



## Ceremony of the handing over of the Rosaries

7th October 2023

*The Rosary is the prayer that Padre Pio gave his Prayer Groups as a sign of recognition. The ceremony of the Rosary handout was established to unite us with Mary so that the Church can always enjoy her protection. On the 7th of October (or another day agreed with their Spiritual Assistant) the Group meets for a catechesis and for the Rosary ceremony.*

*The rosaries are blessed and the commitment to the recitation of the Rosary is renewed. When this rite is celebrated at the end of Mass, the Celebrant will adapt it accordingly.*

### Hymn

In the name of the Father, of the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

**Celebrant:** Brothers and sisters, the liturgy of the Church has its centre in the Eucharist and - during the day - is marked by the Liturgy of the Hours. Padre Pio suggested the holy rosary to his spiritual children to meditate on the Word of God guided by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Today we want to commit ourselves together and pray often the holy rosary, possibly daily, to live our journey together as a Padre Pio Prayer Group.

### **Psalm 119 (1-16)**

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,  
who walk according to the law of the Lord.  
Blessed are those who keep his statutes  
and seek him with all their heart  
they do no wrong  
but follow his ways.  
You have laid down precepts  
that are to be fully obeyed.  
Oh, that my ways were steadfast  
in obeying your decrees!  
Then I would not be put to shame  
when I consider all your commands.  
I will praise you with an upright heart  
as I learn your righteous laws.  
I will obey your decrees;  
do not utterly forsake me.  
How can a young person stay on the path of purity?  
By living according to your word.  
I seek you with all my heart;  
do not let me stray from your commands.  
I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.  
Praise be to you, Lord;  
teach me your decrees.  
With my lips I recount  
all the laws that come from your mouth.  
I rejoice in following your statutes  
as one rejoices in great riches.  
I meditate on your precepts  
and consider your ways.  
I delight in your decrees;  
I will not neglect your word.



### **From the Gospel according to Luke (8, 5-15)**

"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

His disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, 'though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.'

"This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

### **From Padre Pio's letters, [Ep. II, pp. 129-130 – letter 16, dated 14/07/1914]**

What you must do when Jesus in His goodness puts you to the test is to show your great promptness in the observance of your duties at all times, without neglecting any of the practices which you perform in times of consolation and prosperity. I encourage you not to mind the lack of all pleasurable feelings, since they are merely accidental and can often be quite dangerous to the soul. True and substantial devotion consists in serving God without any tangible consolation. This means serving and loving God for His own sake.

Until the soul has reached the acquisition of this substantial devotion, it is in a precarious state and must proceed with great caution and discretion.

In this state, you will find helpful to read holy books. It is my wish to see you read such books at all times, for such reading will provide you with excellent food for your souls, as well as lead you along the path towards perfection. This is by no means inferior to what we obtain through prayer and meditation. While in prayer and meditation we are the ones speaking to the Lord, in holy books it is indeed the Lord who is speaking to us. I encourage you to treasure those holy readings, and you will soon be aware of a spiritual renewal within you.

### **Short pause**

### **BLESSING OF THE ROSARIES**

*We have come to the blessing of the rosary beads that will accompany our pastoral journey. We renew our fidelity to Mary and our commitment in praying the Holy Rosary.*

We bless you, Father, because you have called us to meditate on the Birth, Death and Resurrection of your Son, to meditate on earthly life, waiting to contemplate him in eternity.

#### **Hail Mary, Blessed be Jesus Your beloved Son**

We bless you, our Brother and Lord Jesus Christ, you've chosen Mary your mother to show your face of peace and mercy to the world.

#### **Hail Mary, Blessed be Jesus Your beloved Son**

We bless you, Holy Spirit, through Saint Pio of Pietrelcina. You give us the Holy Rosary to meditate on your great works for men and for our salvation.

#### **Hail Mary, Blessed be Jesus Your beloved Son**

**All:** O Virgin Mary, accept our good intentions to pray the Holy Rosary every day to remember your love with which you accompanied the life of your Son Jesus Christ and then to share His glory in heaven. Saint Pio of Pietrelcina obtain for us from the Lord the holy perseverance in our purpose to pray the Holy Rosary daily, for our needs, for the Church and for the whole world.

Oh Lord, let the strength of Your spirit and Your Holy Blessing descend upon these holy wishes.  
You who live and reign for ever and ever

**Amen**

**Hymn to Our Lady**