinity. The fullness of Christ is present. And since the time of the Apostles to this very day, the Church has always proclaimed this belief and also who can or cannot receive the Body and Blood of Christ. The reception of Holy Communion has always been reserved for those who are in a State of Grace. By not being in a State of Grace, the person who would be receiving the Body and Blood of Christ would not be able to receive the graces that come from the Eucharist. Mortal Sin, non-Catholics [Orthodox Christians can receive the Eucharist in the Catholic Church], persons under the Age of Reason, Excommunication, and the Divorced and Remarried who have not received an Annulment of previous marriage(s) are all situations where the Eucharist cannot be given to the individual. These situations cause someone to not be in union [communion] with the Catholic Church. This is not because the Church is mean and unfeeling and closed-off to the individuals for denying the Eucharist, but that Saint Paul tells us in his First Letter to the Corinthians that a person can eat and drink the Body and Blood of Christ unworthily. As a priest, I make an assumption that the people coming to receive the Eucharist have examined themselves and are in a State of Grace. The problem comes about when people in the public realm, who obstinately reject areas of our Catholic faith and teachings come forward to receive the Eucharist. Their presence to receive the Eucharist causes scandal to believing Catholics who love the Lord who has revealed Himself in the Eucharistic Bread and Wine. It also makes those who are weak in the faith believe that it is okay for anyone to receive the Eucharist, whether you believe that the Real Presence of Christ is present or if it is just a remembrance of the Last Supper. No wonder that 70% of Catholics say that they do not believe in the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

Denying the Eucharist is a pastoral action. If someone is not living in union with Christ and His Church, not professing the faith and not being in a State of Grace, and we allow them to believe that they are still good and holy, and Catholics in good standing, when they are not, we are not performing the Spiritual Act of Mercy to instruct the ignorant [those who are not informed of the faith or deny the faith]. They can lose their immortal soul to the act of commission and we can lose our immortal soul to the act of omission. We want to correct those in error because we love them and want them to be with our Lord forever. Denying someone something for a period of time is not being hateful. It is being charitable. By not receiving the Eucharist, the person can reflect on what is causing them to not be able to receive the Eucharist and make those amendments and changes to their lives so that they can receive the Eucharist. But if someone is obstinate in their error and will not change their lives, then they remain not in union [communion] with the Church. The reception of the Eucharist tells us that we are in union with the Catholic Church. We believe and accept all that the Catholic preaches and teaches. We put this belief into action by coming forward in our “communion call” to accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior in the Holy Eucharist by saying “Amen” and receiving the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Let us pray for those who are causing scandal in our Church and for those who are misinformed about our faith and teaching in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. May we who believe and are in a State of Grace, sacrifice by prayer and fasting for those who unworthily receive the Eucharist and cause the Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 11<sup>th</sup>) and the Immaculate Heart of Mary (June 12<sup>th</sup>) to suffer for the denial of the Real Presence.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Pray for Us.

## 7 Ways to Honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Holy Church has dedicated the month of June to a devotion that is designed to remind us of the depth of God's passionate love for his creatures: devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In the burning and wounded Sacred Heart, we see that God's heart is consumed with love for us—so much so that He was willing to suffer and die for us in the most gruesome manner. The Sacred Heart teaches us that true love is always costly, but that it always gives life.

**1. Consecration:** In meditating on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we realize the depth of God's sacrificial love for us. Jesus gave himself to us completely on the Cross to prove his love for us, and He continues to do so every day in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. When we receive the Eucharist, we receive the very heart of Christ. Jesus gives us his heart again and again, and the only reasonable thing to do is to give our hearts to Him in return. One beautiful way to do this is by consecrating ourselves to the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. (see Prayer on page 5)

**2. Enthronement:** An important aspect of devotion to the Sacred Heart is recognizing and submitting to the authority of Jesus Christ in every aspect of our lives. Jesus is truly a king—the king of the Church, of our families, and of society in general. The tradition of enthroning the Sacred Heart is an excellent way to express this kingship of Christ. In this ceremony, a blessed image of the Sacred Heart is placed prominently in our homes, reminding us that Jesus is our king, and that we should love and serve Him with our whole hearts.

