In Loving Memory of

Rev. Lawrence G. Lovasik,

Born: June 22, 1913
Ordained: August 14, 1938
Died: June 9, 1986

O God, grant that your servant, whom you raised to priestly dignity in the priesthood of the apostles, may now be admitted into their company forever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.
FOREWORD

This booklet is written to further devotion to one of the greatest of modern saints, Saint Pius X. Even in his lifetime he was called "Il Santo" — the Saint, and Pope Pius XII justly calls him "The Providential Saint of Our Times."

In his address on the occasion of the canonization of Pius X, the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, said: "We offer heartfelt thanks to God in His goodness for allowing Us to take part in this extraordinary event; all the more so since for perhaps the first time in the history of the Church, the formal canonization of a Pope is proclaimed by one who had the privilege of serving him in the Roman Curia. This day is blessed and memorable for Us, who count it among the happiest days of Our Pontificate, to which Providence has allotted so many sorrows and cares; and also for the entire Church, which, gathered around Us in spirit, rejoices all together in a great thrill of religious feeling."

Rev. Lawrence G. Lovasik, S.V.D.

A NEW SAINT

A crowd of half a million assembled in St. Peter's square to witness the canonization ceremonies of Blessed Pius X, which began toward sunset on May 29, 1954 — the Marian Year — with the great papal procession from the Vatican to St. Peter's basilica. More than 500 members of the hierarchy were in the colorful line which preceded the Holy Father. Holding a lighted candle in his left hand and blessing the cheering crowd with his right, Pope Pius XII was borne in the canopied chair of state to the great center door of St. Peter's where he took his seat on the special throne erected there. After a few moments of silent prayer, he intoned the "Veni Creator," and all joined in singing this traditional hymn of the Church for divine guidance. Pope Pius XII then read the Canonization Formula.

"In honor of the Holy and Indivisible Trinity, for the exaltation of the Catholic Faith and the increase of the Christian Religion, by the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, and by Our own; after mature deliberation, ever imploring the divine assistance, and with the advice and counsel of Our Venerable Brothers of the Holy Roman Church, the Cardinals, Patriarchs, Archbishops and Bishops, here present in Rome. WE DECLARE AND DEFINE AS SAINT AND INSCRIBE IN THE CATALOGUE OF THE SAINTS BLESSED PIUS X, POPE AND CONFESSOR, ordaining that his memory be celebrated with pious devotion each year on the anniversary of his death, the 20th of August. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

First Day

LOYAL DISCIPLE OF THE MASTER

Reflection

In the address to a crowd of half a million faithful assembled in St. Peter's Square to witness the canonization of St. Pius X, Pope Pius XII said: "This hour of splendid triumph fills our heart with joy. And God, Who lifts up the lowly, has arranged and, as it were, hastened it in order to set His seal on the marvelous elevation of His faithful servant Pius X, to the supreme glory of the altars... This wonderful evening the endearing name of Pius X, pronounced in most diverse accents, spans the whole earth. Its sound is an enduring testimony to the fruitful presence of Christ in His Church, for it evokes everywhere aspirations to sanctity, great graces of faith, of purity, of devotion to the Holy Eucharist. God, Who rewards with liberality, bears witness to His servant's lofty sanctity in exalting him. It was this sanctity, even more than the supreme office he held, that made Pius X an outstanding hero of the Church, and as such he is today the Saint raised up by Providence for our times...

"The well-spring of the legislative work of Pius X is to be looked for above all in his personal sanctity, in his profound personal conviction that the reality of God, which he experienced in a life of constant
union, is the source and basis of all order, all justice, all law on earth . . .

"Sanctity, which was the inspiration and directing force of the undertakings of Pius X, is still more clearly discernible in his personal life. Before applying it to others, he put into practice in his own life his program of unifying all things in Christ. First as a humble parish priest, then as Bishop, and finally as Supreme Pontiff he was intimately convinced that the sanctity to which God called him was priestly sanctity. For what sanctity is more pleasing to God in a priest of the new law than that which belongs to him as representative of Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, Who left to His Church in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass a memorial for all time and a perpetual renovation of His sacrifice on the cross, until He shall come for the Last Judgement: and Who in the Sacrament of the Blessed Eucharist has given Himself as the food of the soul: 'He who eats this bread shall live forever.'"

