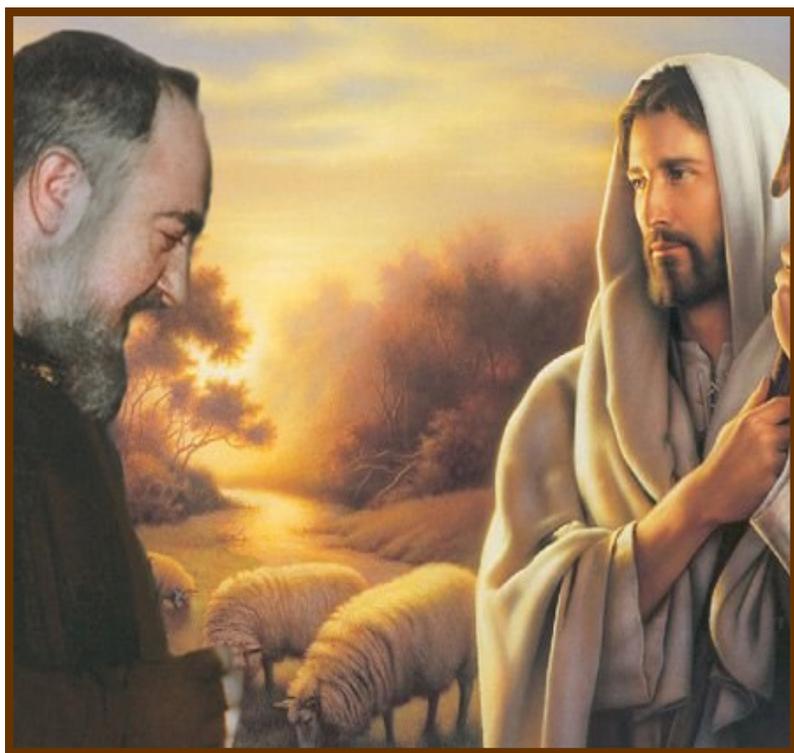


May Jesus bless you and comfort you... and may He introduce you one day into the splendor of his immortal youth.

Your unworthy servant and brother in Jesus Christ,

Fra Pio

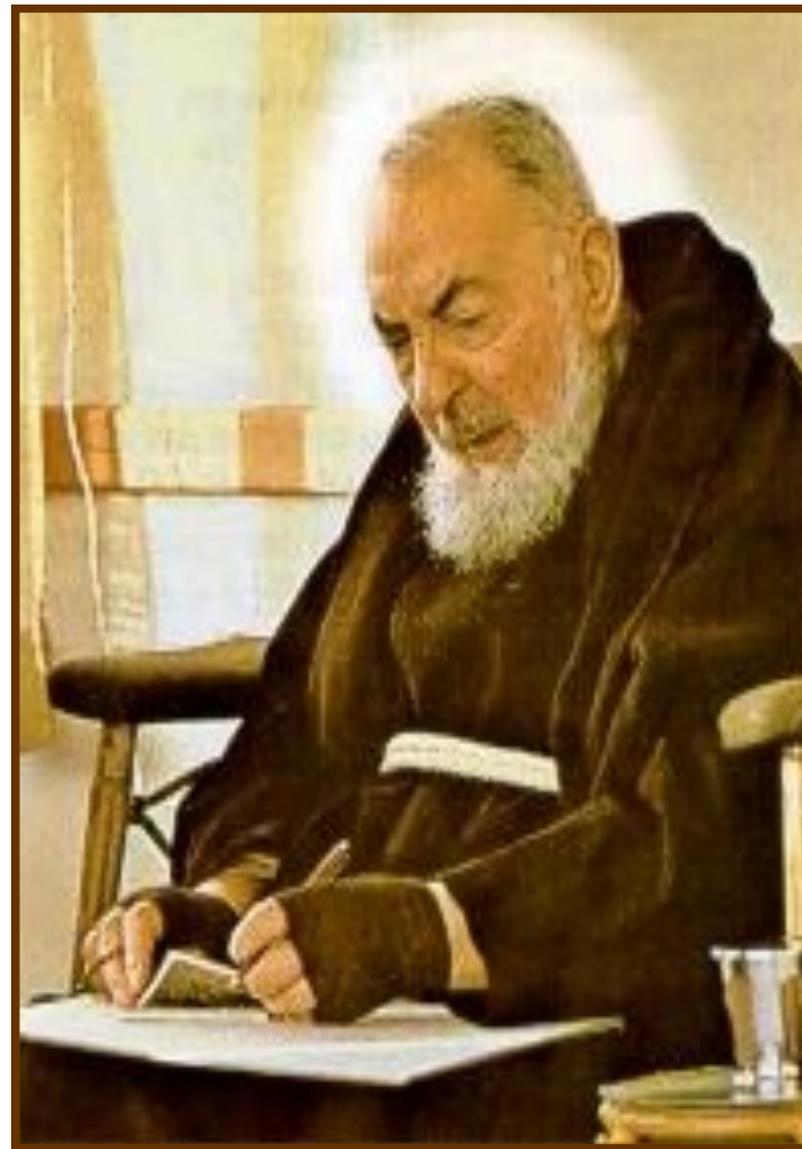
Reminder: The contents of this letter is specific between Raffaelina Cerase and Padre Pio. Someone else having a similar problem may receive a different answer from Padre Pio.