**3. Reparation:** The name of Jesus is regularly blasphemed and abused in media, literature, and every day conversation. Each time this happens, the heart of Christ is wounded again by the rejection of his creatures. One way we can show love to the Sacred Heart is by making acts of reparation for the abuse that Jesus receives. (see Prayer on page 5)



**4. First Fridays:** When our Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary and revealed the devotion to the Sacred Heart, He requested the practice of attending Mass, going to confession, and receiving him in the Eucharist on the first Friday of 9 consecutive months. This devotion is important because we remember the passion and death of our Lord on Friday. It is essentially a novena that reminds us of the love of Jesus for us, and instills in us a desire to imitate His sacrificial love.

**5. Frequent Prayer:** Prayer is the breath of the spiritual life and the primary way we grow in love for God and neighbor. Calling frequently on the Sacred Heart is an excellent way to pray, since doing so is an appeal to the love and mercy of Jesus. Prayer to the Sacred Heart can be as lengthy as a novena or litany, or as simple as a spontaneous, "Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us." (see Prayer on page 5)

**6. Imitation:** Devotion to the Sacred Heart is designed to inspire imitation. We can say all the right prayers and even practice the first Friday devotion faithfully, but if we aren't imitating the self-giving, sacrificial love of Jesus, we aren't truly devoted to His heart. Of course, imitating the Sacred Heart starts with giving love to Christ and being ready to sacrifice for His sake. But it also involves loving those we encounter every day—including those we don't particularly like. It means loving and forgiving our enemies and those who persecute us. It means laying our life down for others.

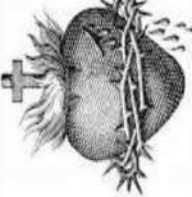

**7. Missionary Activity:** Loving the Sacred Heart means bringing its love to others. It means sharing our faith with those who may have fallen away from it, or who might have never heard of the fact that Christ lovingly gives himself to us, body and soul, in the Eucharist. It means bearing witness to the fact that Jesus is our King whom we serve sacrificially. It means bearing our crosses lovingly and patiently.

## Global Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests



The **Annual Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests** on the **Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** is a worldwide event with the holy rosary being prayed for 24 hours at designated locations around the world. Our rosary here is scheduled for Friday, June 11, 2021 at Noon. It will be held at Our Lady Lourdes Shrine in Euclid, Ohio outside in the Grotto. Please try to join us at the Shrine. This event is sponsored by Worldpriest (<https://www.worldpriest.com/>) The rosary will be aired at that time on AM1260 the Rock.