† Pope Pius XII, May 29, 1954.

Prayer

Saint Pius, loyal disciple of the Master, pray for me that I may imitate you in your devoted love for Jesus Christ. May I live my life according to the teaching and example of the Son of God, who said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

May the spirit and life of Jesus flood my soul, and penetrate and possess my whole being so completely that all my life may be a radiant reflection of His, just as yours ever was. Pray for me to the Holy Spirit, that He may form me by grace into "Another Christ." Pray that Jesus may shine through me and be so in me that I may spread His fragrance everywhere, and every soul I come in contact with may feel His presence in my soul.

And since it is especially through the Sacrament of the Altar that I become like Jesus, give me a tender devotion to the Holy Eucharist. I wish to receive my Jesus frequently — as you have ever urged the faithful to do — so that from this intimate union I may draw the divine light and moral strength I need to fashion my life according to the divine Will. Thus may I come to live by Jesus, as you lived by Him in your lifetime. Through this divine life which I share in Holy Communion, I hope to be protected from mortal sin, purified of venial sins and failings, and encouraged by divine love and grace, to reach true holiness. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.
Saint Pius, loyal disciple of the Master, pray for us.
(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Second Day
POPE OF THE EUCHARIST

Reflection
In the address at the canonization of St. Pius X, Pope Pius XII said: "A priest, above all in the Eucharistic ministry; this is the most faithful portrayal of St. Pius X. To serve the mystery of the Blessed Eucharist as a priest, and to fulfill the command of our Savior 'do this in remembrance of me,' was his goal. From the day of his sacred ordination until his death as Pope, he knew no other path than this in order to arrive at heroism in his love of God and to bring about a whole-hearted return to that Redeemer of the world, who by means of the Blessed Eucharist poured out the wealth of His divine love on men. His deep awareness of his priesthood was clearly demonstrated by the extreme care he took to renew the dignity of divine worship. Overcoming the prejudices springing from an erroneous practice, he resolutely promoted frequent, and even daily, Communion of the faithful, and unhesitatingly led children to the banquet of the Lord, offering them to the embrace of the God hidden on the altars. Then, the spouse of Christ experienced a new springtime of Eucharistic life.

"The Holy Eucharist and the interior life: this is the supreme and universal lesson which Pius X, from the height of glory, teaches in this hour to all souls. As apostle of the interior life, he becomes, in the age of the machine and organization, the Saint and guide of men of our time."

†Pope Pius XII, May 29, 1954.

In 1905, in his Decree on Frequent Communion, Pope Saint Pius X stated: "Frequent and daily Communion, being most earnestly desired by Christ our Lord and by the Catholic Church, should be open to all the faithful, of whatever rank or condition of life, so that no one who is in the state of grace, and who approaches the Holy Table with an upright and devout intention, can be lawfully hindered." "At every Mass the faithful who are present should receive Communion, not only spiritually, by way of internal affection, but sacramentally, by the actual reception of the Eucharist."

†Pope St. Pius X, Decree on Frequent Communion, Dec. 20, 1905.

Prayer
Saint Pius, Pope of the Eucharist, teach me to imitate your deep, personal love for Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass the Sacrifice of the cross is renewed in an unbloody manner, for Jesus offers Himself to His heavenly Father in the same spirit of love and resignation
to His holy Will because He is present in the Sacred Host as the Victim of Calvary. Help me to unite myself with Jesus so as to become one sacrifice with Him. Give me sentiments like His own that I may become a living, holy victim, pleasing to God, and that I may consecrate to Him all the actions, sufferings, tears, and disappointments of my life.

At Holy Communion Jesus opens the treasury of all the grace which He merited for me by His bloody death on the cross. Give me some of the longing of your own heart for Jesus in Holy Communion, where I drink at the very fountain of grace, holiness, and happiness, because in Holy Communion Jesus gives me His Sacred Heart. Through frequent Holy Communion — which you urged all the faithful to receive at every Mass — may I obtain the grace to be changed into Jesus by the sanctifying and actual graces which this Sacrament imparts. Through Holy Communion I hope to enjoy a foretaste of heaven and to prepare myself for an eternal union with God.

By His Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist, Jesus remains with me as my dearest Friend and Companion in my exile here on earth. Through your prayers, strengthen in me the spirit of love and confidence and faith in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. May that faith be proved by my frequent visits to the Tabernacle. There may I find strength and consolations till I reach my eternal home in heaven. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.

