



Mary Mother of the Church, guide and protect your priests from all evil influences in the world. Help them in all they do. Protect them, guide them, nurture them through the Church that your Son gave to the world. Help them to be faithful to their priestly ordination and use the gifts given to them to build up the kingdom of God.

This we humbly ask in Jesus' Name.

Amen.



Praying For Our Priests

Thank You For Praying For Priests

By picking up this booklet you have said yes to God in deciding to pray for priests. Thank you for allowing God to use you to help our priests in their daily lives. Praying for someone gives them unbelievable graces to help them on their journey. Let us be steadfast in our love and diligent in our duty, to storm heaven for God's mercies and graces to be showered upon all priests, bishops, seminarians, and those discerning vocations. May all who pray for these men, be touched by God's love and generous spirit as we give of ourselves to build up the Church. Help each of us to comprehend what power we have been given.

Jesus in your infinite love, transform our hearts to burn with a desire for only You. Help us each time we pray to develop a heart focused only on You, and what You want for those we pray for. Keep our will in line with Your Will and help us to want only what You want Lord.

Purify our hearts as we sit in Your presence Lord, and keep our eyes focused on You. Help us to always find the time to pray for Your priests and to offer up sacrifices, so that they, along with us, might become the saint that You have called them to be.

Oh Dear Jesus, please fortify them as they fight their spiritual battles, shepherding their flock and leading them down the road that You wish them led down. Keep them strong, their eyes fixed on You and You alone. Never let public opinion or worldly desires get in their way. Keep them strong Lord, as they walk with their brothers and sisters who have gone before them. At the end, let it be said: "Well done my good and faithful servant." This we ask in Jesus Name, Amen.



Pope Benedict XVI's Letter To Priests (Excerpt)

St. John Vianney "spoke of the priesthood as if incapable of fathoming the grandeur of the gift and task entrusted to a human creature: 'O, how great is the priest! ... If he realized what he is, he would die. ... God obeys him: he utters a few words and the Lord descends from heaven at his voice, to be contained within a small host'. Explaining to his parishioners the importance of the Sacraments, he would say: "Without the Sacrament of Holy Orders, we would not have the Lord. Who put Him there in that tabernacle? The priest. Who welcomed your soul at the beginning of your life? The priest. Who feeds your soul and gives it strength for its journey? The priest. Who will prepare it to appear before God, bathing it one last time in the blood of Jesus Christ? The priest, always the priest. And if this soul should happen to die [as a result of sin], who will raise it up, who will restore its calm and peace? Again, the priest. ... After God, the priest is everything! ... Only in heaven will he fully realize what he is". These words, welling up from the priestly heart of the holy pastor, might sound excessive. Yet they reveal the high esteem in which he held the Sacrament of the Priesthood. He seemed overwhelmed by a boundless sense of responsibility: 'Were we to fully realize what a priest is on earth, we would die: not of fright, but of love. ... Without the priest, the passion and death of our Lord would be of no avail. It is the priest who continues the work of redemption on earth. ... What use would be a house filled with gold, were there no one to open its door? The priest holds the key to the treasures of heaven: it is he who opens the door: he is the steward of the good Lord; the administrator of His goods. ... Leave a parish for twenty years without a priest, and they will end by worshipping the beasts there. ... The priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you.'"

A Prayer For Priests

Keep them; I pray Thee, dearest Lord, keep them, for they are Thine.
The priests whose lives burn out before Thy consecrated shrine.
Keep them, for they are in the world, though from the world apart.
When earthly pleasures tempt, allure --shelter them in Thy heart.
Keep them and comfort them in hours of loneliness and pain.
When all their life of sacrifice for souls seems but in vain.
Keep them and remember Lord, they have no one but Thee.
Yet, they have only human hearts, with human frailty.
Keep them as spotless as the Host, That daily they caress;
Their every thought and word and deed, Deign, dearest Lord, to bless.
Amen.



