

Q16 Please anonymously share a story about an experience with prayer or with a sacrament (including marriage) that convinces you that prayer or the sacraments have effects.

Answered: 138 Skipped: 64

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I have a difficult time believing that prayer always has the affect or result that is intended by the person praying. Therefore, I usually ask to understand the reasoning for His will, realizing that the prayer may not lead to the initially intended request, but that I accept it as God's will. That being said, I know that the sacraments that I have received have brought me closer to God.	4/20/2023 5:01 AM
2	With confession I have always felt a weight lifted off my shoulders. Marriage I have never felt so close with God before and truly felt that he has made my husband and I as one.	4/19/2023 9:33 PM
3	I have seen prayers answered many times through a very long and difficult illness. They include pain that was taken away, hallucinations taken away while medicine was given, and many more.	4/19/2023 3:02 PM
4	I had a very deadly disease and several medical complications. Two Drs at the Hershey Medical Center said that "I was a miracle" after I had been completely healed.	4/18/2023 9:34 PM
5	I quit using drugs, I stopped drinking and smoking and I married an amazing women and we have 2 amazing kids and she is now Catholic and when I met her, she didn't want to get married or have kids and her experience with Catholics was awful so she didn't like them in general.	4/18/2023 1:26 AM
6	I've dealt with anxiety and prayed every day constantly and God has helped heal me, I feel comfortable sharing my struggle I've kept hidden.	4/17/2023 8:59 PM
7	There are times in church where I feel so moved or touched by the Holy Spirit that it brings tears to my eyes. In those moments I feel so loved.	4/17/2023 8:58 PM
8	My whole life has been a story about impact of prayer: 1. Growing up, my chance of getting a basic high school education was essentially zero - I ended getting college degrees - through unlikely scholarships and referrals. 2. Chances of getting employed legally in the US were essentially zero - but again this happened through un-usual referrals and connections. I pray when I really need help and God have always answered in ways that I never expected.	4/17/2023 6:25 PM
9	Sorry, I don't complete open ended sections...	4/17/2023 5:00 PM
10	I don't have a good example, per se. However, when I do spend time in prayer early in the day, I feel that my days are better personally or professionally. It just seems that better things happen when I focus on prayer.	4/17/2023 1:24 PM
11	I mentioned this before, when I accepted that god would take care of me during a surgery, the feeling of relief that washed over my body was so apparent!!! I have that continued faith still that god is taking care of me!	4/17/2023 12:58 PM
12	I have seen people grow thru prayer and be transformed thru prayer	4/17/2023 9:44 AM
13	None	4/17/2023 7:54 AM
14	x	4/17/2023 7:10 AM
15	I married a life-long Catholic. Her faith, and that of her family, led me to complete the RCIA process and become a more happy and fulfilled church-going Catholic.	4/16/2023 11:45 PM
16	During COVID, I was so glad that I could "attend" Mass by watching it on TV. However, I really missed receiving the Eucharist. When I am at a live Mass and receive the Eucharist, I feel a sense of calm overcome my body. I feel a connection with Christ.	4/16/2023 11:25 PM