Saint Pius, Pope of the Eucharist, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Third Day

MODEL OF THE PRIESTHOOD

Reflection

According to Saint Pius X, a noble and worthy priesthood was to be one of the means toward restoring all things in Christ, which was the aim of his pontificate. He said: “The priest is the representative of Christ on earth. He must think the thoughts of Christ and speak His words. He must be tender as Christ was tender, pure and holy like his Lord; he must shine like a star in the world . . . In order that Christ may be formed in the faithful, He must first be formed in the priest . . . Such an example will have greater power to move hearts and gain them than words or sermons, however sublime . . . A holy priest makes holy people; a priest who is not holy, is not only useless but harmful to the world.”
“Let chastity, therefore, ever flourish among you in unblemished honor; that choicest ornament of our order, in whose beauty as the priest is made like to the angels, so is he, too, more venerable in the eyes of the Christian people, and richer in holy fruits . . .

“Sanctity alone makes us what our divine vocation requires us to be: Men crucified to the world, and for whom the world itself is crucified; men walking in the newness of life, who, as St. Paul admonishes, should show themselves as the ministers of God ‘in labors, in watchings, in fastings, in chastity, in knowledge, in long-suffering, in sweetness, in the Holy Ghost, in charity unfeigned, in the word of truth’ (2 Cor. 6:5); whose thoughts are fixed only on heavenly things, and who strive by all means to lead others thither . . .”

✝ St. Pius X, Aug. 4, 1908.

Prayer

Saint Pius, model of Christ-like virtues and model of the priestly life, ask the Lord of the harvest to send zealous laborers into His vineyard. Send to the Church, through your intercession, many and worthy priests, who, reflecting the zeal of the Divine Heart of Jesus, will carry out their priestly duties faithfully for the honor of God and the salvation of souls.

Pray to the Immaculate Virgin Mary, whom you loved so tenderly, to increase the number of those who share in the Holy Priesthood of her Son and her co-workers with Him, that through apostolic zeal and holiness of life, they may carry out the mission of Jesus Christ through the world. Pray for truly holy priests, so that people may always see in them “Other Christs.”

Saint Pius, glorious Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, and now gloriously reigning with the Eternal High Priest in His Kingdom, be pleased to be the advocate and protector of our Holy Father, whom God has placed on the throne of Peter. In the midst of the wickedness of our times, make him mild in hostile attacks, strong in the defense of the faith, and gentle and watchful in the pastoral office. Beg the Holy Spirit to enlighten the Vicar of Christ and to strengthen him in his sorrows and in his universal cares, so that the Church may gather all people around God’s altar of life and salvation to invoke Him in peace forever. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be Saint Pius, model of the priesthood, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)
Fourth Day

LOVER OF MARY

Reflection

Saint Pius wrote of the Blessed Virgin: "For can any one fail to see that there is no surer or more direct road than by Mary for uniting all mankind in Christ and obtaining through Him the perfect adoption of sons, that we may be holy and immaculate in the sight of God? For if to Mary it was truly said: 'Blessed art thou who hast believed, because in thee shall be fulfilled the things that have been told thee by the Lord' (Luke 1, 45); or in other words, that she would conceive and bring forth the Son of God; and if she did receive in her womb Him who is by nature Truth itself... the Son of God made man, being the 'author and finisher of faith,' it surely follows that His Mother most holy should be recognized as participating in the divine mysteries and as being in a manner the guardian of them, and that upon her as upon a foundation, the noblest after Christ, rises the edifice of the faith of all centuries.

"And it cannot be doubted that through the Virgin, and through her more than through any other means, we have a way of reaching the knowledge of Jesus Christ offered to us, when it is remembered that with her alone of all others Jesus for thirty years was united, as it behooves a son to be united with his mother, in the closest ties of intimacy and domestic life. Who more than His Mother could have a far-reaching knowledge of the admirable mysteries of the birth and childhood of Christ, and, above all, of the mystery of the Incarnation, which is the beginning and the foundation of faith? She not only kept in her heart the events of Bethlehem and what took place in Jerusalem in the Temple of the Lord, but sharing as she did the thoughts and secret wishes of Christ, she may be said to have lived the very life of her Son. Hence nobody ever knew Christ as profoundly as she did, and nobody can ever be more competent as a guide and teacher of the knowledge of Christ." — St. Pius X, Feb. 7, 1904

Prayer

St. Pius, I venerate you as a true lover of Mary, the Mother of God. It was while kneeling at the feet of this Madonna that you received the grace of a holy vocation to the Priesthood of Her Son. You ever entrusted your life to her loving protection. Under her guidance and by the power of her prayers, you obtained the grace to love God and your neighbor in a high degree, so that today you are numbered among God's saints.