Prayer For Priests

Lord Jesus, You have chosen Your priests from among us and sent them out to proclaim Your word and to act in Your name. For so great a gift to Your Church, we give You praise and thanksgiving. We ask You to fill them with the fire of Your love, that their ministry may reveal Your presence in the Church. Since they are earthen vessels, we pray that Your power shine out through their weakness. In their afflictions, let them never be crushed; in their doubts never despair; in temptation never be destroyed; in persecution never abandoned. Inspire them through prayer to live each day the mystery of Your dying and rising. In time of weakness send them Your Spirit, and help them to praise Your heavenly Father and pray for poor sinners. By the same Holy Spirit, put Your Word on their lips and Your Love in their hearts, to bring Good News to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted. And may the gift of Mary, Your Mother, to the disciple whom You loved, be Your gift to every priest. Grant that she who formed You in her human image, may form them in Your Divine Image, by the power of Your Spirit, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to Thee.

(3X)



Saint Joseph And Jesus



“Some Saints are privileged to extend to us their patronage with particular efficacy in certain needs, but not in others; but our holy patron St. Joseph has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking.” ~St. Thomas Aquinas

Remember...

If the priest is a saint, his people will be holy.

If the priest is holy, his people will be good.

If the priest is good, his people will be fair.

If the priest is fair, his people will be mediocre.

If the priest is mediocre, his people will be bad.

. . . . You must never forget that priests are, and that they remain, men. God does not perform a miracle to wrest them from the human state.

The priesthood does not of itself give a person the power to do everything or to excel in everything. It is important to remember this lest you fall into a very old error . . . that of dehumanizing the priesthood and consequently of setting the priest outside of ordinary life.

That does great harm for by thus isolating him, as unbelievers do, to the exclusive realm of ceremonies . . . he is deprived in good part of his reason for being. If men refuse to pass through him, he no longer can

be, at least fully, their mediator. ~*Cardinal Suhard*

Lord, bless and protect your faithful servants. Amen.



Prayers For Holy Priests

My Dear Jesus, Thou desirest that we pray the Lord of the harvest that He send zealous laborers into His harvest. Deign to raise up in Thy Church, and especially in this diocese, numerous and holy priests who, taking Thy Divine Heart as their Model, will, in the exercise of their holy priesthood, promote the glory of Thy Heavenly Father and the salvation of those souls whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy Precious Blood. Give us truly holy priests who, inflamed with the fire of Thy Divine Love, seek nothing but Thy greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

O Mary, Queen of the clergy, pray for us; obtain for us a number of holy priests.



***“He who honors a priest honors Christ;
he who insults a priest insults Christ.”***

St. John Chrysostom

Prayer For Spiritual Guidance For Priests

Most gracious Heavenly Father,
We thank You for our faithful priests and bishops, whose spiritual fatherhood and example of fidelity, self-sacrifice and devotion, is so vital to the faith of Your people.

May our spiritual fathers be guided by the examples of Saints Peter and Paul, all the Apostles and their saintly successors.

Give them valiant faith in the face of confusion and conflict, hope in time of trouble and sorrow, and steadfast love for You, for their families, and for all Your people throughout the world. May the light of Your Truth shine through their lives and their good works. Assist all spiritual fathers, that through Your Grace they may steadily grow in holiness and in knowledge and understanding of Your Truth. May they generously impart this knowledge to those who rely on them. Through Christ, our Lord.

Amen. ~ St. John Chrysostom



Prayer To Give Us Good Holy Priests

O Holy Father, may the torrents of love flowing from the Sacred Wounds of Your Divine Son bring forth priests like unto the beloved disciple John, who stood at the foot of the cross; priests, who as a pledge of Your own most tender love will lovingly give your Divine Son to the souls of men. May Your priests be faithful guardians of Your Church, as John was of Mary, whom he received into his house. Taught by this loving Mother who suffered so much on Calvary, may they display a mother's care and thoughtfulness towards Your children. May they teach souls to enter into close union with You through Mary who, as the Gate of Heaven, is specially the guardian of the treasures of Your Divine Heart.