# Saint Padre Pio Reflections/June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 Lift up your hearts, let us rise to the throne of God.</p> <p><i>St. Justin Martyr</i></p>	<p>2 It is not a matter of fighting with bodily strength but with the power of the soul.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>Ss. Marcellinus and Peter</i></p>	<p>3 One comes forward with victory, not with the weapons of steel, but with prayers.</p> <p><i>St. Charles Lwanga and Companions</i></p>	<p>4 Our faith enables us to endure to the end of the trial.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> First Friday</p>	<p>5 When the enemy attacks us in life's trials, let us rise up and pray to the Lord....</p> <p><i>St. Boniface</i> First Saturday</p>
<p>6 Let us not be bewildered in the hour of trials.</p>	<p>7 By our perseverance in good works we shall overcome the insolence of all our enemies.</p>	<p>8 By our patience in fighting the good fight we shall overcome the insolence of our enemies.</p>	<p>9 Let us follow Jesus along the path of suffering.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>St. Ephrem</i></p>	<p>10 Let us keep our gaze invariably fixed on the heavenly Jerusalem.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>11 Let us stir up our faith to a greater degree.</p>	<p>12 Let the light of good works go before us.</p>
<p><b>THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST</b></p> <p>13 May Jesus continue (to) increase more and more your thirst for His heavenly love.</p>	<p>14 Be convinced that our souls will never be satisfied here below.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> [10<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time]</p>	<p>15 It would be disastrous if we were to feel satisfied; it would mean we thought we had reached our goal.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>16 I urge you in the charity of Christ to make sure you calm your anxiety.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>St. Ephrem</i></p>	<p>17 Jesus is in your soul, show yourself docile to His action.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p><b>THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS</b></p> <p>18 Let yourself be guided by the love of Jesus.</p>	<p>The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>19 (God) is very quick to make us feel His fatherly tenderness even in the midst of sufferings!</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>St. Romuald</i> BVM</p>
<p><b>11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b></p> <p>20 Play more insistently to the most compassionate Heart of Jesus...</p>	<p>21 Carry on in all tranquility for Jesus is with you.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>22 May Jesus be always with you, may He sustain you in all the trials.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>St. Paulinus</i> <i>Ss. John Fisher and Thomas</i> More</p>	<p>23 Our most compassionate Lord has shown (us) mercy.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>24 May the Lord be thanked forever.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>25 Holiness means getting above ourselves, it means perfect mastery of all our passions.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p>26 Holiness means loving those who curse us, who hate and persecute us, and even doing good to them.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> BVM</p>
<p>27 Holiness means living humbly, being disinterested, prudent, just, patient, kind, chaste, meek, diligent.</p>	<p>28 Holiness means carrying out one's duties for no other reason than that of pleasing God.</p> <p><i>St. Aloysius Gonzaga</i></p>	<p>29 Holiness contains in itself the power to transform a man into God, according to the holy books.</p> <p><i>SS. PETER AND PAUL</i></p>	<p>30 May Jesus be with you always.</p> <p><i>Weekday</i> <i>The First Martyrs of Holy Roman Church</i></p>	<p><b>THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST</b></p>	<p><b>SACRED HEART OF JESUS</b></p> <p>☩ Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have mercy on us sinners, and grant us the grace which we ask of You, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Your tender Mother and ours. Amen.</p>	<p><i>Weekday</i> BVM</p>
<p><b>13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b></p>	<p><i>St. Irenaeus</i></p>	<p><i>SS. PETER AND PAUL</i></p>	<p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p><i>Weekday</i></p>	<p><i>Weekday</i></p>

## Prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus



**Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:** O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to Thee I consecrate and offer up my person and my life, my actions, trials, and sufferings, that my entire being may henceforth only be employed in loving, honoring and glorifying Thee. This is my irrevocable will, to belong entirely to Thee, and to do all for Thy love, renouncing with my whole heart all that can displease Thee. I take Thee, O Sacred Heart, for the sole object of my love, the protection of my life, the pledge of my salvation, the remedy of my frailty and inconstancy, the reparation for all the defects of my life, and my secure refuge at the hour of my death. Be Thou, O Most Merciful Heart, my justification before God Thy Father, and screen me from His anger which I have so justly merited. I fear all from my own weakness and malice, but placing my entire confidence in Thee, O Heart of Love, I hope all from Thine infinite Goodness. Annihilate in me all that can displease or resist Thee. Imprint Thy pure love so deeply in my heart that I may never forget Thee or be separated from Thee. I beseech Thee, through Thine infinite Goodness, grant that my name be engraved upon Thy Heart, for in this I place all my happiness and all my glory, to live and to die as one of Thy devoted servants. Amen.

**Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:** Most sweet Jesus, whose overflowing charity for men is required by so much forgetfulness, negligence and contempt, behold us prostrate before Thee, eager to repair by a special act of homage the cruel indifference and injuries to which Thy loving Heart is everywhere subject. Mindful, alas! that we ourselves have had a share in such great indignities, which we now deplore from the depths of our hearts, we humbly ask Thy pardon and declare our readiness to atone by voluntary expiation, not only for our own personal offenses, but also for the sins of those, who, straying far from the path of salvation, refuse in their obstinate infidelity to follow Thee, their Shepherd and Leader, or, renouncing the promises of their baptism, have cast off the sweet yoke of Thy law. We are now resolved to expiate each and every deplorable outrage committed against Thee; we are now determined to make amends for the manifold offenses against Christian modesty in unbecoming dress and behavior, for all the foul seductions laid to ensnare the feet of the innocent, for the frequent violations of Sundays and holydays, and the shocking blasphemies uttered against Thee and Thy Saints. We wish also to make amends for the insults to which Thy Vicar on earth and Thy priests are subjected, for the profanation, by conscious neglect or terrible acts of sacrilege, of the very crimes of nations who resist the rights

