**Fr Patrick Peyton: The Rosary Priest ( Miraculous Answer to Prayer )**

**“The Family that Pray together, stay together.”**

For half a century, from 1940 to 1990, Fr Patrick Peyton CSC was “The Rosary Priest” to millions of people around the world. To Catholics and other believers in the U.S., in Ireland and in many other countries, he was the force behind the popular slogan, “The family that Pray together, stay together.”

He was born 1909 near Ballina Co. Mayo. He moved to Pennsylvania in the US to study for the Priesthood. **Before he finished his theological studies, Patrick contracted Tuberculosis ( T.B. ) which was regarded as incurable at that time. He wrote of this as his “Darkest Hour”.**

**God made my worst and darkest hour the start of a new life full of meaning.** In the middle of the night, my right lung began to haemorrhage. A doctor came and told me he thought I would die that night. I had been strong, vigorous, independent. Now ambulance attendants placed me on a stretcher, manoeuvred me down a narrow, winding stairway and raced me to hospital.

**I deteriorated until the doctors said “Try Prayer. Our remedies are useless.”**

One of my teachers hurried to visit me. He saw me at my worst - discouraged, depressed, hopeless.

**“Mary is Alive,” he said. “She will be as good to you as you thinks she can be. It all depends on you and your Faith.” By saying this, “HE ACTIVATED MY DORMANT FAITH”.**

**I ASKED MARY WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL TO PRAY TO HER SON FOR MY CURE.**

“If I survive, I will serve you and Christ for the rest of my life.”

Shortly thereafter, Patrick asked the doctors to examine him again. They took X-rays and made tests**. Amazingly, they found no trace of the disease in his lungs. “I am not describing a Miracle. I’m giving witness to the power of Mary’s intercession and the quiet, unsensational way she works.** When I heard the good news I said, “Mary, I hope I will never disappoint you.”’

Fr Patrick himself spoke at over forty Rosary Rallies in a score of countries, attended by an estimated 28 million people. The attendance at two of his rallies in Brazil and the other in the Philippines , topped the two million mark.

He preached, simply, humbly and straightforwardly, with power and sincerity, of the importance of family, of prayer and of the Blessed Virgin Mary. People around the world who heard him speak were deeply moved by his witness and Faith.

Excerpt taken from “Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults (2014) Page 327