Give us priests who are on fire, and who are true children of Mary, priests who will give Jesus to souls with the same tenderness and care with which Mary carried the Little Child of Bethlehem. Mother of sorrows and of love, out of compassion for your beloved Son, open in our hearts, deep wells of love, so that we may console Him and give Him a generation of priests formed in your school and having all the tender thoughtfulness of your own spotless love. Amen.

~St. Thérèse of Lisieux



The Beautiful Hands Of A Priest

We need them in life's early morning, we need them again at its close;
we feel their warm clasp of friendship,
we seek them when tasting life's woes.

At the altar each day we behold them, and the hands of a king on his
throne, are not equal to them in their greatness;
their dignity stands all alone;

And when we are tempted and wander, to pathways of shame and sin,
it's the hand of a priest that will absolve us
----not once, but again and again.

And when we are taking life's partner,
other hands may prepare us a feast,
but the hand that will bless and unite us, is the beautiful hand of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,
for the Host which their fingers caress;

When can a poor sinner do better,
than to ask Him to guide thee and bless?

When the hour of death comes upon us,
may our courage and strength be increased.

By seeing raised over us in anointing, the beautiful hands of a priest.



Thank You Father

Dear Jesus, how can we ever properly thank You for our priests? They have given up everything for us, forsaking the world to nourish our souls with the Eucharist and to heal our wounds through Confession. Send forth Your Holy Spirit, right now, in a flood--nay--a supernatural torrent of grace, in swift and sure answer to this plea, bringing consolations and courage and purity and joy to our beloved priests. As only You can do, whisper into their hearts that we love them so. As only You can do, enwrap each man wearing a cassock and collar in the loving maternal arms of your Mother, who wept with You and stayed with You during your hours of suffering during Your crucifixion.

We ask this in Your Holy Name, the name above all names:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Amen.

~By: John J. Cardinal Carberry



Novena For Priests

Jesus, Good Shepherd, You sent us the Holy Spirit to guide Your Church and lead her faithful to You through the ministry of Your priests. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, grant to Your priests wisdom in leading, faithfulness in teaching, and holiness in guarding Your Sacred Mysteries.

As they cry out with all the faithful, "Abba, Father!" may Your priests be ever more closely identified with You in Your Divine Sonship and offer their own lives with You, the one saving Victim. Make them helpful brothers of one another, and understanding fathers of all Your people. On each Pentecost Sunday, renew in Your priests deeper faith, greater trust in You, childlike reliance on our Mother Mary, and unwavering fidelity to the Holy Father and his Bishops. Amen.

Holy Mary, intercede for your priests.

St. Joseph, protect them.

St. Michael, defend them.

St. John Vianney, pray for them.



Give Priests Your Grace

Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent You on this earth. Make them more greatly aware of the grace that You pour out through them when they minister the sacraments, and help them to fall more deeply in love with You after each and every Mass that they celebrate.

Please strengthen our priests, who shepherd Your flock, when they are in doubt of their faith, that they may be examples of Your Truth and guide us always on the path to You.

We ask these things of You, our Eternal Priest. Amen.



"Christ held Himself in His hands when He gave His Body to His disciples saying: 'This is My Body.' No one partakes of this Flesh before he has adored it." ~ St. Augustine

Mary, Protect Your Sons

Dear Lord, we pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry. We pray that Mary will guide Your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5). May Your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary's most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross. May Your priests be Holy, filled with the Fire of Your Love seeking nothing but Your greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.



The Litany For Priests

God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Jesus, our High Priest, Sacrifice, And Teacher,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Bless our Holy Father, Our Bishops, And Priests,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Give them the strength of Thy grace, And the love of Thy Heart,
And the spirit of sacrifice of Thine Own Divine Life,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Make them firm in faith, Holy in conduct,
And faithful in Thy service,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Fill them with the zeal of the Apostles,
With the courage of the Martyrs,
With the spirit of the Confessors,
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Grant that they may convert the sinners,
Correct the erring, Teach the ignorant,
We beseech Thee, hear us. Amen.