and teaching authority of the Church which Thou hast founded. Would that we were able to wash away such abominations with our blood. We now offer, in reparation for these violations of Thy divine honor, the satisfaction Thou once made to Thy Eternal Father on the cross and which Thou continuest to renew daily on our altars; we offer it in union with the acts of atonement of Thy Virgin Mother and all the Saints and of the pious faithful on earth; and we sincerely promise to make recompense, as far as we can with the help of Thy grace, for all neglect of Thy great love and for the sins we and others have committed in the past. Henceforth, we will live a life of unswerving faith, of purity of conduct, of perfect observance of the precepts of the Gospel and especially that of charity. We promise to the best of our power to prevent others from offending Thee and to bring as many as possible to follow Thee. O loving Jesus, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mother, our model in reparation, deign to receive the voluntary offering we make of this act of expiation; and by the crowning gift of perseverance keep us faithful unto death in our duty and the allegiance we owe to Thee, so that we may all one day come to that happy home, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit Thou livest and reignest, God, forever and ever. Amen.

**Efficacious Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:** (This novena prayer was recited every day by Padre Pio for all those who asked for prayers. The faithful are invited to recite it daily, so as to be spiritually united with the prayer of Padre Pio.)

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, ask and it will be given you, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of [insert your intention.] Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, if you ask any thing of the Father in my name, He will give it to you." Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of [insert your intention.] Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away." Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of [insert your intention.] Our Father...Hail Mary...Glory be to the Father... Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender mother and ours.

Say the Hail, Holy Queen and add "St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us."

## Pope John Paul II's Address to the Pilgrims



**To the pilgrims who came to the Canonization of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (Monday, 17 June 2002)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

1. It is a great joy for me to meet you again the day after the solemn canonization of the humble Capuchin of San Giovanni Rotondo. Dear pilgrims and devotees, I greet you with affection who have gathered in Rome in such large numbers for this special occasion. I first of all greet the bishops, priests and religious who are present here. I want to pay special attention to the Capuchin Franciscans who in communion with the whole Church praise and thank the Lord for the marvels he has worked in their exemplary confrere. Padre Pio is an authentic model of

spirituality and humanity, two characteristic features of the Franciscan and Capuchin tradition.

I greet the members of the "Padre Pio Prayer Groups" and the representatives of the family of the "Home for the Relief of Suffering", that great institution for the treatment and the care of the sick that came forth from the new saint's charity. I embrace you, dear pilgrims from the noble land that gave birth to Padre Pio, from the other regions of Italy and from every part of the world. By your presence here, you witness to how widespread are devotion to and confidence in the holy Friar of the Gargano in the Church and on every continent.

2. But what is the secret of such great admiration and love for this new saint? He is first of all a "friar of the people", a traditional characteristic of the Capuchins. He is also a saint who is a miraculous healer, as the extraordinary events which are part of his life attest. However, above all Padre Pio is a religious who is deeply in love with the crucified Christ. He even shared physically in the mystery of the Cross during his life.

He liked to link the glory of Tabor with the mystery of the Passion, as we read in one of his letters: "Before exclaiming with St Peter 'Oh how good it is to be here', it is necessary first to climb Calvary, where one sees only death, nails, thorns, suffering, extraordinary shadows, abandonment and fainting" (*Epistolario* III, p. 287).

Padre Pio made his journey of demanding spiritual asceticism in communion with the Church. The temporary misunderstandings he had with one or other ecclesial authority did not put a brake on his attitude

of filial obedience. Padre Pio was a faithful and courageous son of the Church and in this situation following the shining example of the "Poverello" of Assisi.

