



The day of fidelity

22 January 2021

Anniversary of the Religious Dressing of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

Every year our Prayer Groups are called to confirm their commitment of fidelity to the Gospels, following the spirituality of Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, their founder.

THE RITE OF THE OATH OF FIDELITY

The rite of this commitment of fidelity is celebrated on the day we commemorate the dressing of Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, January 22 (or another day agreed upon with the Spiritual Assistant). If Holy Mass is celebrated, this rite can be performed after the homily or before the final blessing.

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

Amen

the Lord is with you.

and with your spirit

Let us open our spirit to his voice, and in remembrance of our Baptism and in prayer we show our gratitude to the Lord for the gift of faith.

We give thanks to the Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Jesus says: "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness". (John 12:46)

Lord Jesus, our light, make it possible for us to walk in the light of your Word and live in the light of your friendship.

Psalm 25

Vindicate me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord, therefore I shall not slide. Examine
me, O Lord, and test me,
test my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.
I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.

I hate the assembly of evildoers, neither will I consort with dissemblers. I
wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O Lord,

proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.
O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

Do not sweep my soul away with sinners,
nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
in whose hands is mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me. My
foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.

Amen



O God, good and faithful, You create the existence of man and renew him, look with love at the people you have chosen and call incessantly new generations to establish their friendly relationship with You, so that, according to your promise, they can joyfully receive as a gift the dignity of children of God. For Christ our Lord.

The memory of the dressing of Saint Pio

On the morning of January 6, 1903, feast of the Epiphany, Francisco, returning from Mass, found his mother and some women from the neighborhood waiting for him at home.

At the moment of saying goodbye, he knelt at the feet of his good mother Giuseppa and asked her for a blessing, she took his hands and, forcing herself to hold back her tears, told him: «My son... I feel my heart breaking..., but Saint Francis is calling you and you must go».

Morcone is an austere convent, enclosed in an area rich in plants and vegetation, separated from the town and cheered by the roar of abundant water: it expresses all the severity of monastic life, protected by silence and detached from the world.

In the archives of the novitiate is preserved the certificate of dressing, which reads: "Morcone January 22, 1903. The cleric friar Pio from Pietrelcina, who in the century was called Forgione Francesco... with the obedience of the very reverend father Pio from Benevento... and behind the decree of the reverend father general of January 21, 1903, was dressed with the clothes of probation by me friar Tommaso from Monte Sant'Angelo, master of novices, on this day January 22, 1903, at 9 a.m., in this our church of Morcone in front of the high altar, present the professed religious and the novices".

Cfr. L. PERONI, *Padre Pio da Pietrelcina*, Edizioni Borda 1991, pp. 80-85

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Where possible, those who have chosen to be part of the Prayer Group arrange themselves around the altar.

Brothers and sisters, through Baptism, in Jesus's Passover we were buried with him in death to rise to new life. In various ways, the Lord has led us to learn about the spirituality of Padre Pio and to look at him as a model in following and imitating Christ poor and obedient to the Father. Following his example, we renew the promises of our Baptism, committing ourselves to recognise the voice of Jesus who calls us by name and invites us to follow Him.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

I do

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

I do

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

I do

God and Father of Jesus, who freed us from sin and made us to be reborn from water and from the Holy Spirit, through the intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina may He protect us with His grace, in the Lord Jesus, for eternal life.

Amen

Let us invoke together the intercession of Mary Most Holy, of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina and of all the saints, so that with their help we can be persevering in our purposes:



Holy Mary, Mother of God	pray for us
Saint Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	pray for us
St. John the Baptist	pray for us
St. Joseph	pray for us
Holy apostles and evangelists	pray for us
Saint Benedict	pray for us
St. Dominic	pray for us
Saint Francis of Assisi	pray for us
Saint Clare of Assisi	pray for us
Saint Catherine of Siena	pray for us
Saint Pio of Pietrelcina	pray for us
San Girolamo Emiliani	pray for us
St. John Paul II	pray for us
Saint Teresa of Calcutta	pray for us
San Giuseppe Moscati	pray for us
Saint Gianna Beretta Molla	pray for us
Blessed Chiara Luce Badano	pray for us
Blessed Maria Gargani	pray for us
Blessed Carlo Acutis	pray for us
Saints of God	pray for us

FIDELITY COMMITMENT

Brothers and sisters, the Church invites us to live in the spirit of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, the charism of prayer and help to the suffering, living our fidelity to the Gospel to be salt of the earth and light of the world, we now publicly renew that commitment of fidelity that many times, on a personal level, we presented to Padre Pio, invoking his protection.

O Father, you have chosen and called us to be «nurseries of the faith, the fertile soil of love», we commit, here in front of our community, to be ministers of prayer and service to the sufferings; to renounce sin with serious commitment; to grow in virtues, especially within our families; to share our journey in this Prayer Group,

following the spirituality of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina and the teachings of the Church.

We promise fidelity to the Pope, to our pastors and to the commitments we take on the common journey with the brothers and sisters of our Group.

In the footsteps of Saint Francis of Assisi, we choose to welcome the needy, to support the poor and be loving and respectful of creation.

Virgin Mary, You who guided the journey of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, welcome our holy desires and accompany us on our journey towards holiness.

Amen.

Our Father...

the Lord is with you

and with your spirit

May Almighty God, through Whom You we were born to a new life from the water and the Holy Spirit, bless you all, so that wherever you will be, you may be living members of his Church: in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen

May the Almighty God give you His peace: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.