**ALWAYS LIVE UNDER THE EYES OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
AND YOU WILL WALK UNHARMED THROUGH EVIL PASTURES.**

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE: www.pamphletstoinspire.com

Letter of Padre Pio: OVERCOMING THE ENEMY



Letter of Padre Pio: OVERCOMING THE ENEMY

In a letter dated 27 May 1914, Raffaolina Cerase in a part of her letter, expresses the following concern to Padre Pio: "Doesn't my rebellious, wicked and proud ego continually profane the temple which Jesus has entrusted to me, namely, my own soul? How bad I am! Yet my malice whispers to me that I am good. May Jesus set me free from this sin which is more dreadful than any other, a sin I don't want to commit on any account. It was this that caused the downfall of Lucifer. I am afraid, very much afraid of my weakness and wretchedness. I don't want the ugly passions which rule me to be so active, relentless and incessant and yet, at times, they save me from my monstrous pride."

Padre Pio responded to this part of Raffaolina's letter on 31 May 1914 as follows:... Why are you so afraid of your adversary, my good sister? Don't you know that our good Jesus is invariably with you and that the enemy of souls has no power over those who have resolved to belong entirely to God? In reality the more you are afraid, the safer you are and the more tepid you feel, the more secure you are.

You say that you pity yourself because you see yourself full of pride, with no trace of humility, always falling down and never able to stay on your feet, but all this is quite untrue. It is a snare set by Satan to make you lose heart and to hold you up, if that were possible, on the way of love by depicting the path of perfection as too difficult for you.

Banish these false persuasions from your mind and have no fear, because you have no reason to be afraid. Get rid of your conviction that evil passions are too lively in you. Listen to me, my dear sister: let your mind dwell as little as possible on this matter, for thoughts of this kind usually do more harm than good. They dry up our hearts rather than enkindling in them the fire of love for the Supreme Good, just as the north wind dries up our fields.

Pray, of course, and ask the heavenly Spouse never to allow this harsh northerly wind (Cf. Song 4:16) to blow over the little garden of your soul, but to deign in His compassion as Lover to send invariably the south wind which is the only one capable of awakening chaste and holy love. When similar disturbing thoughts come into your mind, drive them away as temptations, for this is what they really are. Say to yourself at once: I am conceited, I am loaded with sins. I am a profaner of the temple (namely, my soul) which Jesus has entrusted to my care, I rebel against the divine inspirations, I am really wicked, yet this soil brings forth these fruits. If I have not lived well in the past I intend to live well in the future, with the divine assistance.

Then take your mind off these disturbing and tormenting thoughts, open your heart with boundless confidence to the only One who is able to console and save us. Have no fear for the future, for God is with you and He is supremely faithful and will not allow you to be overwhelmed by our enemy. This divine Lover will never allow a soul that is consecrated to Him in a most particular way to remain a victim of the most implacable of all its enemies. No, no. The enemy will never obtain this victory.

Remember what I told you in one of my letters, namely, that your soul is in the arms of your divine Spouse, like a baby in its mother's arms. You may sleep in peace, therefore, for this heavenly Spouse will guide you in the way which is to your greatest advantage.

Don't think I told you this as a formality or because I wanted to treat you gently. No, this is not true by any means. If things were not as I told you, I should have acted differently towards you....