Prayer For Priests To Mary

O Blessed Lady of the Tears, we entrust and consecrate the priesthood to your Immaculate Heart. During this time of trial and suffering, we pray that you renew the priesthood by making priests holy in imitation of the Heart of the Good Shepherd. We pray in reparation for the sins of the priesthood and we pray for all victims of their sins. Grant, O Lady of the Tears, an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the priests that they may be authentic witnesses of your Son Jesus Christ, Our Lord. May we wipe away your tears by comforting your Immaculate Heart, by praying the rosary and adoring the Heart of Jesus, Your Son in the Most Holy Eucharist, present in every Catholic Church in the world. Give all priests and seminarians a deep love and devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist and to you, their loving Mother. Grant that every priest and seminarian will daily spend one hour with Jesus in the Eucharist and daily pray your most holy rosary. Grant all priests and seminarians the gift of purity, the gift of chastity and the gift of the Divine Love of your Son. May they proclaim the Truth without fear, with love and with courage. We ask all of our prayers through the Tears which you shed at the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Prayer For Priests

Lord Jesus, Chief Shepherd of the flock, we pray that in the great love and mercy of Your Sacred Heart, You attend to all the needs of Your priest-shepherds throughout the world. We ask that You draw back to Your Heart all those priests who have seriously strayed from Your path, that You rekindle the desire for holiness in the hearts of those priests who have become lukewarm, and that You continue to give Your fervent priests the desire for the highest holiness. United with Your Heart and Mary's Heart, we ask that You take this petition to Your heavenly Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Daily Prayer For Priests

O Jesus,
I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields.
For your tempted priests; for your lonely and desolate priests.
For your young priests; for your dying priests;
for the souls of your priests in Purgatory.
But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:
the priest who baptized me; the priests who absolved me from my sins;
The priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me
Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion;
The priests who taught and instructed me;
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way
especially _____.
O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.
~St. Thérèse of Lisieux



The Fifth Luminous Mystery

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

"I am the Living Bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is My Flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

"There can be no Eucharist without the priesthood, just as there can be no priesthood without the Eucharist" ~Pope John Paul II's, Message to Priests for Holy Thursday 2004.

Christ said, *"I will be with you all days, even to the end of the world,"* He is there in every tabernacle of the Catholic world. Oh, Lord, strengthen the faith of all priests so they may always believe that it is truly You, Jesus, in the Holy Eucharist.

Oh Lord, help our priests to celebrate Mass prayerfully that their hearts may be drawn ever closer to you and may their time, spent in Adoration, renew and uplift their spirits.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer To Be Said At The Priest's Communion

O Lord, may Thou find shelter and rest gently within the heart of Thy priest . . . [say his name] Make him, O Lord, a priest according to Thy Heart: meek, humble, zealous, so that all he does will be for Thine honor and glory. Mold him into a man of prayer and labor, insensible to earthly things, and sensible only to Thy love and to the graces of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



Prayer For Priests

O JESUS, Eternal Priest, keep all Thy priests within the shelter
of your Most Sacred Heart where none can touch them.

Keep unstained their anointed hands which daily touch

Your Sacred Body.

Keep unsullied their lips daily tinged with Your Precious Blood.

Keep pure and unworldly their hearts sealed
with the sublime mark of the priesthood.

Let Your holy love surround and protect them
from the world's harmful ideas and practices.

Bless their labors with abundant fruit, and may the souls to whom
they minister be their joy and consolation here, and their

everlasting crown in the hereafter. Amen.

O Mary, Queen of the clergy, pray for us;
obtain for us a number of holy priests. Amen.

~St. Thérèse of Lisieux



The Fourth Luminous Mystery

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Jesus leads them up the mountain where He is transfigured before them.
Peter wishes that three tents be built for Jesus and His two companions in
order that all might come to see them.

*Oh Lord, grant that priests hearts be opened to the transforming power
of Your grace at every celebration of Mass. May Your Real Presence in
the Eucharist and through the proclamation of Your Word, inspire them
to lives of faithful service.*

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all
souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Third Luminous Mystery

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM

Christ came to bring mercy and forgiveness to mankind.

