

*Advent
Meditations
With
Padre Pio*

Compiled by Anthony Chiffolo



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***A complete list of the works quoted
in this booklet appears on page 32.***

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Introduction

By the time Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the Middle East was in a turmoil of expectation, the people ready for God to do great things on their behalf. During Advent, we commemorate those centuries of Jewish anticipation. The Anointed One for whom we wait, however, is not a warrior-king but an outcast who preached an all-inclusive love, who continues to bring God's blessed community to life each day.

Saint Pio longed to be with the Messiah. One might say Pio's life was a prolonged "advent," a restless anticipation of that blissful moment when he would be with God.

The quotations from Pio's letters allow us to accompany him on his Advent journey. We experience his searching, share his longing, feel his discouragement, and embrace his hope. Perhaps, with God's grace, we may also glimpse his final ecstasy.

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Sunday

First Week of Advent

Seeking the Infinite Good

I seem to be searching...for something I cannot find, and....although I don't know what this good is that my heart seeks so badly, I seem to know one thing for certain, that this good is inexhaustible and not circumscribed by limits [and] that my heart will never be able to contain it entirely, for in my ignorance I feel that this is a very great good, an immense good, an infinite good.

Is this Jesus? If not, then who is it?

LETTER TO PADRE AGOSTINO

MAY 6, 1913

*“Ask, and it will be given you;
search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you.”*

LUKE 11:9

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Monday
First Week of Advent

Desiring to Love

I want to love Jesus as I should. I desire this love; I know I love Him, but—dear God!—how inferior my love is to my desire to love! Ought it not to be the opposite, that my love should surpass the desire for it?

LETTER TO PADRE BENEDETTO

APRIL 7, 1915

*All things work together for good
for those who love God.*

ROMANS 8:28

Tuesday
First Week of Advent

Saying Yes!

Let us pray to the Lord that He may never permit us to shut the ears of our heart to His voice that is speaking to us today.

LETTER TO RAFFAELINA CERASE

JUNE 8, 1915

*Then Mary said, "Here am I,
the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word."*

LUKE 1:38

Wednesday
First Week of Advent

Bursting With God-News

Infinite love has at last overcome my hard-heartedness, leaving me weak and powerless. He keeps pouring Himself completely into the small vase of this creature....Because of the exultation of possessing Him in me, I cannot refrain from saying with the most holy Virgin: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

LETTER TO PADRE BENEDETTO

JANUARY 12, 1919

*“For the Mighty One has done great things
for me, and holy is his name.”*

LUKE 1:49

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