I beg you to obtain for me a tender love for the Blessed Virgin Mary, my spiritual mother. As Jesus in His infancy depended upon the loving care of His Mother, and in death, when He was abandoned by all even by His Father — still had the heart of His...
Mother, so let me ever rely with childlike confidence on the heart of my heavenly Mother Mary. And as the last beat of the Sacred Heart was in unison with the beat of her heart — just as the first had been — may each beat of my heart, especially my last, be an expression of my love for God and for Mary.

I beg you, Saint Pius, to give me a tender devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, such as you always had. Make me believe of Mary what the Church believes of her, and love her as the Church loves her. In imitation of Jesus, may I love her more and more. May she be for me the “Morning Star” on my journey through life, the “Mother of Mercy” in my sinfulness, and finally, the “Gate of Heaven” at the hour of my death. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.

Saint Pius, lover of Mary, pray for us. (See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Fifth Day

CHRIST-LIKE LOVER OF SOULS

Reflection

Saint Pius X expressed some of his zeal and love for souls in the following words: “The times we live in demand action — but action which consists entirely in observing with fidelity and zeal the divine laws and the precepts of the Church, in the frank and open profession of religion, in the exercise of every kind of charitable works, without regard to self-interest or worldly advantage. Such luminous examples given by the great army of soldiers of Christ will be of much greater avail in moving and drawing men than words and sublime sermons; and it will easily come about that, when human respect has been driven out, and prejudices and doubts laid aside, large numbers will be won to Christ, becoming in their turn promoters of His knowledge and love which are the road to true and solid happiness.”

“The fruits of our labors may come slowly; but charity wearies not with waiting, knowing that God prepares His rewards not for the results of toil, but for the good will shown in it.”

† St. Pius X, Oct. 4, 1903.

“To restore all things in Christ by the apostolate of good works, divine grace is needed, and the apostle does not get it unless he is one with Christ. When we have found Jesus Christ in ourselves, then only shall we be able to give Him easily to families and to associates. All those who share in the apostolate must therefore, have solid piety.”

† St. Pius X.

Prayer

Saint Pius, Christ-like lover of souls, obtain for me through your prayers
an active share in your own zeal for souls. Keep me from indifference — praying and acting only for my own needs — while around me there are many starved minds in need of God’s truth, and many famished hearts in need of God’s love. Obtain for me the grace to rise from my slumber. Fix deep in my soul such a personal love for Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, that I may act always and everywhere for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

Increase my faith, my love, and the ardor of my desire to imitate Jesus, so that His Sacred Humanity may become for me a light and a source of life. Pray to the Holy Spirit for me that He may imprint, little by little, the likeness of Jesus in me, by revealing Him more intimately to me, by making me share the sentiments of His Sacred Heart, especially His love for God and souls, and by giving me the strength to live according to these sentiments in union with my dearest Mother Mary, just as you did during your lifetime. In this way let me share in the fulfillment of the great ideal of your life: “To restore all things in Christ.” Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.

Saint Pius, Christ-like lover of souls, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Sixth Day
HEAD OF THE CHURCH

Reflection

At the large gathering of faithful assembled in St. Peter’s to witness the canonization of Blessed Pius X, the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, said in his address: “He, St. Pius X, solemnly announced the program of his pontificate in his very first encyclical in which he declared that his only aim was ‘to re-establish all things in Christ,’ that is, to sum up, to restore all things to unity in Christ. But where is the road that leads to Christ? he asked himself, looking in compassion at the hesitating, wandering souls of his time. The answer, valid yesterday, today and always, is: the Church. His primary aim then, which he pursued continually till death, was to make the Church ever more apt and open to the movement of souls toward Jesus Christ . . . Pius X is the indomitable champion of the Church and the providential Saint of our times.”

✝ Pius XII, May 29, 1954.

