

Q. Father, why do you almost always cry when you read the Gospel in the Holy Mass?

A. And do you find it little thing that a God talks to His creatures, and they react against Him? That He is injured constantly by their ingratitude and incredulity?

Q. Father, is your Mass a bloody Sacrifice?

A. Heretic!

Q. Why do you weep over the offertory?

A. Do you want to worm the secret out of me? Well then, it is the moment when the soul becomes detached from all that is profane.

Q. Father, why do you suffer so much during the Consecration?

A. Because it is at that very moment when a new, awesome and wonderful annihilation and creation happens.

Q. Father, do you suffer the bitterness of gall?

A. Yes, very often.

Q. Father, do you also speak during Holy Mass the "seven words" that Jesus stated on the Cross?

A. Yes, although unworthily, I also speak them.

Q. Do you suffer the thirst and rejection Jesus suffered?

A. Yes... After the Consecration... Normally up to the Communion.

Q. What did the Virgin do at the feet of the Crucified Jesus?

A. She suffered watching her Son suffer...

Q. Do you also suffer during Communion?

A. It is the culminating point.

Q. Do your sufferings continue after Communion?

A. Yes, but they are sufferings of love.

Q. What kind of fruits do we receive when we hear the Mass?

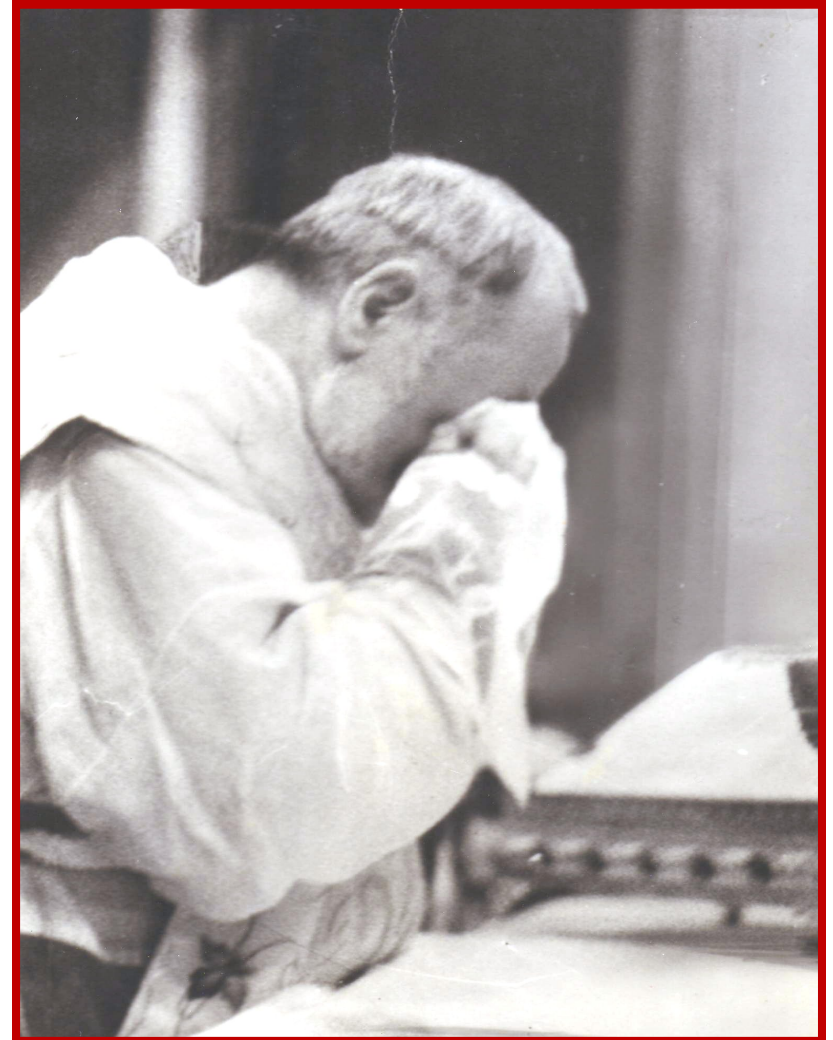
A. They cannot be enumerated. You will know it only in Paradise.

