

# Growing in FAITH™

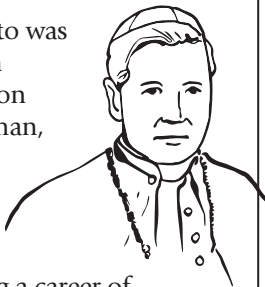
Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

August 2018

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Pius X

Giuseppe Sarto was born in Italy in 1835. The son of a postman, he was ordained a priest in 1858, beginning a career of successfully serving in Church leadership positions. As pope, he was ahead of his time. St. Pius reformed his own administration, spoke out against the dangers of Modernism, worked for peace in a world preparing for war, and encouraged the practice of receiving Communion frequently. He died in 1914 and was canonized in 1954.



### "Me" Last

Society makes it acceptable to pursue our own happiness without concern for others. As followers of Christ we know that God holds us responsible for meeting others' needs. When we care for the poor and needy, God will take care of us.

### Give it to God

*"Never forget that God loves you deeply and cares for you passionately. 'Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you'"*  
(1 Peter 5:7).



## Make Jesus' Mother your own

Catholics reserve worship for God, but Mary has a special place of honor in our hearts. When we follow Jesus' request to take his Mother as our own, we are sheltered by her maternal protection, share in the love between Mother and Son, and take a unique route to the heart of Our Lord.

*"Behold the handmaid of the Lord"* (Luke 1:38). From the first "Yes" to her unique role in God's plan to the final moments at the foot of the Cross, Mary cooperated with faith, hope, and charity in her Son's plan to restore supernatural life to us. She is ready to protect our new

life and help us grow in love of her Son, if only we ask.

*"Woman, behold your son"* (John 19:26). Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross was the ultimate act of love. Out of love, too, he offered to share his beloved Mother with all of us as our own Mother.

Heeding Jesus' words, *"Behold your mother"* (John 19:27), we can take Mary into our hearts and homes.

*"Do whatever he tells you"* (John 2:5). Mary brought others to Jesus by bringing him into the world and talking about him. Bringing others to

Jesus is our job, too. We can follow her example, ask for her help, and be obedient like her.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics believe the Church is Apostolic?

We call the Church, "Apostolic," because it is founded on the Apostles whom Jesus appointed to carry on his work.

Before he ascended, Jesus commissioned the Apostles to baptize and preach the Gospel in his name (Matthew 28:19-20). The

Apostles ordained others to carry on this mission, and they ordained others. The Catholic faith has been preserved and handed down to us from the Apostles through their successors, our bishops, who can trace their "priestly lineage" back to the Apostles.