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17	We pray with our granddaughters and share how God will always love them and be in their life.	4/16/2023 9:21 PM
18	I believe my experience with prayer has led to every significant event in my life. Prayer has given me the strength to face all of the challenges in my life from difficulties with family to family.	4/16/2023 9:19 PM
19	Holy Thursday Mass has an effect on me! When all the bells are ringing during the Gloria, I feel very close to God - forgiven, and fully able to worship.	4/16/2023 9:11 PM
20	I began praying more during Covid as my job required vaccination but I was not interested in getting vaxxed. I prayed on the decision and it fostered more and more prayer for me. I now say the rosary everyday and follow the daily Mass readings even when I'm unable to attend during the week. I feel a greater connection to God.	4/16/2023 8:10 PM
21	Prayers answered about finding my life partner	4/16/2023 7:29 PM
22	My wife and I were having some issues with our son. The Dominican Sisters called as we made a recent donation and that asked if we had any prayer requests. We shared our situation and Sister assured us of her prayers. A week later we connected with our son!	4/16/2023 6:52 PM
23	I feel a deeper connection to God today because of many years of praying for His guidance; to lead me on the path He has chosen for my life.	4/16/2023 6:50 PM
24	I prayed that my grandmother would get better and she did	4/16/2023 6:28 PM
25	My son was gravely ill and in the hospital due to a heroin overdose. The doctors told me he would never recover and would be a vegetable. He was 26. I was so full of anxiety, shame and anger but when the doctors told me that, I knew I had to ask my friends to pray for him. My family already was. Everyone got to work and after 3 months in the hospital he came home. He had to get rehabilitative services but today, at aged 32, he is happy and healthy and totally sober. He doesn't even drink or smoke. This is all due to prayer! God hears us and my son is proof. He also graduated from PSU main campus and is starting a Masters program in May. His brain has been healed and he has no lasting bad effects from his overdose.	4/16/2023 6:28 PM
26	I asked to feel better and I did get better	4/16/2023 6:28 PM
27	i prayed before my soccer game	4/16/2023 6:26 PM
28	I prayed before I went down candyonium	4/16/2023 6:26 PM
29	I prayed for god to help me and not be worried about things that I cannot control and I started worrying a little bit less	4/16/2023 6:25 PM
30	I pray to my dead great grandmother and my dog	4/16/2023 6:25 PM
31	IDK	4/16/2023 6:24 PM
32	I asked god to heal my dog that was 11 years old and for her not to suffer anymore, and he took her 2 hours later and she passed away.	4/16/2023 6:24 PM
33	I remember I prayed to god before I got my ear pierced.	4/16/2023 6:23 PM
34	Sorry I don't remember any.	4/16/2023 6:23 PM
35	Once on retreat I was outside walking and stopped to recline on a hill and had an extraordinary encounter with God.	4/16/2023 6:22 PM
36	My brother was critically ill with a very low chance of survival. I was out of town on a business trip and the wife of my client was in a prayer chain group through her Catholic church. I gave her my brother's name and asked her to and her group to pray for him. He pulled through very shortly thereafter and made a full recovery. I'm confident the prayers of that group and that of our family and friends made the difference.	4/16/2023 4:16 PM
37	I have asked God and God through Mary for several interventions over the years. God is good. God hears and responds.	4/16/2023 3:41 PM
38	I've prayed for God to help guide me though many of life's challenges, and I feel like He always has - not always what I wished for, but usually a somewhat satisfying "outcome"	4/16/2023 3:30 PM
39	Prayer has slowly changed me over time. I am more open and more patient than I once was. Sometimes, I am surprised when I notice that I am acting with patience and grace or calm,	4/16/2023 2:41 PM

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when I wouldn't have in the past. I attribute this to God, working in me -- the fruit of prayer. I also at times ask God for whom God wants me to prayer -- I get an answer, and sometimes I don't like it!