3. May this holy Capuchin to whom so many people turn to from every corner of the earth point out to us the means to reach holiness which is the goal of our life as Christians. How many faithful in every social condition, from the most diverse places and the most difficult situations hurried to ask his help! He knew how to offer them all what they needed most, which they were often groping for without being fully aware of it. He passed on to them the comforting and enlightening Word of God, enabling each person to draw from the sources of his grace through his diligent dedication to the ministry of the confessional and the fervent celebration of the Eucharist.

So it was that he wrote to one of his spiritual daughters: "Do not be afraid to come to the Lord's altar to be fed with flesh of the Immaculate Lamb, because no one will better reconcile your spirit than your king, nothing will warm it more than his sun, and nothing will soothe it better than his balm" (*ibid.*, p. 944).

4. The Mass of Padre Pio! It was an eloquent reminder to priests of the beauty of the priestly vocation. For the religious and the lay people who flocked to San Giovanni Rotondo even at the early morning hours, it was an extraordinary catechesis on the value and importance of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

Holy Mass was the heart and the source of his whole spirituality: "There is in the Mass", he used to say, "the whole of Calvary". The faithful who crowded round his altar were profoundly impressed by the intensity of his "immersion" in the Mystery, and perceived that "the Father" participated in his person in the Redeemer's sufferings.

5. St Pio of Pietrelcina presented himself to everyone - priests, men and women religious and lay people - as a credible witness to Christ and to his Gospel. May his example and intercession spur everyone to greater love for God and concrete solidarity with his neighbour, especially those who are in greatest need.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom Padre Pio called by the beautiful name of "Our Lady of Grace" (*Santa Maria delle Grazie*), help us to follow in the footsteps of this religious who is so beloved by the people!

With this hope, I cordially bless you who are present here, your loved ones and all who are committed to following in the spiritual footsteps of the beloved saint of Pietrelcina.

## Challenged by Virtual Pilgrimages

I, Juliann Stoklas, have been a member of the Padre Pio Prayer Group for many years. I am known by many Pio Pilgrims as a "Travel Queen". I have been to Spain, Italy, Portugal, France, Poland, Medjugorje, Ireland, England, Scotland, and the Holy Land. Well, 2020 was no different! I was planning a vacation with a little pilgrimage back to Spain with my cousin. Year 2020 started off with the Consecration to St. Joseph, and learning more about St. Joseph and the different shrines dedicated to him. In February, my cousin and I were planning our vacation to Barcelona, Spain. I read about Sant Josep de la Muntanya, an orphanage and chapel in Barcelona where people have consecrated themselves to St. Joseph. In March 2020, I was finishing my Consecration to St. Joseph and getting ready for the Feast of St. Joseph when COVID-19 changed everything. I ended up consecrating virtually with Fr. Callaway. My vacation was cancelled. I was really bummed. What can I do? No vacation, on lock down, cannot see family, what can I do?

For years, I have been talking about doing the Camino de Santiago. A few days later I was sent a link to [www.theconqueror.events](http://www.theconqueror.events). It is a virtual challenge that allows you to travel the route of the Camino from your own hometown. You can walk anywhere using your smart device to track your miles. Throughout the journey, the challenge sends you postcards about the area where you are and what things you would experience in the area. So, on June 26, 2020, I started my Camino on the feast day of St. Josemarie Escriva (who was mentioned several times during the Consecration to St. Joseph). During my Camino, I was able to view with the app where on the maps I would be on the journey, the weather, and other pilgrims that were also on the journey as if I were there on the road. This continued to spark my curiosity in the pilgrimage, so I started to watch documentaries about the journey and by watching "The Way." After logging the



481 miles in 54 days, I finished my virtual Camino by watching Mass from the Cathedral of Santiago just like the pilgrims that finish the Camino do. It was the feast day of the Martyrs of the Spanish War.