In his first encyclical, Saint Pius X declared: “The interests of God shall be Our interests, and for them We are resolved to spend all Our strength and Our very life. Hence, should any one ask Us for a symbol as the expression of Our will, We will give this and no other: “To restore all things in Christ.”

✝ Saint Pius X, Oct. 4, 1903.
Saint Pius X describes the glory of the Church which he governed in these words: “Kingdoms and empires have passed away, time and again the nations, as though overwhelmed by the weight of years, have fallen asunder while the Church, indestructible in her essence, united by an indissoluble tie with her heavenly spouse, is here today, radiant with eternal youth, strong with the same primitive vigor with which she left the Heart of Christ, dead upon the cross. Men powerful in the world have risen up against her. They have disappeared, and she remains. Philosophical systems without number, of every form and every kind, rose up against her. But those systems, one after another, have passed into books of history, forgotten, bankrupt, while from the Rock of Peter the light of truth shines forth as brilliantly as on the day when Jesus first kindled it on His appearance in the world and fed it with His divine words: “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

✝ Saint Pius X, March 12, 1904.

Prayer
Saint Pius, Shepherd of the flock of Christ, I beg of you to intercede for the Holy Catholic Church, which the Eternal Father chose as His property, for which our Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, has shed His Blood, and which the Holy Spirit animates and sanctifies.

The aim of your pontificate was to restore all things in Christ. Pray for the spread of the Church, once entrusted to your care, that it may extend over the whole world and bring the truths of salvation to all nations. May the Church be glorified with the splendor of holiness, so that, as the city upon the mountain, she may shine forth before the whole world.

Protect and bless the Holy Father, all bishops and priests. Fill them with wisdom, strength, and virtue so that in imitation of you, they may live worthy of their sublime vocation, and guide their flocks to eternal salvation. You were once the great inspirer and the guide of the people of God. Beg God to visit all the faithful with His sanctifying grace so that, by leading a pure and holy life, they may persevere in His love.

Through your powerful prayers at the throne of God, protect Holy Mother Church against all attacks of the enemy; destroy their power, that in peace and security we may work out our salvation and spread our holy faith. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.
Saint Pius, Head of the Church, pray for us. (See Novena Prayer, page 31)

**Seventh Day**

**SUPPORT OF FAMILY LIFE**

**Reflection**

In his address at the canonization of Saint Pius X, Pope Pius XII said: “In the profound vision which he had of the Church as a society, Pius X recognized that it was the Blessed Eucharist which had the power to nourish its intimate life substantially, and to raise it high above all other human societies. Only the Eucharist, in which God gives Himself to man, is apt to lay the foundations of a social life worthy of those who live it, cemented more by love than by authority, rich in activity and aimed at the perfection of the individual: a life that is hidden with Christ in God.”

“What a providential example for the world of today . . . Let it look, then, for its model at the Church, gathered around her altars. There in the Sacrament of the Eucharist mankind really discovers and recognizes that its past, present, and future are in unity in Christ . . . Only in the Church, the holy Pontiff seems to repeat, and for her in the Blessed Eucharist — which is ‘life hidden with Christ in God,’ is to be found the secret and source of renewed social life.”

†Pius XII, May 29, 1954.

Saint Pius X “ordained, commended, counselled, and commanded” two great principles and practices: early Communion for little children and frequent Communion for adults. Saint Pius X speaks of this need of the Eucharist in social and family life in these words: “All the faithful, married or single, young or old, even children from their first Communion, are invited to go to Holy Communion frequently; yes, daily.”

†Saint Pius X, December, 1905.

Saint Pius X speaks of the Church as the protector of the Christian Family and society: “The efficacy of the doctrine and morality taught by Jesus Christ is so limitless that providentially it sustains and promotes the material welfare of individuals, of the family and society.

“The Church, even in preaching Jesus Christ crucified — a stumbling block and foolishness to the world — has become the foremost leader and protector of civilization . . . The civilization of the world is Christian; the more it is purely Christian, the truer, more lasting and more productive of genuine fruit it is. The more it draws away from the Christian ideal, the more it seriously endangers the social order. Hence, by the very nature of things, the Church has become in fact the guardian and protector of Christian society.”

†Saint Pius X, June 11, 1905.