Oh God, bless our priests as they teach Jesus' message—baptizing, forgiving sins, and consecrating the Blessed Eucharist through the Holy Spirit. May they have a constant renewal of life, aimed at an ever more perfect union with Christ—the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer For The "Laborers for the Harvest"

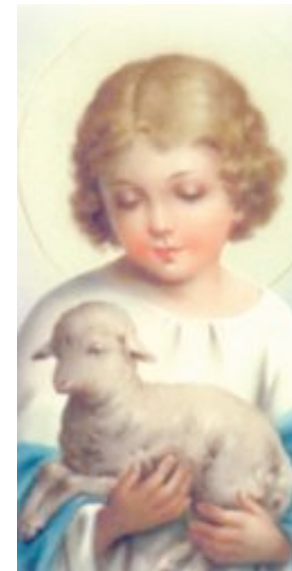
Jesus, Good Shepherd, raise up in all parish communities, priest and deacons, religious, consecrated lay people and missionaries according to the needs of the whole world, which You love and want to save.

We entrust to You in a particular way our parish community; create in it the spiritual atmosphere of the first Christians in order that it may be a cenacle of prayer where we lovingly receive the Holy Spirit and His gifts.

Assist our pastors and all consecrated souls. Guide the steps of those who have generously welcomed Your call and prepared themselves for Holy Orders or the Profession of the Evangelical Counsels.

Direct Your loving gaze to the many well-disposed young people and invite them to follow You. Help them to understand that only in You they can achieve their fulfillment.

We entrust these great desires of Your Heart to the powerful intercession of Mary, Mother and model of all vocations, and beg You to sustain our faith in the certainty that the Father will listen to what You Yourself have instructed us to ask for. Amen. ~ Pope John Paul II



A Prayer For Our Priests

Heavenly Father,
grant that our priests
be strengthened and healed by the
power of the Eucharist they celebrate.
May the Word they proclaim give them
courage and wisdom.

We pray that all those whom they
seek to serve, may see in them
the love and care of Jesus,
our Eternal High Priest, who is Lord
for ever and ever. Amen

Mary, Mother of the Church,
Look tenderly upon your sons, our priests.

Joseph, patron of the Universal Church,
pray for us all.



The Second Luminous Mystery

THE WEDDING AT CANA

Jesus' first miracle was made possible by the firm love and faith of Mary
in her Divine Son.

*Oh Lord, help our priests to develop an ever-increasing love for Mary.
Help new priests to recognize that they may find their strength in Mary
as they "Do whatever He tells them" Mary is our teacher and always
leads us to her Son.*

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all
souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Luminous Mysteries

The First Luminous Mystery

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus descended into the waters to be baptized by John. He took up the challenge of His Father. He knew He would suffer on behalf of us and His suffering would lead to the forgiveness of sins. He knew He was king but His Throne was to be a cross.

We pray that our priests will imitate Our Lord's humility as they do their priestly duties by accepting their challenges from God.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Litany Of Humility

O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, Hear my prayer...
From the desire of being esteemed, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being loved... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being extolled ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being honored ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being praised ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being preferred to others... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being consulted ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being approved ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being humiliated ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being despised... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of suffering rebukes ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being calumniated ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being forgotten ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being ridiculed ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being wronged ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being suspected ... Deliver me, Jesus.
That others may be loved more than I, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be esteemed more than I ... Jesus, Grant me the grace to desire it.
That, in the opinion of the world, others may, increase and I may decrease... Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be chosen and I set aside ... Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be praised and I unnoticed ... Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be preferred to me in everything... Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should... Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it. Amen.

Saint Faustina's Prayer For The Holy Church And Priests

O my Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church: Grant it love and the light of Your Spirit and give power to the words of priests so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance and return to You, O Lord.

