

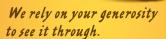
AN EVENING HOLY MASS IS CELEBRATED ON THE 23RD OF EACH MONTH FOR ALL OF OUR BENEFACTORS. LIVE THIS MOMENT OF PRAYER IN COMMUNION WITH US.

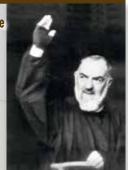
It is only thanks to your determined help that many PROJECTS OF PADRE PIO have been completed. OTHERS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED, WE CAN ACHIEVE THEM TOGETHER.

Please help us complete the building of the **Rest Home** 

for Elderly Friars. Let these holy men

who have dedicated their lives to God, have a place to live in dignity.





Thank you for all that you do for me and for those entrusted to me. May Jesus repay you a hundredfold. (Padre Pio, Ep. IV, 889)



"CONVENT – RETIREMENT HOME FOR ELDERLY FRIARS"

## TO MAKE A DONATION THERE ARE 4 CONVENIENT WAYS:

If you are the title holder of a card you can call +39 0882.417610 - Fax +39 0882.417342 or visit the website www.conventopadrepio.it/english/offerings

SSEES -

















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BANK TRANSFER TO OUR ACCOUNT IN YOUR NATION, USING THE BANK SLIP ATTACHED

You will find the form enclosed only if we have a bank account open in your nation. In order to facilitate our benefactors in the United States making their donations by bank wire, we have instituted a new FOUNDATION, the only one authorized by the Capuchin Friars of San Giovanni Rotondo: Padre Pio America Foundation, inc. (USA)

Account No.: 34135011 TAX - I.D.#31-1794506

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Moreover, we inform you that the Padre Pio America Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 tax exempt organization, regulated by the IRS tax code making your donations tax deductible.



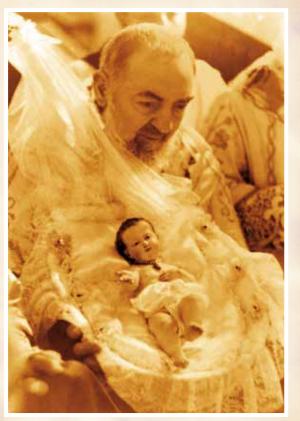
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you can light a candle from your home for your intentions by visiting the website:

w.conventosantuariopadrepio.it







"May the Infant Jesus always reign in your heart, and may he establish and consolidate his reign within you more and more." (Letters III, 766)

pp:

## Dear brothers and sisters in Christ and devotees of St. Pio,

Forthcoming is the anniversary of the human birth of the Son of God, the promised Messiah eagerly awaited by the ancient Fathers who silently enters into human history, visited only by humble shepherds alerted by heavenly spirits. It is a birth which took place in simplicity to teach us to wade warily through the lure of worldly honors, and it took place in poverty to allow us to understand that earthly riches are not the fruit of love.

From Padre Pio's Letters: "Poverty, humility, abjection, contempt, all sur-

round the Word made flesh. But we, out of the darkness that envelops the incarnate Word, understand one thing, hear one voice, perceive one sublime truth: you have done everything out of love, you invite us to nothing else but love, speak of nothing except love, give us naught except proofs of love" (Ep. IV, 1008).

To change our lives, the child Jesus chooses to be born in humility and poverty in opposition to mistaken human attitudes, inviting us to live "in the spirit of a child" to begin a new path that leads to love, to communicate, to be understood and to understand.

It is the journey of the shepherds of Bethlehem who with silence and simplicity in their hearts listened to the voice of God that invites love and provides the proofs of love.

Let us hear the message that comes from heaven welcoming the child Jesus with a new heart, emptied of pride, avarice and vanity, the effects of which are violence and the desire to possess more and more material wealth and power rooted in the evils of sin which afflict the world.

Again Padre Pio in his Letters writes: "The heavenly Babe [...] deprives himself of everything, in order that we may learn from him the renunciation of worldly goods and comforts. He is satisfied with humble and poor adorers, to encourage us to love poverty, and to prefer the company of the little and simple rather than the great ones of the world [...]. Let us offer him all our hearts without reserve. Let us promise to follow the precepts which come to us from the grotto of Bethlehem, which teach us that everything here below is vanity of vanities, nothing but vanity" (Ep. IV, 1009).

The Heavenly Child regenerates our hearts so that we may open them to mercy, understanding and love, and to bring a word of hope in the world that knows how to overcome skepticism, fear and loneliness of our present times. To accomplish this, sometimes you just need to do an act of love, a smile, a sincere wish of Merry Christmas, simple gestures that turn on a small light that, as in the dimness of the manger, illuminates the surrounding darkness.

Thanking you for your generous participation in our work, we wish a *Holy Christmas* and a *happy New Year* to you, your families and to all the people who are dear to you.

The Capuchin Friars

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