**Prayer**

Saint Pius, loving Shepherd of the flock of Christ and zealous defender of the Christian family, to your fatherly protection I commend our family, our household and all that
belongs to us. We entrust all to your love and keeping. Through your prayers, fill our home with the blessings that filled the holy home of Nazareth.

The aim of your pontificate was to restore all things in Christ. Pray that Jesus and Mary may reign over us. Help each one of us to obey God's holy Law and to love God and our neighbor sincerely, as you did. Preserve us and our home from all misfortunes, especially from sin. Grant that we may ever be resigned to God's holy will in any cross or sorrow which He may permit to come to us.

Saint Pius, our loving Father, through your prayers obtain for us the grace to live in perfect charity and peace. May every one of us deserve by a holy life the comfort of God's holy Sacraments at the hour of death, so that we may be reunited as a family in heaven.

Fatherly defender of the Christian family, pray for the families of the world that they may be truly Christian in spirit. May they be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of God's holy laws, that they may be preserved in the practice of Christian virtues and enjoy the peace which the world cannot give.

Pray especially for Catholic families that the Eucharistic spirit may abide in them, and that they may be filled with the peace and joy of Christ. May each member of the family — parents and children — bring about the reign of Christ in the home, not only by keeping the commandments and avoiding sin, but by the frequent reception of the Sacraments and by prayer. Through your prayers obtain that all Catholic families may be like the Holy Family at Nazareth, with husband and wife devoted to each other in sincerest love, and children subject to their parents for the love of God. And after enjoying the blessings of this life, may they be admitted to those which are eternal. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be. Saint Pius, support of family life, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Eighth Day
FATHER OF THE SUFFERING

Reflection

Pius X was most wonderfully tender and gentle with those in sorrow or suffering. As a parish priest, he had been the comfort of his people, consoling the sorrowful, nursing the sick, helping the needy. It was
said of him that he had “the greatest heart of any man alive.” The very sight of suffering moved him even to tears; there was no trouble of body or soul in the world that failed to awaken his sympathy. His compassion together with his personal holiness made his prayers most powerful for healing. Especially after his death he proved himself the tender father of the suffering. Many favors and cures have been granted through his intercession.

In his address at the canonization of St. Pius X, the Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, expressed the fatherly compassion and care which he had for the flock entrusted to him in these words: “Jesus Christ is the eternal High Priest and Shepherd of souls, who taught, labored and suffered greatly for our sakes. Pius X, Bishop of Rome, whom it has been our great joy to enroll in the list of the Saints, following closely in the footsteps of his Divine Master, took that command from the lips of Christ and strenuously fulfilled it: he loved and fed. He loved Christ and His flock. He drew abundantly on the heavenly treasures which our merciful Redeemer brought to the earth, and distributed them bountifully to the flock: namely, the nourishment of truth, heavenly mysteries, the munificent grace of the Eucharistic sacrament and sacrifice, charity, earnestness in governing, fortitude in defense. He gave fully of himself and of those things which the Author and Giver of all good things had bestowed on him.”

† Pius XII, May 31, 1954.

Prayer

Saint Pius, you are rightly called the father of the suffering, because of your tender pity for those in need and in pain. Throughout your priestly life you consoled the sorrowful, nursed the sick, and helped the needy. Your desire to help and your personal holiness made even the touch of your hand or your blessing, and especially your prayers, powerful to heal both body and soul.

With deep confidence in your loving compassion and in the power of your prayers, I come to you and beg your assistance in my present needs. Help me to embrace my sufferings with all my heart for the glory of God’s justice, in obedience to His holy will, in honor of the terrible sufferings which Jesus endured on earth, in atonement for my sins, and in fulfillment of the plans which God has ordained for me. May I embrace my sufferings as a cross which God’s most loving hands have placed on my shoulders. Teach me to imitate you in bearing my sufferings patiently, and in uniting them with the Sacrifice of Jesus at Mass. May I find my strength in frequent Holy Communion as you taught the faithful to do.
Saint Pius, I also pray for all the sick and suffering throughout the world. Continue to be a father to them as you were on earth. Through your prayers at the throne of God, obtain for them the grace to accept the will of God cheerfully, and to offer their sufferings in union with the Passion of Jesus and the sorrows of Mary, in reparation for the sins of all mankind, for the needs of this troubled world, and for the salvation of souls. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.
Saint Pius, father of the suffering, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

Ninth Day
MARTYR OF PEACE

Reflection
Before the first World War, Pope Pius X sent a brief message to his children throughout the world: “At this very moment when nearly the whole of Europe is being dragged into a most terrible war... We, whose care is the life and welfare of so many citizens and peoples, cannot but be deeply moved, and Our heart wrung with the bitterest sorrow.