40	In 2021, after praying about it for quite some time, my Uncle Tim and his daughter Shannon reconciled after 4 years following her brother's funeral.	4/16/2023 2:27 PM
41	My first confession was as an adult. I am unable to fully articulate the feeling of peace I experienced when I was forgiven. I wept.	4/16/2023 2:20 PM
42	When I was pregnant with my youngest daughter I was told that my body was not producing enough progesterone and that I needed to get shots to help maintain the pregnancy - however, if I did that and it was a boy, it could cause some damage. I prayed and decided to just let God make the decision on what should happen with the pregnancy. Today I have a 23 year old beautiful daughter who has been a joy to me since the day she was born.	4/16/2023 2:16 PM
43	I believe that Marriage and family are a little church, it is our responsibility to pray for each other and to nourish each other spiritually. As parents we will stand before God and He will ask how did we raise our children and help each other get to Heaven. Most days this scares me, God is merciful, thankfully	4/16/2023 1:42 PM
44	Years ago, I was driving with my 3 young children in a big van without snow tires. A sudden snowstorm came up, and I was still miles from home. I got to the top of the last hill before we got home, and I prayed for Jesus to get us down that hill, because, I could not control the car. I literally felt arms around me, driving us safely down that hill. There is no other explanation for what happened, than that Jesus drove that van down the hill.	4/16/2023 12:53 PM
45	I was in a hotel room on a business trip. I was under intense pressure at work. I had been given increased responsibility with a lot of new projects going on simultaneously, my two assistants had been re assigned and no replacements had been assigned to my area, I had come down with strep throat hours prior to my flight departure, and I was at the end of my rope with despair. I had never felt so overwhelmed. As I laid in bed that night, for the first time in my life I asked Our Lord for help "for me". I had always thought I didn't need his help. He had provided me with everything I needed to be successful, and there were many other people in more need than me. But that night I had drained everything in me and it didn't seem to be enough to get through this crisis. I prayed the Our Father and Hail Mary. The phrase in the Our Father "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" suddenly hit me. I surrendered my self to Our Lord's will. As I said "pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death" in the Hail Mary, I was really asking Our Holy Mother for help as well. After a few minutes I truly felt a physical sense of relief in my chest. I was ready to accept God's will. Things did improve over the next several days. I have felt incredibly closer to Our Lord and Blessed Mother ever since.	4/16/2023 12:38 PM
46	Helping someone who was sick get better	4/16/2023 12:35 PM
47	Prayer in my life put me back together after watching my precious daughter pass away. Never did I think I could go on but with deep prayer and belief in my sacraments and I have survived.	4/16/2023 12:33 PM
48	Calmness that always comes over Me when I pray/talk with God.	4/16/2023 12:15 PM
49	I cry each time I go to confession. It's something that started during my second pregnancy when I almost lost my baby (but didn't). I carried so much fear, anger, and self shame during that time. In confession, I shared all of it and sobbed. I still bring such deep emotion into each time I go. Fear, rage, shame, and doubt all come in with me each time. It feels very powerful.	4/16/2023 12:14 PM
50	Feeling of inner peace when praying the Roasary or Divine Chaplet. A deeper connection to God.	4/16/2023 11:53 AM
51	Sometime when I'm praying for a person , the phone will ring and it is that person calling to tell me some good news about the very same thing I'm praying for.	4/16/2023 11:21 AM
52	Our oldest son was diagnosed with meningitis at 3 weeks old. He was immediately transferred to a children's hospital with a high level NICU and put on life support with a feeding tube and a ventilator, several organs struggling. A week later, and after two failed attempts to remove him from the ventilator, the medical team recommended he be baptized. He was baptized that night by a hospital priest. We had a catholic nurse and respiratory therapist stand in as his Godparents. We were able to use a small flask of holy water my grandparents had given us from Lourdes. The day after his baptism Kyle's color was better and within two days he was breathing on his own. Our marriage, our faith, our path was changed by the experience of	4/16/2023 11:18 AM

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Kyle's illness and recovery. We will never know if it was our faith, the baptism, the holy water from Lourdes or the legions of multi-denominational prayers that were said for our small family but we know God was with us and we will be forever grateful for Kyle's full and miraculous recovery.

