

*Lord, teach us to pray ... Pray then like this:  
OUR FATHER ...*

Homily, 16th June, 2016

**Mat 6,7-15**

**father G. Papparone o.p.**

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Here is the fundamental education of Jesus on **Christian prayer**, indeed the prayer taught by Christ.

Jesus tells us that **while praying what is important is to ask God's help to put into practice his Word and his providential plan.**

Of course, you could comment on **our Father** for hours and hours; in a concise reflection as ours what can we say?

Some fundamental things, the ones Jesus emphasized: *when you pray do not be like the pagans.*

There are, therefore, two ways of praying: a wrong one and a proper one.

The right way to pray is not to try, wasting words, to force and to persuade God to give us what we need, or we think we absolutely need, but above all to ask him to help us put in practice his Word, that is embrace his kingdom.

***Our Father in heaven, ..., may your Kingdom come soon...***

I know it is difficult for us, because each of us is trying to build his own kingdom, which may be the family, the business, a relationship...

Everyone is trying to build something inside which he can be at peace, alive, satisfied.

Well, this "something" that we are looking for often does not coincide with what are our options and what are the experiences that God wants us to do.

They are different for many reasons, but especially for one: because **our horizon, dearest, it is just worldly.**

We only know this material world, in which we were born, in which we have grown or are growing, and in which we want to live happily.

Well, the horizon of God, of course, is totally different!

Only God knows the why of things; only God knows our true identity, what is the purpose of our existence and how we can achieve it.

Then, with confidence, let us ask God: *may your will be done*, because your will only is really good for me.

This is our faith, dearest.

May God help you to live it every day, and to seek his kingdom.

Praised be Jesus Christ