

PPPG NEWSLETTER

THE BEAUTIFUL HANDS OF A PRIEST

Our Catholic Church encourages the faithful to receive frequent Holy Communion. Since the pandemic especially during the full lock down, Holy Masses are offered without attendances and we can participate from home via live streaming without Holy Communion being received. We are asked to make an Act of Spiritual Communion originally written by St. Alphonsus de Liguori. Although it is a beautiful prayer, nothing can be compared to receiving the actual Host.

Currently in Vancouver, the BC Local Health Authority has only started to re-open businesses in stages and so religious gathering is now yet allowed, although with seats limitation we can come to Mass again. There are new rules or regulations being applied at Church, and if we can attend Masses, we are happy to comply. I could not wait for the day when I could attend Mass. When that day came, when that moment to receive Communion was upon me, I was full of joy walking towards the altar to receive once again in my hand the Holy Host.

Moments before, during the Consecration, I was looking up at the altar and could not help but notice the hands of the priest holding the Host. That was the moment when I remembered this wonderful poem and I want to share it with everyone. Through the hands of a priest, one receives many blessings. Thank you, dear priests!

Below is the poem, enjoy...

By: Lucy Rodjito

The Beautiful Hands of a Priest

Author: Unknown

We need them in life's early morning,
We need them again at its close.

We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,
We seek them while tasting life's woes.
When we come to this world, we are sinful,
The greatest as well as the least.
And the hands that make us pure as angels
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

At the altar, each day we behold them,
And the hands of a king on his throne
Are not equal to them in their greatness
Their dignity stands alone.
For there in the stillness of morning
Ere the sun has emerged from the east,
There God rests between the pure fingers
Of the beautiful hands of a priest.

When we are tempted and wander
To pathways of shame and sin
'Tis the hand of a priest that will absolve us.
Not once but again and again.
And when we are taking life's partner
Other hands may prepare us a feast
But the hands that will bless and unite us,
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,
For the Host which their fingers caress,
What can a poor sinner do better
But to praise Thee who chose thee to bless
When the death dews on our eyes are falling,
May our courage and strength be increased
To see, raised above us in blessing
The beautiful hands of a priest.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

October 2020

1 | Ministry of Confession

Lord, bless our faithful confessors. Grant them the healing words that will draw penitents to be awash in your loving mercy. Shatter all barriers of fear, self-loathing, and doubt that prevent sinners from accepting your invitation to return to the loving embrace of the Father. We pray to the Lord.

St. Padre Pio, please pray for us!

2 | Conversion of Sinners

Help us, Jesus, to heed the words of our blessed mother: "do whatever He tells you." For you go fourth to seek out the lost sheep. You thirst for the conversion of unbelievers. You died that all may live. Convict us to drink from thy cup for the salvation of souls. We pray in the most powerful name of Jesus.

St. Padre Pio, please pray for us!

3 | RCIA

Father, we pray that this year's candidates remain hopeful, faithful and firm in their desire to know you and your bride, the church. May their guides help illuminate your loving plan for them. And may their

guardian angels keep them safe from illness and attacks from the evil one as they begin their journey home. We pray to the Lord.

St. Padre Pio, please pray for us!

4 | For the Sick

Lord, you never wearied of caring for the sick, the marginalized, the possessed. Teach us to pray unceasingly on behalf of those who suffer. Move us to wash their wounds, pay for continued care, or simply listen so that through us they may come to recognize You as their Saviour. Lord, hear our prayer.

St. Padre Pio, please pray for us!

5 | End of Pandemic

We entrust all to your divine providence, Father. We know that our thoughts are not your thoughts and that our ways are not your ways. But, if it be your will, we beseech you to smite the Covid-19 virus. May it no longer keep us apart and prevent us from gathering, at school, work, and especially places of worship. We long for community and communion. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.

St. Padre Pio, please pray for us!

Please continue to pray the prayer intentions **daily**, may God bless us!

Do you want us to pray for you? Email us: **PPPG.Prayer.Request@gmail.com**