53	N/A	4/16/2023 11:07 AM
54	My son being baptized in the hospital at 3 weeks old while in the ICU convinced me that prayers and the sacraments do have effects.	4/16/2023 10:49 AM
55	receiving the sacrament anointing of the sick. received it twice and each time it physically felt that a wave washed over me. My fears were instantly lifted. Praying allows me to talk to real people that are listening	4/16/2023 12:21 AM
56	We both participated in a Cornerstone ministry in our other church. We found that sharing our life struggles within the safety of our group and lifting prayers for each other helped us buoy thru some very trying times. We are convinced it was through their prayers we persevered.	4/15/2023 12:57 PM
57	My brother's daughter was born with a congenital heart problem and was rushed to Hershey Medical Center a few days after she was born. My brother told me over the phone that the doctors were not very hopeful. I went to my room and began praying. As I prayed, I "saw" Jesus leaning over my niece's crib and reach to pick her up. I thought he was taking her with him to heaven. I started crying and begged Jesus to let her live. He then kissed her and laid her back down. A few hours later my brother called and said that she was starting to show some improvement so the doctor's decided to go ahead with heart surgery. The surgeon later told my brother that my niece was the youngest patient to ever survive that particular surgery that he knew of. I know that Jesus showed me in my prayer that he loved her and would heal her.	4/15/2023 12:48 PM
58	there are no such thing as coincidences.	4/15/2023 11:12 AM
59	I have by ardent prayer witnessed the miracles of healing and peace through Christ. Many years ago it was necessary for our daughter to undergo major surgery. We had prayed and prayed for her health and a successful outcome. As we walked beside her and approached the doors to the surgical area I was flooded with a peacefulness which told me she would be okay. While the surgery itself went well, post operatively there were many struggles. She teetered on life and death. The hospital chaplain encouraged us to pray for healing to Saint Padre Pio. Which we did of course. After several weeks she miraculously turned the corner and regained her health. Through the years I have prayed many times to Padre Pio for his healing powers. Very recently I have turned to him again - faith and prayer will see us through.	4/15/2023 9:05 AM
60	While in college, I spent significant time at the Catholic Student Center and was often moved during adoration leading me to be convinced of the Real Presence.	4/13/2023 10:26 PM
61	I have had many experiences over the years that when I am open to noticing them have reinforced my FAITH in God. These experiences range from spontaneously hearing a particular piece of music that relates to a recent personal prayer to a prayer request for a specific outcome that did not happen but a different outcome happened that turned out better for myself in the long run. This has helped me to pray for God's help in dealing with the issue in a positive/productive manner rather than expecting a miracle just the way I want it to be. In most of the experiences "Time" was needed to eventually receive the bottom line results being requested.	4/13/2023 11:23 AM
62	As a convert, I completely stopped homosexual activity after I was baptized. I was convinced it was a serious sin and never wanted to return to that state of impurity again.	4/13/2023 9:34 AM
63	Often see power of last rights on dying	4/13/2023 7:29 AM
64	When my family member was very sick in the hospital, our family's priest came to pray over him, and he baptized him. He was healed, and also chose to continue his spiritual journey to receive communion and be confirmed.	4/12/2023 8:55 PM
65	I participated in an Intercessory prayer group with a friend who was dying of cancer. My friend received God's strength and assistance to accept the changes that were happening to her and to seek heaven. The members of the group were profoundly affected by their communion with our friend and with one another. We felt God's presence in each gathering.	4/12/2023 10:54 AM
66	There is an undeniable feeling of peace and lightness that comes over me whenever I receive the sacrament of reconciliation. Also, I felt a strong sense of Jesus' presence when I saw my	4/12/2023 9:31 AM

