



# THE POPE VIDEO

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



## For a life of prayer

[ We pray that that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. ]

- Pope Francis -

### Challenge for humanity and for the mission of the Church – December 2020

#### What does Pope Francis teach us about prayer?

- CATECHESIS IMPARTED FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER 2020 -

1

##### THE MYSTERY OF PRAYER

- Prayer is the **breath of faith**.
- Faith is a persevering cry: **as with the blind man Bartimaeus, God always listens**.
- Bartimaeus waits: **he does everything possible to meet Jesus**.

2

##### THE PRAYER OF A CHRISTIAN

- **Prayer belongs to everyone:** to men and women of every religion, and also to those who profess none.
- Prayer is an impulse that senses the nostalgia of an **encounter with God**.
- **God is always close** to our heart's door and He waits for us to open it to Him.

3

##### THE MYSTERY OF CREATION

- **The mystery of Creation** creates the first impulse that evokes prayer.
- Prayer is closely linked to the sentiment of wonder.
- Prayer is the first strength of hope: **it opens the door to hope**.



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### THE PRAYER OF THE RIGHTEOUS

- **Prayer is a refuge** before the flood wave of evil that grows in the world.
- **Prayer is powerful:** it attracts the power of God, which always gives life.
- Prayer transforms our hearts, so often made of stone, **into hearts of flesh.**

5

### THE PRAYER OF ABRAHAM

- **Abraham trusts in God:** he listens to Him and submits himself to His will because he trusts in Him.
- Abraham teaches us to listen to the Lord, to walk, to dialogue with Him.
- With God, let us learn to speak like a child with his dad: **with transparency.**

6

### THE PRAYER OF JACOB

- Jacob teaches us to show God our frailty and powerlessness.
- Prayer is a beautiful invitation to allow ourselves to be changed by God, **by His mercy.**
- With Jacob, let us learn to say: "Lord, You know me. Change me."

7

### THE PRAYER OF MOSES

- Moses urges us to pray with the same ardor of Jesus, **to intercede for the world.**
- **Jesus is the bridge** between us and the Father, and He intercedes for us.
- Despite all his frailties, Moses reminds us that we belong to God.

8

### THE PRAYER OF DAVID

- David is holy and sinful, but there is one thread running through his life: **prayer.**
- David the saint prays; David the sinner prays; David the persecuted prays; David the persecutor prays.
- David teaches us to let everything enter into dialogue with God: joy as well as guilt, love as well as suffering.

9

### THE PRAYER OF ELIJAH

- **Prayer is letting ourselves be carried by God.**
- Elijah leads a contemplative life and an active life: we need that courage.
- Elijah teaches us to return before God with prayer to recover serenity and peace.

Main source: Catechesis of Pope Francis: General audiences (May, June, October, and November of 2020).



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### THE PRAYER OF THE PSALMS (I)

- The book of Psalms is a book of prayers: **they teach the language of prayer.**
- They teach us that we pray because we know we are precious in God's eyes.
- In the Psalms, the believer finds an answer: even if all human doors were barred, God's door is open.

11

### THE PRAYER OF THE PSALMS (II)

- We must avoid praying wearily, by rote. **We must pray with the heart.**
- Prayer is the center of life. If there is prayer, even a brother, a sister, even an enemy becomes important.

12

### JESUS, MAN OF PRAYER

- Jesus' first public act is participation in a choral prayer of the people: **baptism.**
- Jesus is not a distant God, and He cannot be so: Jesus prays with us.
- Jesus is never without the refuge of a dwelling place: he dwells eternally in the Father.

13

### JESUS, TEACHER OF PRAYER

- During his public life, Jesus constantly availed himself of the power of prayer.
- Prayer is an art to be practiced insistently. Jesus himself says to us: **knock, knock, knock.**
- Jesus' prayer is the place where we perceive that everything comes from God and returns to him.

14

### THE PERSEVERING PRAYER

- It's necessary to talk about prayer: if we do not pray, we will not have the strength to go forward in life.
- Jesus gave us the example of continual prayer, practiced with perseverance. Constant dialogue with his Father, in silence and in recollection, was the fulcrum of his entire mission.
- Prayer must be tenacious: **God always listens, and always responds.**

15

### THE VIRGIN MARY, PRAYERFUL WOMAN

- Mary did not autonomously conduct her life: **she waited for God to take the reins, she was docile.**
- There is no better way to pray than to place oneself like Mary in an attitude of openness: **"Lord, what you want, when you want, and how you want".**
- Mary accompanied Jesus' entire life in prayer, right up to his death and resurrection; and in the end, she continued and she accompanied the first steps of the nascent Church.

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