A few days after I was finished with my Camino, I got an e-mail from Conqueror that my medal was on its way and that there was another challenge that I might be interested in, The Ring of Kerry, a journey around Ireland. How did they know that I was in Ireland a few years ago and the feast of Our Lady of Knock was only a few days away? So, on the feast of Our Lady of Knock, I started with a virtual Rosary and Mass from the Chapel of Our Lady of Knock. This church was a beautiful place that I visited on pilgrimage and held great memories of our Ireland pilgrimage in 2018. I continued watching the Rosary and Mass daily from Ireland and ended my 124 miles in 14 days on the Feast of Caletric of Chartes. Chartes was another place that was planned for on my cancelled vacation.

There were so many God occurrences that were happening doing my challenges that I started calling them my virtual pilgrimages. If I could not go physically then I could go virtually. I finished off 2020 with one last pilgrimage to Mt. Fuji. I started the journey up the mountain on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Mt. Fuji is considered one of three holy mountains in Japan. I completed that journey of 46 miles in 6 days ending on the Feast of the Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In year 2021, with the pandemic still happening, I continued with my virtual journey by conquering 2021 miles in the year 2021. It was time to Consecrate to St. Joseph, hoping that we could Consecrate with the Padre Pio Prayer Group. I got an email about new challenges. Giza Pyramids came up. What a way to get back during the Easter season than to travel to Egypt where Joseph took Mary and Jesus. On the Feast of the Passion, I started my journey through Egypt and ended my journey on Holy Saturday.

Many people cannot travel to other countries, but you can always use the technologies that are available to visit the shrines around the world. Conqueror is offering more and more virtual pilgrimages including the way of St. Francis which is my next journey to start.

My Dear Friends of Padre Pio:

As we now have celebrated Easter, the Ascension, and Pentecost, we are drawn into the enormous love God has for us. For those of us who protest that "God couldn't possibly love a sinner like me," God has sent his son to conquer sin and death, has shown us the way to do it, has given us many helps and especially His grace/forgiveness, and then has sent an advocate to guide and teach and lead us on our journey.

Let us keep our eyes on the heaven that awaits us and the eternal reunion that God himself so desperately wants with us.

Pray, Hope, and Don't Worry!

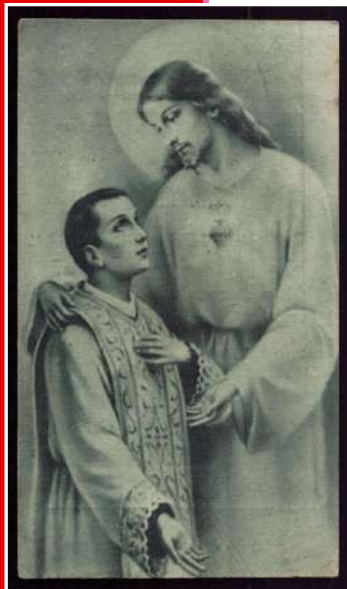
### A Note

### From Fr.

### Bill Browne

## Sacred Heart of Jesus Novena for Priests

JESUS said to St. Margaret Mary: "Behold this heart which, notwithstanding the burning love for men with which it is consumed and exhausted, meets with no other return from most Christians than sacrilege, contempt, indifference and ingratitude, even in the sacrament of my love (the Eucharist). But what pierces my heart most deeply is that I am subjected to these insults by persons especially consecrated to my service."



**Day 1:** "We pray that priests and bishops will uphold the true teachings of the Catholic Church and resist the temptations to compromise doctrine in the face of cultural and social pressures."

**Prayer:** Remember, O most loving Heart of Jesus, that they for whom I pray are those for whom You prayed so earnestly the night before Your death. These are they to whom You

look to continue with You in Your sorrows when others forsake You, who share Your griefs and have inherited your persecutions, according to Your word: That the servant is not greater than his Lord.

Remember, O Heart of Jesus, that they are the objects of the world's hatred and Satan's deadliest snares. Keep them then, O Jesus, in the safe citadel of Your Sacred Heart and there let them be sanctified in truth. May they be one with you and one among themselves, and grant that multitudes may be brought through their word to believe in You and love You. Amen.

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore Thee, I love Thee and with a lively sorrow for my sins, I offer Thee this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to Thy will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in Thee and for Thee. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions; give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, Thy blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Within Thy Heart I place my every care. In every need let me come to Thee with humble trust saying, Heart of Jesus help me.