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	children receive their First Communion.	
67	Every time I have needed God's help but didn't know what to ask for or how to word my prayer, I would say please help me God, and every time, He has.	4/11/2023 10:20 PM
68	Every week, I learn of prayers being answered by other faithful people on a prayer chain or in a prayer group.	4/11/2023 7:43 PM
69	A dear friend was having problems with her son and daughter-in-law not giving her and her husband access to their grandkids which caused great pain as one would imagine. I lit some candles for her and prayed that this would get remedied. I asked Mary as our Mother to help a fellow Mother in distress. The situation totally reversed. I and my friend are convinced it was my prayers (and hers) that led to this fantastic outcome	4/10/2023 8:57 PM
70	I don't have a specific experience to share	4/10/2023 6:32 PM
71	Sacrament of Reconciliation has a very freeing, weight off feeling to me	4/10/2023 12:36 PM
72	Was having problems with my child and prayed for help through Mary , one mother to another mother it took a while but it worked out I truly believe it was God answering my prayers.	4/9/2023 8:32 PM
73	There have been times when things just mysteriously worked out upon special prayer intentions.	4/9/2023 7:58 PM
74	I feel that God answers my prayers in many ways everyday. Sometimes things happen in my daily life that I look up and say, thanks God!	4/9/2023 6:43 PM
75	Was diagnosed with cancer even no symptoms were present, just a fluke physical exam. God wanted me here. Prayed the rosary over and over and I'm still here 19 years later.	4/9/2023 5:11 PM
76	I don't have a story.	4/9/2023 4:03 PM
77	I believe my prayers and those of others helped me come through my cancer and endure the treatments	4/9/2023 3:20 PM
78	Last year I had a very upsetting experience with one of my sisters who texted nasty things to me and told me not to contact her again. I dwelled on it for months and was finally coming to terms with it when she attended a family function and she acted like nothing happened. It ate me up inside and I couldn't let it go. Sacrament of reconciliation helped me to let it go, not all at once but slowly. I recognized that she has mental problems and I started privately praying for her every night (even though my telling her I was praying for her when she was sick caused the problem in the first place). I try to be more objective now and grace helped me get to this point.	4/9/2023 3:03 PM
79	I had a miscarriage and was feeling extremely low and alone. I was able to turn to God and while extremely angry, I was able to be at peace when praying. It was a calming experience while feeling turmoil.	4/9/2023 2:03 PM
80	I was lost driving somewhere this was in the days before gps and stopped for directions a man just appeared and we followed him to where we needed to go .	4/9/2023 1:08 PM
81	When I was baptised as an adult I was expecting to get wet hair. My sponsor had a towel ready. I bent over the font and the Priest poured the water on my head three times following the ritual. I felt like my past life was washed away and I was reborn. When I stood up my sponser handed me the towel to dry my head/hair — accept I was not wet at all. I never forgot that mini miracle experience.	4/9/2023 12:44 PM
82	I prayed a novena leading up to a saint's feast day last year, and my intention came to pass as I asked it to.	4/9/2023 12:38 PM
83	I prayed for many different intentions and each prayet was answered over time.	4/9/2023 11:50 AM
84	Healing at St Anne's cathedral	4/9/2023 11:26 AM
85	There is a Rosary Novena to Our Lady that is 27 days of petition and 27 days of thanksgiving. Each and every time I say this Novena, Our Lady has advocated for me and obtained the favor I had sought.	4/9/2023 9:38 AM
86	I feel at peace when I pray	4/9/2023 9:29 AM
87	I remember after my confirmation I felt so filled with the Holy Spirit I thought I would burst!	4/8/2023 7:48 PM