“In the midst of this universal confusion and peril, We feel and know that both fatherly love and Our apostolic ministry demand that We should, with all earnestness,

turn the thoughts of Christendom to Him from whom comes all help, the Christ, the Prince of Peace, the all-powerful Mediator between God and man. We charge then the Catholics of the whole world to approach the throne of grace and mercy, each and all of them, so that the merciful God may, as it were, grow wearied with the prayers of His children, and speedily remove the evil causes of war, and inspire the rulers of the nations with thoughts of peace and not of war.”

St. Pius X, 1914.

The Pope’s last pontifical brief dealt with the Eucharistic Congress to be held at Lourdes. He wrote: “Never had Mary ceased to show that motherly love which she manifested so wonderfully even to her last breath. It might indeed be said that her sole work was to lead all human beings to the love of Jesus and to zeal in His service. May the divine Author and Preserver of the Church look upon those of His flock who are afflicted today with so many calamities. May He pour out the fire of His love and revive the half dead faith of those who now hardly retain the name of Christian.”

St. Pius X, July, 1914.

When the war finally came, Pope Pius declared, “I would have given my life to prevent it.” The strain he was under as a consequence of the evils afflicting the children of God, surely hastened his death. He was a martyr of peace.

Prayer
(Prayer of Pope Pius XII)

O blessed Pontiff, Saint Pius, serv-
ant of your Lord, humble and loyal disciple of the Divine Master, wise shepherd of the flock of Christ in joy and sorrow, in labor and loneliness, look down upon us kneeling before your incorrupt body!

Hard are the times in which we live! Unbearable the burdens they impose upon us! The Spouse of Christ, once entrusted to your care, finds herself in great difficulties. Her children are afflicted by many dangers of soul and body. The spirit of the world like a roaring lion seeks whom it may devour. Many are its victims. They have eyes and see not; they have ears and hear not; they refuse to look upon light of eternal truth! They listen to dangerous voices proclaiming a message of betrayal!

O you, who were once the great inspirer and guide of the people of God, help us! Intercede for us and for all those who long to follow Christ. Your heart broke when you saw the world plunged into the bloody struggle of the first World War. Help humanity, aid Christianity, exposed today to the same dangers, and to the same trials. Obtain for us from the Divine Mercy the gift of enduring peace; and, to promote this ideal, bring about the return of all peoples to the spirit of true brotherhood, which alone can restore among nations the justice and unity that God wills among men. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.
Saint Pius, martyr of peace, pray for us.

(See Novena Prayer, page 31)

NOVENA PRAYER
(For each day of the Novena)

Glorious Pontiff, Saint Pius, devoted servant of our Lord and loving child of Mary, I invoke you as a Saint in heaven. I give myself to you that you may always be my father, my protector, and my guide in the way of holiness and salvation. Aid me in observing the duties of my state of life. Obtain for me great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life after your own example.

Pope of the Blessed Sacrament, teach me to love Holy Mass and Holy Communion as the source of all grace and holiness, and to receive this Sacrament as often as I can. Gentle father of the poor, help me to imitate your charity toward my fellowmen in word and deed. Consoler of the suffering,
help me to bear my daily cross patiently and with perfect resignation to the will of God. Loving Shepherd of the flock of Christ, obtain for me the grace of being a true child of Holy Mother Church.

Saint Pius, beloved Holy Father, I humbly implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the Divine Heart of Jesus all the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare. I recommend to you in particular this favor... (Mention your request).

Great Pontiff, whom Holy Mother Church has raised to the honor of our altars and urged me to invoke and imitate as a Saint, I have great confidence in your prayers. I earnestly trust that if it is God's holy will, my petition will be granted through your intercession for me at the throne of God.

Saint Pius, pray for me and for those I love. I beg of you, by your love for Jesus and Mary, do not abandon us in our needs. May we experience the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen.

