



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN

MARCH 26, 2017

Recently, one of you told me that you don't know how to pray. This was a sincere expression of concern from a man who spends at least a few minutes every day in our church. "What do you mean", I told him. "I see you praying here every day". "Yes, I come here every day, and I try to pray, but I don't think I know how to do it", he replied. After a few minutes of back and forth about what he actually does during his quiet moments in the church, I understood his dilemma. He was talking to God but he didn't feel like he was getting any response. "You once told us, Fr. Jonathan, that prayer is conversation with God, but in real conversations, it's not just one person doing the talking. I don't hear God say anything back to me".

This gentleman made a very good point. God is not loud. In fact, he is often much too quiet for our liking. We talk to him but we don't always hear a response.

The quiet of prayer does not mean we don't know how to pray. God's response to us almost always comes in the silence....and over time. When you pray, talk to God....then enjoy the silence through which he draws us closer to Himself. We don't need to hear something. Our conversation with God involves our expression of praise, gratitude, repentance, joy, petition.....and it involves his response of grace, which comes in many forms. His grace sometimes comes in the form of wisdom to know what is the right choice before us. Sometimes it comes in the form of serenity or peace. Other times it comes in little miracles throughout the day, or even in ways we cannot perceive.

When you pray.... tell God everything....and then enjoy the silence. He speaks, but he whispers.

**God Bless,
Father Jonathan**

FATHER JONATHAN MORRIS – 718-295-3770/ ILOVEOURPARISH@GMAIL.COM