Lord, give us holy priests; You Yourself maintain them in holiness. O Divine and Great High Priest, may the power of Your mercy accompany them everywhere and protect them from the devil's traps and snares which are continually being set for the souls of priests. May the power of Your mercy, O Lord, shatter and bring to naught all that might tarnish the sanctity of priests, for You can do all things. I ask You, Jesus, for a special blessing and for light for the priests before whom I will make my confessions throughout my lifetime. Amen.



The Fifth Glorious Mystery

THE CORONATION

Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and earth; she is rewarded for her faithfulness to God.

We pray that Mary, Queen of the Clergy, will be their model of faith and joy, and constant guide until they reach Heaven where a crown, jeweled with many souls entrusted to them on the day of Ordination, will be their reward for faithful and loving service.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer To St. Joseph for Priests

The Fourth Glorious Mystery

THE ASSUMPTION

Mary is taken, body and soul, to Heaven. While she was on earth, she loved and prayed for the Apostles, the first priests.

We pray that priests will be devoted to Mary and find in her, the love and comfort of a mother, the most powerful intercession of our greatest saint, and the surest refuge against Satan and his cohorts, who seek destruction of priests and the priesthood.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Blessed Joseph, you both saved and served the Word of God,
and the Living Bread come down from heaven.

Look down upon the priests of the Church, which had its origins
in the household over which you presided, and pray for them
that they, too, serve perseveringly the people entrusted to their care.

May priests teach the people faithfully the Word of God,
and break for them daily the Bread of Life. May they strengthen
them in faith, and in hope, console them in hardship and disappointment;
and pray to your Jesus to crown their service
of Him on earth with eternal life with Him in the happiness
of Heaven for ever. Amen.



Prayer For Priests

O Jesus, our great High Priest,
Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priests and bishops.
Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope,
and a burning love, which will ever increase
in the course of their priestly life.
In their loneliness, comfort them.
In their sorrows, strengthen them.
In their frustrations, point out to them
that it is through suffering, that the soul is purified.
Show them that they are needed by the Church,
they are needed by souls, they are needed for the work of redemption.
O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your sons
who are close to you because of their priestly ordination,
and because of the power which they have received
to carry on the work of Christ
in a world, which needs them so much.
Be their comfort, be their joy, be their strength, and especially help them
to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy. Amen.



The Third Glorious Mystery **DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit comes upon the Apostles, who are gathered with Mary.
*We pray that priests may be open to the graces of the Holy Spirit to
strengthen them for the task of bringing souls to God and God to souls.
We pray that they may be on fire to convert the most hardened sinners
and bring God's love to the whole world.*

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all
souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Second Glorious Mystery

THE ASCENSION

Jesus instructs His Apostles and returns to His Father in Heaven.

We pray that priests may carry out Jesus' instructions to evangelize the whole world, instructing and baptizing countless souls. We pray for missionaries who live lives of utter poverty and deprivation to bring the Gospel to all people.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



A Prayer For Priests

Mother of our Redeemer, in this era dedicated to you, with great joy we call you blessed. You believed in the Word of God, the Father and declared yourself His handmaid, and so, through you, the Word became Flesh, and dwelt among us. We salute you as Mother, Our Mother, the Mother of the Church. With what great love you must have watched over the infant Church and what motherly solicitude encouraged the Apostles as they committed themselves to carry on the work of Your Divine Son on earth. Make the Church ever to be the sign and instrument of intimate union with God.

To you, Our Mother, we entrust in a special way our Bishop and the priests of our diocese. To them has been given a special sharing in the priesthood of Your Divine Son. He has chosen them to be ministers of His Word and Sacrament. Ask Him to fill them with zeal, to keep them faithful and joyful in His service, conscious of the fact that they care and so bring glory to the Father, and honor to the Church.

Holy Mother, increase the ranks of our priests by inspiring our young people to be more generous in their response to serve Jesus in the priesthood and in religious life.

Sustain all of us, O Virgin Mary, on our journey of faith and obtain for us the grace of eternal salvation. Amen.