Conclusion: In the new Heaven and the new Earth that John announced for the end of time, the Holy City will once again be a New Jerusalem, which will descend from heaven adorned as a wife dressed for her husband. It is the new tabernacle of God among men. God will live amidst His people. The mystic of Patmos also says that the New Jerusalem does not need neither sun nor moon, because it is illuminated by the glory of God. The elected souls who will enjoy that light will have the name of the Lamb engraved on their forehead.

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The Holy Mass of Saint Padre Pio Reliving the Passion of Our Lord



The Holy Mass of Saint Padre Pio

*Essentially connected with Padre Pio's share in Christ's Priesthood was his share in the Lord's sacramental immolation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Remarkable in the Gospel accounts is Our Lord's longing to celebrate the Pascal Mystery of Holy Thursday and Good Friday. *There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!* (Lk. 12: 50). *I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.* (Lk. 22: 15)

Padre Pio was likewise eager. He would often awake by 12:30 or 1 a.m., asking whoever was caring for him if it was time for Mass yet. He would sit in his chair for several hours saying the rosary and preparing for Mass, finally going down to the sacristy around 4 a.m. for his immediate preparations. These would last until 5 a.m., when he would ascend the Altar for Mass like Jesus ascending Calvary.

This mystical Mass of Padre Pio could last for three hours, during which time Padre Pio not only experienced the Passion but also prayed for and saw *in God* all those who had recommended themselves to him. In time this length declined, until the years before his death it lasted about an hour.

Padre Pio really lived the mysteries that he celebrated on the altar in his own flesh and soul. The Mass is the bloodless renewal of the Sacrifice of Christ. The Mass is at the same time the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, the memorial of the sacrifice offered at the Cross and "real propitiatory sacrifice to mitigate God and make Him favorable to us." This vivid experience of the Mass, sacrifice of Christ, was that of Padre Pio during his priesthood. He, whom God marked with the visible signs of His Passion, celebrated Mass experiencing similar pain -- but not the same -- as that which Jesus had on the Cross.

Cleonice Morcaldi, one of the spiritual daughters of Padre Pio, asked him several times what he felt and lived in each of his Masses. She wrote carefully each of his answers and thanks to her, we have a unique testimony from the Father himself about his Mass. "*Selected*" questions and answers are only presented in this pamphlet, for the entire interview please refer to the web-site: (see back page)

Q. Father, what is your Mass?

A. A sacred accomplishment of the Passion of Jesus.

Q. What should I comprehend in your Holy Mass?

A. All of Calvary

Q. Father, tell me all that you suffer at the Holy Mass.

A. All what Jesus suffered in his Passion, I inadequately suffer to the extent a human creature can possibly suffer. All of it at no merit of my own and only because of His Goodness.

Q. How was Jesus after being scourged?

A. The prophet says: "He became as a whole sore. He became like a leper."

Q. So, you also are like a sore from head to foot?

A. And is not this our glory? If there is no place left for more sores, we will make sores on top of sores.

Q. Father, when at night you are scourged, are you alone or does somebody assist you.

A. The Holy Virgin assists me, all of Paradise is present.

Q. Jesus has made me feel that you suffer the crown of thorns.

A. Otherwise the immolation would not be complete.

Q. What sins did Jesus pay for with the crowning with thorns?

A. For all, especially those regarding thoughts, not excluding the vain and useless ones.

Q. Father, do you also suffer what Jesus suffered during the Way of the Cross?

A. Yes. But I wish to do so, in order to arrive at the point of suffering to which the Divine Master arrived.

Q. Who are you Simon of Cyrene and Veronica?

A. Jesus Himself.

Q. Father, at the Divine Sacrifice, do you take our iniquities in yourself?

A. It is impossible to do it differently, as it is part of the Divine Sacrifice.

Q. So, does the Lord consider you a sinner?

A. I do not know. But I am afraid to be so.

Q. At which part of the Divine Sacrifice do you suffer the most?

A. From the Consecration to the Communion.

Q. At which moment of the Mass do you suffer the scourging?

A. From the beginning to the end, but more intensely after the Consecration.