Prayer Resources Week 2 Monday 14th September



This Sunday's Gospel
24th Sunday of the Year (A)
(Matthew 18: 21-35)

At that time: Peter came up and said to Jesus, 'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer One

The Sign of the Cross

**Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

Reflection:
During this week we think about the theme of forgiveness. So, as we start the day, let's take a few moments to reflect on what this idea means to us.

Here are some questions to help you think about your life and where you are at the minute:

[please pause for a moment after each question]

Is there anything in your life that you regret?

Is there anybody in your life that you need to forgive?

Is there anybody you would like to be closer to?

Do you try to do good every day and to be the best person that you can be?

If there are things in our lives that we want to change or put right, then God doesn't want us to feel bad about that. He doesn't want us to feel guilty or scared. He just wants us to remember that we are loved and that we are all called to be amazing and loving people, and to come back to him.

Final Prayer

Loving Father,

You love us and you constantly call us to you. When we answer, you rejoice. When we turn away, you wait patiently. And still you keep loving us through it all.

Help us to turn to you in love and to remember the amazing people that you have made us to be.

In the name of the Father and of the Son…



Prayer Two

The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Reflection: Monday 14th September was the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross. What we remember on this day also links to the theme "Forgive"



If you look around school this week, you'll probably see a cross in just about every room. You'll probably also see people who wear crosses around their necks, in other jewelry and people who use the symbol of the cross in all sorts of ways.

It's odd really. Especially when you consider that the cross was an instrument of torture and execution. You won't see many pictures of nooses or electric chairs hung up in classrooms or used as jewelry.

In the early days of Christianity, people took a while to accept the fact that an instrument of death and torture had won their redemption. When they did realise it though, it made them love their God more and more. After all, God could have sorted out the human race in any way he chose, but just as he came to earth and lived on earth in a humble way, he also gave us a way back to God and Heaven in a humble way too!



Final Prayer

Loving Father,

Let us see the symbol of the cross as a reminder of how much you love us. Help us to unite our times of suffering with yours and find strength in the message of the cross

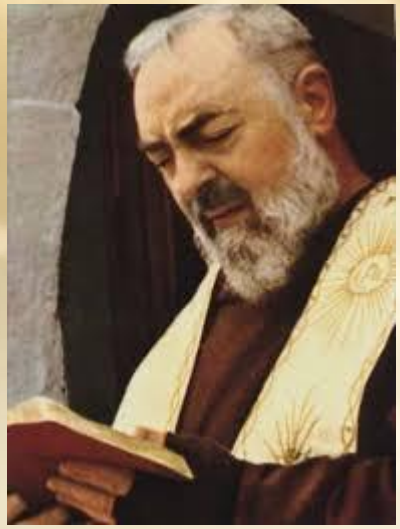
In the name of the Father and of the Son…

Prayer Three

The Sign of the Cross

Let us remember that everything we do is
In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Reflection
The Church celebrates the feast of St Pio on 23rd Sept



Prayer Three

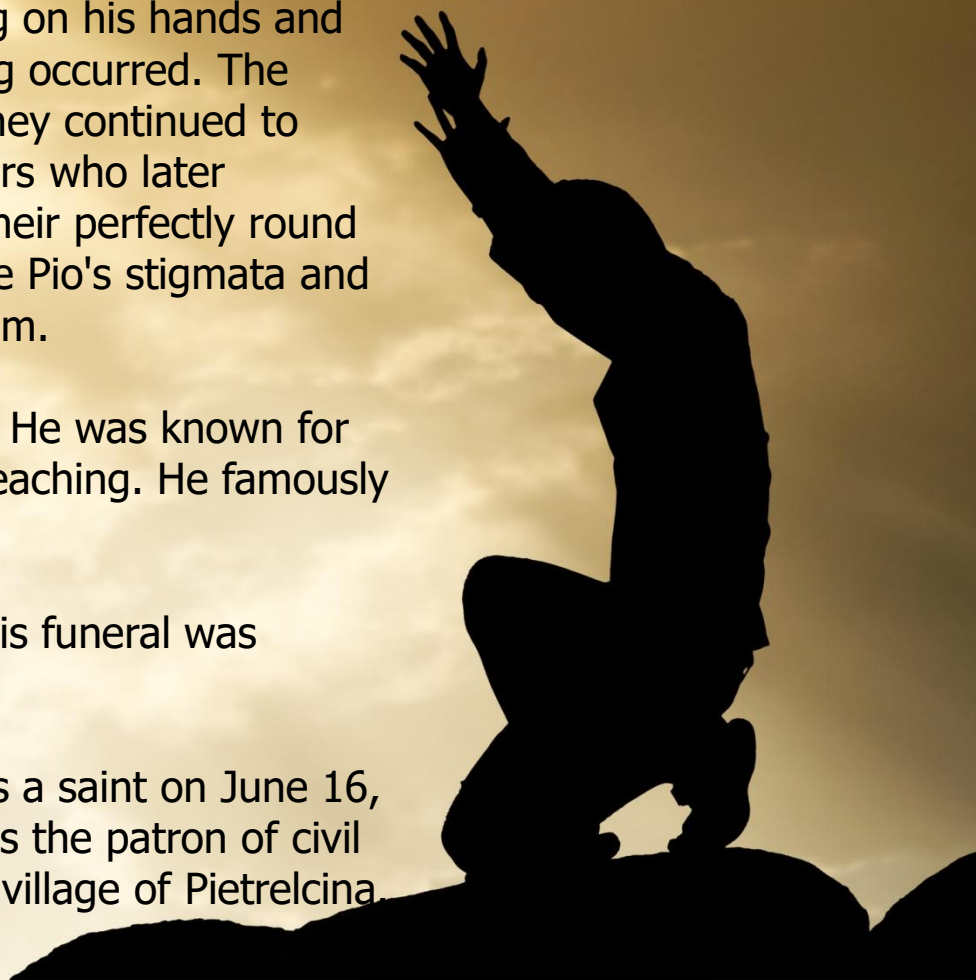
St. Padre Pio was an Italian priest who was known for his piety and charity, as well as the gift of the stigmata, which has never been explained.