Offering For Priests

Divine Savior Jesus Christ, who has entrusted the whole work of your redemption, the welfare and salvation of the world, to priests as Your representatives, through the hands of Your Most Holy Mother and for the sanctification of Your priests and candidates for the priesthood, I offer you this present day wholly and entirely, with all its prayers, works, joys, sacrifices, and sorrows. Give us truly holy priests who, inflamed with the fire of Your Divine Love, seek nothing but Your greater glory and the salvation of our souls. And you, Mary, Good Mother of Priests, protect all priests in the dangers of their holy vocation and, with the loving hand of a Mother, also lead back to the Good Shepherd those poor priests who have become unfaithful to their exalted vocation and have gone astray. Amen.



The Glorious Mysteries

The First Glorious Mystery

THE RESURRECTION

Jesus arises from the dead and appears to the Apostles.

We pray that priests will remember the Crucifixion is followed by the Resurrection: darkness is always followed by light. We pray that all priests may share the joy of the Risen Christ of your souls. [Heb. 13, 17] Thus the sins of others are imputed to the priest that neglects to prevent them, says St. John Chrysostom. Hence St. Augustine has said: "If on the day of judgment, one can scarcely render an account of one's own soul, how will the priest fare if he has to render an account of all sins?" Speaking of those that become priests not to save souls, but to secure a more comfortable means of living, St. Bernard says, Oh, how much better would it have been for them to labor in the field, or to beg, than to have taken to the priesthood. On the day of judgment they shall hear complaints against them from so many souls that have been damned through their sloth.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Jesus sheds His last drops of Precious Blood to redeem us from sin and death.

We pray for all priests who are in their last agony and those who will die today. We pray for those who thirst for the salvation of souls. We pray that priests may take Mary into their hearts, as St. John the Apostle, one of the first priests, took Mary into His home.

Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus: we renew our love and loyalty to Thee. Keep us always close to Thy loving heart and to the most pure heart of Thy Mother.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Offer Saturday For Priests

HOLY ORDERS. Priests are messengers of God's Truth, dispensers of His Sacraments, announcers of Divine Law. They are ordained for your sake. For their sake, in union with Mary, Mother of the High Priest, give all of Saturday to God for His Priests, those on earth and those who are in Purgatory, especially the most abandoned. Adopt a priest spiritually.

Ask Our Lady to request an unknown priest from Our Lord and make some sacrifice on Saturday in union with your daily offering and pray for that priest Heaven chooses for you. Some day you will, by the grace of God, be united with that priest in Heaven, who will thank God for your prayers and sacrifices. If the priest is a Soul in Purgatory, he will pray for you as you pray for him. He cannot pray for himself as the Holy Souls do not have that power from God, but they are generous in their prayers for those who pray for their relief and their release.

Divine Savior Jesus Christ, Who hast entrusted the whole work of Thy Redemption, the welfare and salvation of the world, to priest as Thy representatives, I offer Thee through the hands of Thy most holy Mother, all the prayers, works, sacrifices, joys and sorrows of this day for the sanctification of Thy priests.

GIVE US truly holy priests who seek, nothing but Thy greater glory and the salvation of our souls. Bless their words and prayers at the altar, the confessional, in the pulpit, in all their work for the young, the sick and the aged. Amen.

Help All Priests To Have Jesus Living In Them

Do thou, O Mary, Mother of the High Priest, protect all priests from dangers to their holy vocation. Obtain for me a true spirit of faith and humble obedience, so that I may ever behold the priest as the representative of God and willingly follow him in the Way, the Truth and the Life of Christ. Amen.



Reprimand and rebuke should be accepted as healing remedies for vice and as conducive to good health. From this it is clear that those who pretend to be tolerant because they wish to flatter----those who thus fail to correct sinners----actually cause them to suffer supreme loss and plot the destruction of that life which is their true life. ~St. Basil the Great

The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery

JESUS CARRIES HIS CROSS

Bruised, bleeding and exhausted, Jesus is forced to drag Himself and His Cross up the hill of Calvary.