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88	Na	4/8/2023 11:35 AM
89	When I look at my children I know god exists.	4/7/2023 8:34 PM
90	When the angel Gabriel came down to help my father with my handicap mother when she fell.	4/7/2023 7:14 PM
91	I have so many! One that will always stick out is our novena to St. Rita. My father was on his death bed and we were told there would be no recovery, never would be able to talk with him, etc. After praying to St. Rita, he was able to communicate with us and we were able to spend his last days with him communicating and coming to terms with what was happening. The doctors were amazed this happened. Although he did pass, that time we were granted with him helped all of us to say goodbye in a peaceful way.	4/7/2023 8:47 AM
92	I was in the emergency room awaiting serious surgery. I was feeling panicked. I started to pray and immediately felt calm and ready to face what was coming.	4/7/2023 8:37 AM
93	My wife and I were praying for over year to help guide me professionally as my current situation wasn't sustainable. Through a lot of strife we always came back to prayer. Eventually the situation was resolved in a different and ultimately better way than I ever expected.	4/7/2023 7:22 AM
94	Not a specific anecdote, but the power of confession is particularly strong for me. When I find myself outside of a state of grace, I am extremely bitter, irritable, angry, short tempered, frustrated, and sad. The moment I am absolved in the confessional, I feel overwhelmed with joy. I am more patient, generous, and kind. I try to go frequently, if I do then the effects last much longer.	4/6/2023 6:03 PM
95	When my son died at age 5, I only survived because God never left my side. He sent people to be with me and help me to go on and live for my family which He blessed me with.	4/6/2023 3:17 PM
96	praying in front of Blessed Sacrament and Jesus asked me "why don't you believe in me in the Eucharist?" and I said that I did. He said "No you don't-because I am there"	4/6/2023 9:08 AM
97	Have prayed for people for healing and safety in their lives and some have experienced it.	4/5/2023 1:22 PM
98	When my daughter was told she would not be able to have children, however she became pregnant at age 36 and has a healthy baby boy.	4/4/2023 9:17 PM
99	I have received Anointing of the Sick several times and I could feel healing from the anointing itself as well as those who prayed over me at the time.	4/4/2023 4:11 PM
100	Going through a recent death in the family, I could feel the Holy Spirit when I prayed	4/4/2023 3:14 PM
101	The sacrament of reconciliation always helps me to feel God's mercy and love.	4/4/2023 12:51 PM
102	I almost lost my brother when he was 8 yrs old because of a illness I believe God helped to save his life	4/4/2023 11:49 AM
103	I have experienced many great results with prayers for those who were in need of prayers for a variety of reasons, most especially when praying the rosary and novenas.	4/3/2023 7:32 PM
104	During adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, I asked the Lord to show me what He wanted me to do and the answer became very clear.	4/3/2023 2:14 PM
105	daughter quite ill with a disease putting her into kidney failure. Prayed to God promising i would speak to him daily, no matter the outcome. The disease was controlled next day and i have prayed daily ever since.....40 years.	4/3/2023 1:46 PM
106	God speaks to me through vivid imagery and often gives me comfort by joining me in imaginative prayer. He often shows me images of abundance or magnificence and reassures me that he shares this world with me so we can share the kingdom together. The latest was that God told me to take pause and that he would provide. I immediately felt comfort. I stopped ruminating and my woke demeanor shifted.	4/2/2023 9:46 PM
107	I prayed my entire married life that my spouse would come to church with me every Sunday. He came on Easter, Christmas, weddings, and funerals only. My spouse now joins me every Sunday and my prayers were answered in God's timing. Having my spouse at my side in church is emotional and I feel like we are growing together in faith. I am praying God calls him to be Catholic and one day receives communion.	4/2/2023 8:06 PM
108	Over the past year, I had some medical challenges. I prayed on my own and with my spouse,	4/2/2023 8:06 PM

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children and friends. I truly believe that God was listening to me.