On September 20, 1918, Padre Pio was hearing confessions when he felt pain in his hands and feet. He noticed the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, appearing on his hands and feet. The experience was painful. Bleeding occurred. The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected. Doctors who later examined the stigmata were amazed at their perfectly round shape. Word began to spread about Padre Pio's stigmata and people came from far away to examine him.

Padre Pio became internationally famous. He was known for his piety, charity and the quality of his preaching. He famously advised, "Pray, hope and don't worry."

Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people.

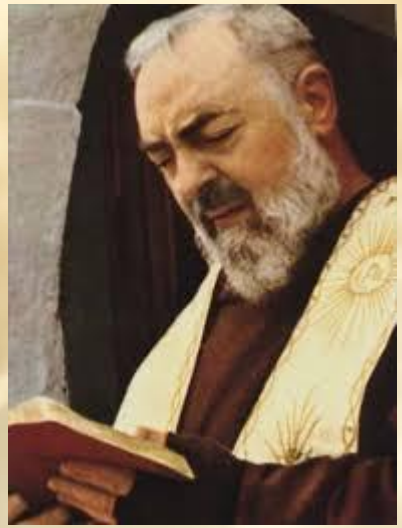
Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint on June 16, 2002. His feast day is September 23. He is the patron of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, and the village of Pietrelcina.



Final Prayer

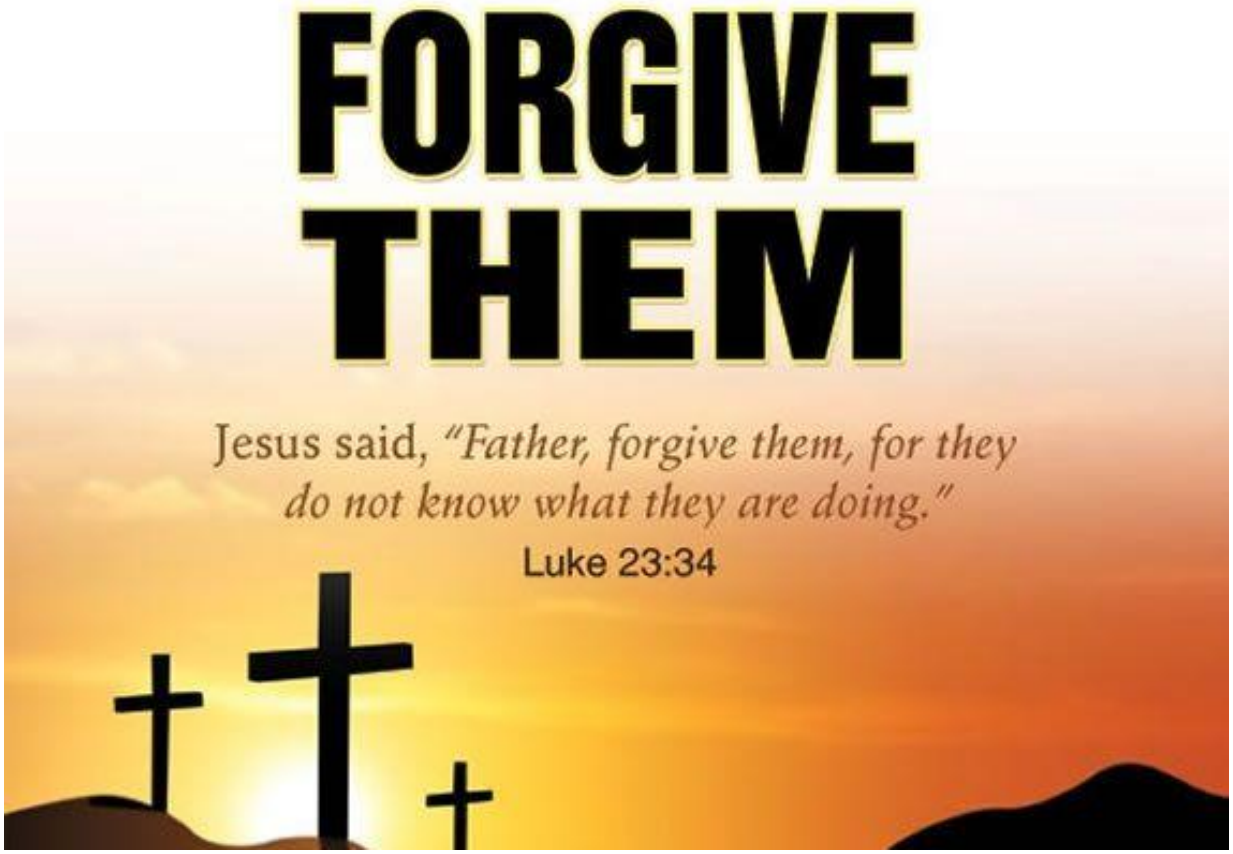
"Pray, pray to the Lord with me, because the whole world needs prayer. And every day, when your heart especially feels the loneliness of life, pray. Pray to the Lord, because even God needs our prayers." *– St. Pio of Pietrelcina*

Padre Pio



Pray for us

Final Thought…



Next Week:* *Humility