F+AT Prayer (IV) - Obstacles to prayer

i. Fr. Cantalamessa pointed out in a homily some years ago that what made the disciples fall in love with prayer was simply seeing Jesus in prayer; that was enough, they wanted what transformed him. But we must now ask what transformed Jesus?

ii. Jesus' prayer was always a communion with his heavenly Father. Everything he thought, did, decided came from the Father. See particularly Matthew 11: 25-27 where we see an example of what the whole of Jesus' prayer was like. Therefore, what should encourage us to work at developing a deep prayer life is above all the example of Jesus. We too must want the same relationship with the Father (of course we go through Jesus) since this will transfigure us and give us such great joy. Pope Benedict wrote the following: ""Without the rootedness in God the person of Jesus remains elusive, unreal and inexplicable. This is the point on which my book is based: It considers Jesus from the perspective of his communion with the Father. This is the true center of his personality."

iii. Now there are a number of obstacles to prayer but I think the main one is that we don't know the Father and therefore, the real purpose of our prayer proves elusive. For some it might be because of a poor relationship with their natural father or even an abusive father. This is understandable but it needs working at because Jesus came to reveal the Father's heart.

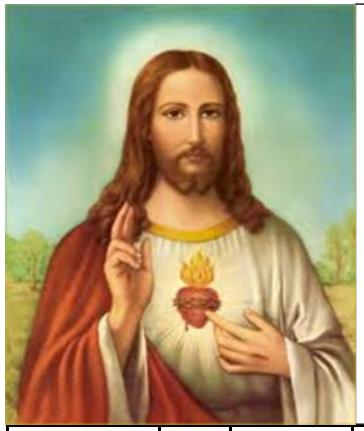
iv. How often do we think about the Father's heart. In Mel Gibson's the passion at the moment of Jesus' death a tear drops from heaven. This is the broken heart of the Father. Broken-hearted over his son's death, broken-hearted over Adam and Eve. Broken-hearted over the lack of his children's love for him. When we look at Jesus on the cross, we are looking at the heart of the Father.

v. At the root of Adam and Eve's sin and at the root of all our sin is a distrust of the Father. Adam and Eve were deceived into doubting his goodness and love. Our spiritual journey we could say is simply coming home to the heart of the Father like the prodigal son. Thus, a lack of progress in prayer has at its heart a worry: what will God expect of us, what will he send us, getting too close is dangerous. This is the great lie, the great deception which we have all to some extent been taken in by at some stage. If we could understand and desire to know the Father, we should really progress in prayer.

vi. We need to renounce the deceptions in our hearts, that we have become victim to— sometimes without even realising it.

vii. Let us simply pray with Philip... " Lord show us the Father." Because as the Gospel says he is the God of the living and not the dead.

A.M.D.G. (Everything for the greater glory of God)



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Day	Date	Time	Place	Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Saturday	9	6.00pm	SK	**Vigil**	Nov Dead List
Sunday	10	9.00am 11.00am 3.15pm	Spil SK Pol	**32nd Sunday** **Year C page 960**	Nov Dead List Pro populo
Monday	11	9.00am	SK	St Martin of Tours	Nov Dead List
Tuesday	12	12.30pm	SK	St Josaphat	Nov dead List
Wednesday	13	6.00pm	SP	Feria	Our Lady's Intn
Thursday	14	No Mass	SK	Feria	
Friday	15	6.00pm	SK	Feria	Nov Dead List
Saturday	16	**6.00pm**	SK	St Gertrude **Vigil Mass**	Vietnamese Traff RIP
Sunday	17	9.00am 11.00am 3.15pm	Spil SK Pol	**33rd Sunday** **Year C page 964**	Nov Dead List Pro populo

Please note: SK = Skegness Spil = Spilsby Pol = Polish mass in Skegness

CONFESSIONS:	Skegness 5.30pm	Saturday
	Spilsby	After Sunday Mass
Adoration:	Spilsby	5.00pm Wednesday
	Skegness	Thursday 10.00am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayers Requested: Gwen Rigby and Geoff Cabourne both recovering in hospital. Fr Colin Taylor , Fr Peter Harvey. David Price RIP: David died two weeks ago and used to be a parishioner at Spilsby; our condolences to his family.

Rosary: 30 mins before mass weekdays.

Refreshments after the Sunday Masses. Please come into our hall for tea, coffee, cakes, sandwiches and repository items for sale.

Food bank: Urgent need for: Tinned fruit/vegtables; tinned potatoes; instant mashed potatoe; biscuits; tea bags; tinned meatballs etc; pasta/pasta sauce. Tinned food best with pull lid and already cooked.

Santa Marta Group: this group has been set up in a desire to resist exploitation of some seasonal agricultural workers and to raise greater awareness in our parishes to the reality of modern day slavery. Are there any parishioners who like to take part in the training and commissioning which will take place on Saturday 30th November at St. Norbert's, Spalding?

Shoe Boxes: Please return your completed shoe boxes asap as last day is 17th Nov. Donations appreciated if you are unable to fill a box, Janet(Spilsby), Jean or Sandy(Skegness)

Local Lady looking for domestic cleaning and house keeping work within the Skegness area and currently have a few slots available. Please contact Mandy on 07745504976 Monday to Friday 9am till 6pm thank you.

Christmas Card Orders: Now available for collection from the Church Hall on Sunday November 10th

Geoff Cabourne is recovering well and will be moving to Lincoln Hospital. Gwen Rigby is in Skegness hospital now.

10th November: Latin Mass St Hugh's Lincoln at 4.00pm

PARISH EVENTS ~at a glance

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

12 November	Prayer Group Parish Cell 7.00pm Presbytery. All welcome.
17th November	Service of Remembrance 2.00pm
30th November	Retreat Day at Skegness 10.30am—4.00pm Topic: Praying The Mass

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Any parents of candidates for 1st Holy Communion in 2020 please see Father

Spilsby

Tea and coffee after Sunday Mass

Church Open: Monday 10.00-12.00 noon for private prayer

Adoration:	2nd Monday of month. 11th Nov theme Remembrance and Holy Souls
Education:	Know Your Faith. Next Nov 23rd @ Mary Flynn's 9.45-11.15am Details to follow.
18th Dec	Advent Service 6.00pm Tea/coffee, mince pies to follow.

We remember our deceased whose anniversaries occur at this time:
A.Goodwin; D.Thomas; A.Paphiti; C. Di Biasi; C.Troop; B.Roberts; S.Edwards; A.Murphy; J.O'Reilly; L.Egan; A.Smith; J.Carroll; J.Gillick; P.Summatt; F.James; M.Mann; B.Palmer ;and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Collections: Skegness £210.84 Spilsby £215

If you pay tax, you can gift aid your donation to the Church.