**Day 2:** "We pray that our parish priests preach the Gospel worthily and wisely, celebrate the sacraments faithfully and reverently, and pray without ceasing." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 3:** "We pray for priests who suffer for defending authentic Catholic doctrine, remembering espe-

cially those who have paid for their fidelity to Christ with their blood." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 4:** "We pray for those poor lost priests who have broken the oath of their holy ordination and have become unfaithful to their exalted calling. Enlighten their minds and strengthen their wills, that they may turn away from all sin and error and come back to Thy holy altar and to Thy people." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 5:** "We pray for all the priests of Thy Church, especially for those who do not adore Thee, for those who are wounded in their souls, and for those who are exposed to the attacks of the powers of darkness." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 6:** "We pray that priests will be devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary and find in her the love and comfort of a mother, the most powerful intercession of our greatest saint, and the surest refuge against Satan and his cohorts who seek the destruction of priests and the priesthood." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 7:** "We pray for priests who are sick, that Our Blessed Lord restore them to health and vigor so that praising Him they may be able to continue to labor in promoting His greater honor and glory and the salvation of souls." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 8:** "We pray for the souls of priests in Purgatory, especially those most forgotten and who have no one else to pray for them. Do Thou deliver them from the dire torments they endure; call them and admit them to Thy most sweet embrace in Paradise." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

**Day 9:** "We pray for all future priests now being formed in the wombs of their mothers, that they may be safe from physical and spiritual harm, and come to ordination as God intends." (Pray the Prayer under Day 1)

### HOLY HOUR OFFERING FOR THOSE PRIESTS WHO HAVE FALLEN AWAY:

MY GOD, poor, weak and miserable as I am, I have come to spend this hour alone with YOU, in reparation for the priests who have forgotten that they are YOUR chosen souls. Especially, dear God, do I offer this holy hour for the priests who at this moment need it most. In praying for consecrated souls, help me to remember my own utter weakness, misery and nothingness. Were it not for YOUR grace, I would be far worse than those for whom I pray.

Remember,  
O Heart of  
Jesus, that  
they are  
the objects  
of the  
world's  
hatred and  
Satan's  
deadliest  
snares.



## Dear Spiritual Children of Padre Pio

Our May gathering may be one of my most favorite. The May Crowning Ceremony was magnificent. Thank you to Fr. Michael Petkosek and Fr. Bill Browne for attending May's gathering, concelebrating Mass and hearing confessions. Every month our attendance keeps increasing. Thank you to everyone who responded afterwards to my presentation. The Padre Pio birthday cupcakes and golden coins were an added surprise.



niversary of Priesthood. Abbot Gary Hoover O.S.B. will be the main celebrant.

Also, don't forget prayers of thanksgiving on June 16, the 19th Anniversary of St. Padre Pio's Canonization.

Remember Jesus never stops choosing you, laboring for your good, or pouring His life into you. He desires to restore you in His image and likeness, and to bring you into the fullness of your identity as His beloved son or daughter. He loves you personally, and His healing, gentle, merciful heart ever

seeks to encounter yours, in and through even the ordinary things of daily life.



Hopefully your treasury in heaven has increased by reciting many calm, fervent and loving Hail Mary's. The amount of rosary scapulars purchased at the gathering was

astounding. We had a presentation ceremony of the police rosaries to the Avon Lake Police Department. They were very grateful for this holy gift. Thank you to everyone who is involved in this project.



This month we will be celebrating the Holy Sacrament of Marriage. Be sure to bring your spouse. Fr. Browne will be renewing vows of all our prayer group couples who were married in the church. Our guest speakers will be Mike and Francine Costantini.

On June 11 we will be praying the rosary at 6:00 pm and have a special Mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 6:30 pm. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Macedonia. There will be Consecration to Jesus's Sacred Heart. The Ordination class of 1983 of the Cleveland Diocese will be celebrating their 38th An-

May God bless all Fathers on their special day! We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives. For those who are fathers or are like fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You. In Your Holy name, O God, we pray. Our Father... Amen.