109	God spoke to me once when I had not gone to Confession for years (not that I had serious sins, but doctrine in my parish was that Confession was not that important). One day I dreamt I was in the Garden of Gethsemane and it was before His arrest. I asked Him to let me take His place and His reply to me was, "Why do you want to take my place, if you don't feel that Confession is necessary?" I woke up at that moment and it was a Saturday I went to Confession that day. I have not stopped going.	4/2/2023 7:30 PM
110	Every time I experience the sacrament of reconciliation, I feel the joy of forgiveness and a closer connection with Jesus. It is an amazing blessing, and I have spoken with others who feel the same. It is such a wonderful example of "before" and "after" in terms of how I feel spiritually.	4/2/2023 6:30 PM
111	ALL praise, honor, glory, and thanksgiving to God for sending the Holy Spirit to move the hearts of my family to all be present inside our church when I received Anointing of the Sick. The Holy Spirit was present and blessed us. This was a miracle and ONLY God could make it happen.	4/2/2023 5:29 PM
112	I just feel blessed	4/2/2023 5:11 PM
113	Prayers from friends and family for the miraculous healing of our daughter after a serious automobile accident. Finding other employment when I over my head. Our daughter going back to Mass. The success of our grandchildren -- one's a little shakey. St. Joseph is my great intercessor and seen me through many difficult situations and. The strength of my wife in times of difficulty and being an inspiration in developing and strengthening my spiritual life.	4/2/2023 5:04 PM
114	I often ask Mary for things like healing when someone I know is ill. Many times I am convinced she intercedes for me and my prayers are answered.	4/2/2023 4:12 PM
115	third grade i was seated next to a girl that was mean to me. prayed about and my seat was moved the next day.	4/2/2023 3:35 PM
116	Friends who lived together for years as an unmarried couple could not believe the peace that came over their relationship once they married in the Church.	4/2/2023 3:16 PM
117	I think that the marriage sacrament helped to ensure a successful marriage.	4/2/2023 2:47 PM
118	One time my son was sick in the hospital and we were supposed to go on vacation. I was very upset even when my son was released. I prayed to God and thought that Jesus would have to come to my house and help me if we were supposed to go on vacation and would be alright. That day a priest brought the Eucharist to our house.	4/2/2023 2:19 PM
119	When I have asked others to pray for me because I'm going through a hard time, and almost immediately I felt better. Prayers of others sustain me when I am too overwhelmed to pray for myself. I can look back and realize the time I asked them to pray for me was the time I started to feel more peace. Kind of like Jesus' healing stories in the Gospel.	4/2/2023 1:58 PM
120	I went through a divorce when I turned 40 and I moved out going into Holy Week that year. I prayed through all of those services and readings to have my eyes opened and my heart opened to whatever God wanted next for me. I didn't pray for anything specific just that I would realize the path He had for me when He was ready to reveal it. Life immediately and completely changed. I found a lovely home to start a new life in a new parish and a new job. I started to pray daily and by keeping my eyes and heart open to His will I find myself now in a life and marriage better than I ever could have imagine. Prayer and the frequent reception of communion as well as the sacrament of penance were absolutely the cause of the change.	4/2/2023 1:54 PM
121	I was praying to the Holy Spirit, and especially dedicating the Caring Ministry to Him. He covered us when we were in need of many more Extraordinary Ministers after Covid. Father Anthony suggested that I speak at all of our Masses one weekend. After that weekend, the Holy Spirit tapped the shoulders of about 20 parishioners that, not only saved our Ministry, but enhanced it over the next 6 months, as we trained, with Father Anthony guidance. We had everyone shadow to become confident at our Nursing homes and with our homebound parishioners! Whenever we needed more EMs and we waited on the HS, and He always blessed with just the right volunteer!!	4/2/2023 1:49 PM
122	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 1.2em; min-height: 1em;"></div>	4/2/2023 1:46 PM

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████████████████████ This is not a story I want shared with others, since I don't think it can be anonymous for me. Thanks.

