

## DECEMBER 2017

### ST. MARY'S PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

##### Ministry of Confession

That Catholics going to this wonderful sacrament expect and receive sanctifying grace that brings the forgiveness, the healing and the power of the risen Lord Jesus into their lives. *Padre Pio please intercede for us!*

##### Ministries of Healing and Deliverance

That the priests and lay people involved in these ministries may be sustained and protected by our intercessory prayer group and by the untold numbers of intercessors in the Communion of saints. *Padre Pio, please pray for us!*

#### Installation of Father Guy Rivard, OP

That the risen Lord Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, fill his servant Father Guy with the many gifts of the Holy Spirit, during the December 3 Installation Mass at 11:15 am at St. Mary's, presided by Archbishop Miller. *Padre Pio please pray for him!*

#### HOLY FATHER'S intention for the month of December

##### *The Elderly*

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

**Blessed Virgin Mary,**  
*intercede for us*

**Saint Padre Pio,** *pray for us*

**Holy Archangel Michael,**  
*defend us.*

#### A Prayer by Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

May your heart always be the temple of the Holy Spirit.

May Jesus always 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.

*Amen*

#### A Prayer to the Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian, to whom the goodness of the Heavenly Father entrusts me. Enlighten, protect and guide me now and forever.

*Amen.*

Source:

<http://padrepiodevotions.org/prayers-of-padre-pio/>

## DECEMBER

Towards the end of life

### AT THE END OF THE EXILE

Here are two pages by Padre Pio which seem as though they could have been written for the situation today. More and more, elderly people are considered to be a burden to the family and society. Let us see what Padre Pio has to say to his brother Michele as regards their father: "How is our father? I strongly recommend him to your care and filial affection. Surround him with love and be sure not to upset him, even in the slightest way. I have heard that they, with great kindness and, in truth, sincerely and good naturedly, are trying to get him to move here. But, to tell the truth, I do not think it wise for many reasons. For him to come and go as he wants, that is fine. But for him to make this almost his fixed abode, I do not think to be a good idea. It would be rather embarrassing for you as the only son; of little comfort to me as I can do so very little for him, due to my exceptional condition; and also rather shameful for our own home town to allow a poor old man to go wandering around, almost as though denying him an exile in the last years of his life... It is up to you then to forestall such an indecency, by surrounding our dear old father with care and affection."

*Padre Pio concludes by leaving his father free to decide as he prefers, but what strong words he uses to describe a scandal which, unfortunately, is repeated only too often today, without a valid voice to speak out against it! And when 'sister death' knocks at the door of a family? It is not necessary to say how strong Padre Pio's faith is, but the human part of him claims a tribute of sorrow, expressed with the most grief-stricken of words. The day after the death of his sister Felicita, on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1918 and only six days after his stigmatization – he wrote to his parents:*

"It is with my heart broken by the greatest of grief that I write this. But what can I say when every word is suffocated in my throat due to the bitterness of my grief? My dears, in the harshness and bitterness of sorrow I have only the strength to exclaim" "You are right, Oh Lord, and your judgements are wise." God has given me my poor sister, and God has taken her away, may his holy name be praised. In these expressions and in resignation I find sufficient strength not to surrender myself to grief. I exhort you also to resign yourselves to the divine will and you will find, like myself, a relief for your sorrow. I am really sorry and extremely upset not to be able to come to you for a few days, so as to join together our tears and

sorrow, because I feel very ill and not able to undertake such a long and difficult journey."

To his niece Pia Forgione, on the occasion of the death of her

mother, he wrote these comforting words: "Oh how sweet is the thought that one day, not too distant, if we are faithful to God,

after the exile we will be reunited with those we love in our home country."

Source:  
Padre Pio Prayer Group Centre in San Giovanni Rotondo for St. Mary's Padre Pio Prayer Group Vancouver

**MONTHLY MEDITATIONS  
PADRE PIO  
PASTOR OF SOULS**

### UPCOMING PPPG

**Jan 6, 2018**

Time: 09:30 AM  
Church Basement  
(Begins with Mass @ 08:30 AM)

### LET'S PROMOTE PPPG



[www.facebook.com/St.MarysPPPG/](http://www.facebook.com/St.MarysPPPG/)