**“Hi. I work at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Dept and just wanted to thank you for the rosary we received, thank u.”**

*(An email sent to the Padre Pio Prayer Group of Cleveland on 11 May 2021)*

Pray, Hope and Don't Worry.

Love,  
Cindy Russo TOF, Group Leader

## KEEP OUR SICK SISTERS & BROTHERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

Call Helen Husky 440-232-3462 to add a member to the list.

Barbara Bilinovich	Oscar Fonseca	Laura Lang	Joseph Wojtyla
Mario Bruschi	Marty Franck	Jonathan Lipreads	
Sarojini Bruschi	Bob Garcar	Mark Magda	
Gia Cefaratti	Kathy Hlad	Fr. Cory Mayer	
Virginia DeJesus	Kyle Hrabusa	Joe Morici	
Roy Evans	Michael Hurley	Molly O'Leary	
Margie Ferfolia	Helen Husky	Eleanor Phillips	
Michele Ferrara	Tony Kazmierczak	Judy Purdy	
Cynthia Fonseca	Irene Kovar	Anthony Rossi	

**FOR ALL THE INTENTIONS  
IN OUR ONLINE PRAYER  
BASKET, LORD, HEAR  
OUR PRAYER.**



### † OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF OUR RECENTLY DECEASED †

Tom Christy (father of Prayer Group member Thomas Christy III)  
Bill Dockrill (Prayer Group member)  
Abbot Clement Zeleznik, OSB

## Corner

Jake's

For June, I am writing about one of my favorite saints, Saint Cono of Teggiano. He is not very well known, but he is a powerful intercessor. Historically, we do not know much about Saint Cono's life, but his fame and cultus come from the many miracles performed through his intercession. Saint Cono was born in 1110. Little is known about the parents of Saint Cono. It is believed that his father is from the Indelli (or Mannelli or De Indella) family and that Saint Cono's mother's name was Igniva. They were old and unable to have a child. Then, they had a vision of a lighted cone, and afterward, they consulted their vision with a priest. He said that it was a divine sign that they were going to have a child. The same priest suggested the name Cono for the child after the lighted cone from the vision. Furthermore, Saint Cono was very devout from a young age. His mother instilled in him a great love for the Blessed Virgin Mary. He frequently visited the Church run by the Celestini Fathers.



a life of great prayer and penance, Saint Cono died in the odor of sanctity at the age of eighteen.

Over the years, there have been many major miracles attributed to the intercession of Saint Cono. The first major miracle was the aforementioned account where Saint Cono was not injured in the furnace's flames. The second miracle happened when the towns of Teggiano and Padula disputed where the body of Saint Cono was to remain. The dispute was solved by placing the body on a cart led with two oxen in the middle of a road that led to Teggiano and Padula, to determine which direction the oxen would lead the body. Immediately, without any human influence, the oxen pulled the body towards the town of Teggiano. The oxen pulled the cart nonstop until it reached the church of Teggiano where Saint Cono was buried on September 27, 1261. Another major miracle occurred during an earthquake that destroyed Teggiano and the church's ancient steeple was about to fall on townspeople and children. Then miraculously, Saint Cono appeared and pushed it back into place. Finally, after recognizing the miracles and longstanding devotion to Cono, the Church formally Canonized him a Saint on April 27, 1871, by Blessed Pope Pius IX.

There is much we can learn from Saint Cono, even though he lived hundreds of years ago. Firstly, we can imitate his great love for God and focused attention on the things of Heaven. Saint Cono's priority was to do the will of God, and everything else was secondary. The greatest thing I think we can learn from Saint Cono is that in the craziness of the world we can keep our focus on God.

SOURCES: <https://tinyurl.com/jnz37xyp>  
<https://tinyurl.com/et2a4x6>

Written by: Jake Snyder

**BEST WISHES to our Spiritual Children celebrating birthdays and special occasions in the month of June, and God Bless all the fathers!**

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FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PADREPIOCLEVELAND TWITTER: @PADREPIOCLEVELAND**