In thanksgiving to God for the graces bestowed on Saint Pius.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be (3 times).
That we may be preserved from the horrors of war,
That nations may be restored to true brotherhood with justice and freedom for all,
That the Church may enjoy true peace and security for the glory of God and the salvation of souls,
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, \textit{spare us, O Lord}.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, \textit{graciously hear us, O Lord}.
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, \textit{have mercy on us}.

V. Pray for us, Saint Pius.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

\textit{Let us pray}

O God, who raised up Saint Pius X to be the Chief Shepherd of Thy flock and specially endowed him with devotion to the Holy Eucharist, with zeal for Thy divine truths, and with love of Thy liturgy, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who venerate his memory on earth, may enjoy his powerful intercession in heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.
VARIOUS PRAYERS

Dedication to Saint Pius
Saint Pius, whom Holy Mother Church has raised to the honor of sainthood so that we may imitate your example and seek your intercession, I thank God for the great graces He had bestowed upon you.

Good Shepherd of the flock of Christ, I consecrate my soul and body to you. I choose you as my patron and protector. Be the guardian of my obligation as a child of God and of the Catholic Church as I again renounce Satan, his works and pomps. Assist me by your powerful intercession in the fulfillment of these sacred promises. You also made them in the days of your earthly pilgrimage, and your fidelity in keeping them to the end has obtained for you an everlasting reward in heaven.

Saint Pius, I am called to the same happiness that you enjoy. The same help is offered to me that enabled you to acquire eternal glory. You overcame temptations like those which I experience. Help me to cooperate with God's graces. I desire to imitate especially your childlike humility and simplicity of life, your great love for

Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and for His Blessed Mother, your love for your neighbor in the person of the poor and suffering, and, finally, your devotion to Holy Mother Church.

Pray for me, my holy patron, so that, being inspired by your example and assisted by your prayers, I may live a holy life, die a happy death, and reach heaven where I may praise and thank God with you forever. Amen.

Petition
Holy Father, Saint Pius, zealous Shepherd of souls, raised to the glory of sainthood, hear the prayer which I lay at your feet.

Obtain for me and for all Christians true love for Jesus, so that we may live only in Him and for Him. Grant us your great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Deliver us from every evil of soul and body. And obtain through your prayers that the Church and all Christianity may, as you so ardently desired, sing the hymn of victory and peace. Amen.

For a Cure
Glorious Saint Pius, loving Father of the poor and sick, all your life you devoted yourself with a charity really
heroic to lightening their spiritual and bodily miseries. Full of confidence in your tender pity for the sick, I come to you for help in my present need. . . . (Mention it).

Loving father of the suffering, Saint Pius, in your lifetime, and especially after your death, you worked miracles through your prayers. Look with compassion upon me in my suffering. Beg God to give me good health. If it is not God's will to cure me, then give me strength to bear my cross patiently and to offer my sufferings in union with my Crucified Savior and His Mother of Sorrows, in reparation for my sins and those of others, for the needs of this troubled world, and for the souls in purgatory.


For an Increase of Frequent Communion
(According to the Ideal of Saint Pius X)

Sweetest Jesus, You came into the world to give all souls the life of Your grace and to preserve and nourish it in them. You wanted to be at the same time the daily cure of their infirmities and their daily nourishment. We humbly beg of You, by Your Heart all on fire with love for us, to pour forth upon them all Your Divine Spirit. May those who are unhappily in mortal sin turn to You and regain the life of grace which they have lost. May those who through Your grace are already living this divine life, approach Your holy table daily, if they can, and there receive the remedy for their venial sins. May daily Holy Communion foster within them the life of grace. Being thus ever more and more purified, may they at last reach that eternal life which is happiness with You. Amen.

To Saint Joseph, Model of Workers
(APrayer of St. Pius X)

Glorious Saint Joseph, model of all who are devoted to labor, obtain for me the grace to work in the spirit of penance for the expiration of my many sins and to work faithfully, placing the love of duty above my own desires.

Help me to work with gratitude and joy, considering it an honor to use and develop by labor the gifts received from God. Aid me to work with order, peace, moderation, and patience,
without ever avoiding weariness and trials.

Help me to work, above all, for the glory of God and not for any selfish reason. May I always keep before my eyes not only death but also the account I must give of time lost, of talents wasted, of good omitted, and of pride in success, so harmful to the work of God. All for Jesus, all through Mary, all after your example, holy patriarch, Saint Joseph! This will be my motto in life and in death. Amen.