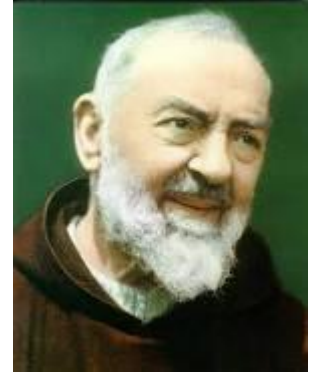


Did You Know?



- Lives of the saints – Padre Pio
 - He was born in [Pietrelcina, Italy](#) on May 25, 1887
 - He died on September 23, 1968
 - His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people
 - He was known for:
 - Sanctity (holiness)
 - Charity (generous love)
 - Stigmata: he bore the bleeding wounds of Christ in his hands, feet, and shoulder for fifty years. These wounds exuded the perfume of roses.
 - Levitation: his body defied gravity at times when he prayed
 - Bi-location: he could be in two places at the same time
 - Reader of souls – he was much sought-after as a confessor
 - God worked miracles through Padre Pio
 - He dedicated his life to God when he was five years old
 - He attended daily Mass as a child and served as an altar boy
 - He could see his guardian angel
 - He had visions of Jesus and our Blessed Mother
 - He was accepted as a friar at the young age of 15 due to his piety
 - He suffered many illnesses throughout his life
 - In 1915, this sickly friar was called out of his religious community in order to fight as a soldier in World War I. He was so sickly that he was dismissed from military service within a year.
 - He was canonized as a saint by Pope St. John Paul II on June 16, 2002
 - His feast day is September 23
 - He is the patron saint of teenagers, civil defense volunteers, and his home village of Pietrelcina