

Saint Padre Pio: Pray, Hope, and Help

Prayer becomes practical care

Ages about 7-11 | Video 7:19 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Padre Pio brings worries to Jesus, serves through Mass and confession, and helps provide medical care through a hospital.

Learning goals Children will recall his priestly service and hospital, understand prayer alongside practical help, and plan a safe caring response.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask: What can we do when a worry is too big to solve alone? Watch how prayer leads Padre Pio toward listening and practical care.

Watch and notice

Notice the childhood bell, the brown habit, listening in confession, faithful prayer in suffering, and the hospital for people needing care.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. Where did young Francesco bring his worries?

To Jesus in prayer, even when he had only a few quiet minutes.

2. How did Padre Pio help people seeking mercy?

He celebrated Mass, listened, heard confessions, and guided people toward Jesus.

3. Why did he support a hospital?

Sick people needed doctors, nurses, medicine, and a place for practical care as well as prayer.

4. What can you do when someone is hurting?

Listen kindly, pray, tell a trusted adult, and offer safe help. Children need not solve large troubles alone.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Saint Padre Pio: Pray, Hope, and Help

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw the hospital or a kind listener, then prayer joined with a helpful action.

Read & Write Recall prayer and service, identify practical medical care, and make a worry-help plan.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: name a trusted adult and a simple prayer for a worry.

Ages 9-11: distinguish spiritual encouragement from a guarantee that illness or anxiety disappears.

Pray and take a helpful step | Optional 4 minutes

Make a two-part card: "I can pray" and "I can ask for help." Add a brief prayer, a trusted adult, and a safe action for a pretend worry. Children may keep real worries private and speak to an adult afterward.

Look for understanding Children see prayer and practical care together, without shame about worry or fascination with wounds.

Closing prayer Jesus, hear our worries and help us ask for support. Make us patient listeners and guide us toward practical kindness. Saint Pio, pray for us. Amen.

At home Choose a brief prayer and name the trusted adults who can help when a worry feels large.

Handout answer notes Prayer: Jesus/church. Hospital: doctors, nurses, medicine, practical care. Plans: trusted adult support and safe action.

Teach with care

Preview painful wounds, illness, and death. Do not focus on injuries or invite imitation; explain that worry deserves support and prayer does not replace medical care. The illustrated biography dramatizes childhood details and scenes. Stigmata are not a goal or a measure of holiness; never imitate wounds. "Do not worry" is spiritual encouragement, not criticism of anxiety. Prayer accompanies medical care, trusted support, and safe practical help.

Words to explain Capuchin: a friar in a Franciscan religious community. Confession: the sacrament of Reconciliation. Stigmata: wounds resembling Christ's Passion, reported in some saints' lives.

Sources for the leader

Story source: [Servus Dei video and English subtitle](#)

Historical life: [Padre Pio biography - Vatican](#)

Prayer with helping hands

Saint Padre Pio: Pray, Hope, and Help

Padre Pio prayed and helped people receive practical care.

Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

1 Draw the hospital or Padre Pio listening kindly, without wounds.



2 Draw yourself praying and asking an adult for helpful support.



Tell What care is needed? Who can help with more than kind words?

Pray Jesus, hear my worries and help me ask for support. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

Pray, hope, and care

Saint Padre Pio: Pray, Hope, and Help

Recall Padre Pio's prayer and practical service.

Name _____

1 Recall prayer

Where did Francesco bring his worries?

He brought them ...

2 Recall the hospital

Why did people need a hospital as well as prayer?

They needed ...

3 Ask for help

Name a trusted adult and a safe step for a worry.

I can ask ...

Pray Jesus, hear my worries and help me ask for support. Amen.

Go deeper How can prayer help our hearts become ready to offer practical care?