123	When my life hit rock bottom I prayed for guidance. That prayer was answered less than a week later.	4/2/2023 1:35 PM
124	For the most part, I think I can say that contemplative prayer and lectio divina have a calming effect on me, make me more at peace with the world and able to cope with anger/ being judgmental/ and other sins. I wish I could say that I have lots of stories, but I don't.	4/2/2023 12:44 PM
125	The power of prayer and marriage has gotten me through the initial diagnosis of a terrible disease	4/2/2023 12:39 PM
126	I felt a personal/mystical identification with the Eucharist when I helped "bring the gifts" during Mass a few weeks before being confirmed. I know that Confirmation deepened my participation in the Holy Spirit, as within a few weeks of Confirmation my sense of spiritual responsibility and awareness across many relationships in my life completely transformed. But ultimately the sacrament of marriage tied all of these experiences together, as it became the opportunity/testing ground for me to "take up my cross" and actually give myself more deliberately to God (and hence more truthfully love my neighbor/husband). The sacrament of marriage became a crucible for self-transcendence, which produced a much deeper relationship with God (and helped me sustain a more realistically defined relationship with my spouse.)	4/2/2023 12:20 PM
127	I pray to God daily for the people of Ukraine and their leaders. I pray for the souls in Purgatory, My Guardian Angel and those who have no one to pray for them. I feel a sense peace, joy and comfort.	4/2/2023 11:15 AM
128	I often ask God for strength in handling what life throws at me. There are days I feel tired, I pray for strength and I feel lifted up. My heart will feel joyful. I feel a warmth come over me and I can't help but to smile. God is with me and I can easily make it through my day.	4/2/2023 11:15 AM
129	I have only recently felt I was "worthy" of sustained prayer with God.	4/2/2023 10:30 AM
130	As a child, I was very sick. I was anemic to the point of passing out regularly (even passed out while serving as an altar server). There was much more wrong and I was undergoing tests for a year or so and the doctors could not figure out what was wrong. My mother, being a very faithful Catholic, had MANY people praying for me. One person, who went to Lourde's, brought back water from there, which I remember drinking. One day, about a week after one set of tests, the doctor called and said we needed to have the test redone. The test results got messed up because it showed no abnormalities at all. We then got the test redone and again - no abnormalities. More tests and more tests - no abnormalities. Now I am 54 years old. People may SAY I'm abnormal, but at least there are no medical abnormalities. Only one explanation as far as I can see. Power of Prayer and Faith. Of course, my mom told me to be ready... "God has plans for you!"	4/2/2023 10:13 AM
131	Through prayer, I believe I have received the grace to forgive and not feel angry with someone whose actions deeply hurt me and someone I love.	4/2/2023 9:00 AM
132	Prayed when I was crashing into the mountain curve with my car at night for God to help me. My guardian angel lifted my arms on the steering wheel to drive the car . I was an inch from the mountain. Later in the daylight I tried several times to brake at this curve but it was impossible. I still remember the feel of the angel lifting my arms and gut feeling that it wasn't my time.	4/1/2023 11:17 PM
133	As my mother was very ill, I said to God that I was very afraid. At noon Mass, at HMC that day, at the end of Mass, Father Stephen Weitzel said he has one more thing to say to the congregants. He said "don't be afraid". I knew that that was my answer from God.	4/1/2023 7:59 PM
134	Often when I would try everything on my own to find answers to what my son needed, like more nursing coverage, I would then say, "OK God, I am giving this to you to handle. I know you are aware of what we need." The next day I get a call that the agency found nursing.	4/1/2023 7:30 PM
135	When I was married, I prayed so hard that my fiancé would have gone to confession and receive Jesus during the Mass when we were married. I was so happy when he did receive that I burst into tears. He continued to receive our lord in the blessed sacrament until he died 54 years later.	4/1/2023 5:29 PM
136	I have had experiences with prayer, asking God for guidance or peace and recognizing his	4/1/2023 5:23 PM

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response to me through an experience that happened in the course of my day. I could feel it was God's response to me.

137	Without being specific I feel prayer gives you hope in a world that is vey uncertain. God is there for you no matter how difficult the situation.	4/1/2023 7:54 AM
138	I remember our wedding day as feeling very sacred. I felt as though it was just me my spouse to be and God on the alter. I remember thinking, we are administering this sacrament to each other, what a gift. I get to administer this gift to my husband for the rest of my life daily. It was very powerful. We have a picture of us sitting on the alter during the Mass and it looks like we are the only people there and that is how it felt, even though all our family and friends where there. It's a very special picture.	3/31/2023 11:24 AM