We pray for all priests with heavy crosses; those who are weak, lonely, or have fallen from God's grace in some way. We pray for the Holy Father, who perhaps has the heaviest of crosses; the widespread persecution and abandonment of the Church from within and without. We pray that our bishop will be strengthened to do the Lord's will and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Third Sorrowful Mystery

JESUS IS CROWNED WITH THORNS

Jesus is mocked as king and His Precious Head is cruelly pierced by thorns.

We pray for priests who suffer for defending authentic Catholic doctrine.

We pray that all Bishops will uphold the true teachings of the Catholic Church and resist temptations to compromise doctrine in the face of cultural and social pressures.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Persona Christi

In The Very Person Of Jesus Christ

In that first Holy Thursday night our Savior offered, sacramentally, the first Mass. In an unbloody manner, He offered the same Sacrifice of Himself which He would offer the next day on Calvary in a bloody manner. Then He ordained the Apostles to be priests of the New and Eternal Covenant, the Church. Ever since, the most respected of men have been the priests of Jesus Christ.

I remember my days as an altar boy in Philadelphia. The priest was larger than life. Men tipped their hats to him on the streets. As the women of the Gospels ministered to the Lord, so too good Catholic women didn't know what to do next for "Father." He Baptized us, heard our Confessions, gave us Holy Communion, and offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass daily. He was there when we were sick, had an ever open ear to our problems and always presented himself as a man of God. Never did he utter a word that was contrary to the teachings of the Church. He dressed like a priest, looked like a priest, and acted like a priest. Truly, he was an "ambassador of Christ" [2 Cor. 5: 20].

In its document on the ministry of priests, Vatican II says, "The priest receives a special Sacrament by which, through the anointing of the Holy Spirit, he is conformed to Christ the Priest in such a way that he can act, in Persona Christi, that is, in the very Person of Jesus Christ."

Being "conformed to Christ" means that the priest must identify with Jesus Christ and not with the pagan world. He must be an alter Christus ----- another Christ. Vatican II reaffirmed this definition. When people see the priest, they must see a reflection of the Lord. They must see His charity, His patience, His love, and, of course, they must see His purity.

The council taught that the priest is conformed to Christ in such a way that he can act "in the Person of Christ." ~Fr. Rego

God bless all priests and keep them faithful to their vows. Protect them from evil and send them abundant graces to do Your will Lord. Amen.

Without Priests There Is No Eucharist

"The indelible mark on the souls of priests comes with the power of the priesthood and it conforms them to Christ. Their hands have been consecrated so that whatever they bless may be blessed, whatever they consecrate may become Holy and Sacred in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

Only the priest can offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Let all who would live in Christ flock to their priests. By them they will be supplied with the comfort and food of the spiritual life. From them they will obtain the medicine of salvation ensuring their care and happy recovery from the fatal sickness of their sins. The priest finally will bless their homes, consecrate their families, and help them as they breathe their last across the threshold of eternal happiness." ~Encyclical letter Mediator

Dei, Pope Pius XII



The Second Sorrowful Mystery

JESUS IS SCOURGED

Jesus is cruelly scourged and beaten by the soldiers.

We pray for priests who are persecuted, physically or mentally abused; those who are imprisoned or prevented from offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass or receiving Communion.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Sorrowful Mysteries
The First Sorrowful Mystery
THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

The Apostles fall asleep; Jesus sweats blood at the thought of His coming Passion and Death; angels come to comfort Him.

We pray that all priests may live only to do our Father's will, as Jesus always did.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Today bring To Me The Souls Of Priests And Religious

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service, that they may perform worthy works of mercy; and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in heaven. ~St. Faustina

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard, upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.



Prayer To Strengthen Our Priests

Heavenly Father, we praise you for Your Glory; Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for your steadfast, saving love, we pray to the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen your servant _____ so that he may see and do his part in the Father's plan of salvation. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



The Fifth Joyful Mystery

FINDING JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Jesus is found among the teachers in the temple; He returns home and is obedient to Mary and Joseph.

We pray that priests will always be found going about their Father's business, and will be obedient to the teaching of the magisterium of the Church, our Holy Father and the Bishops in communion with Him. We pray for all young priests that the love and dedication they experience in the first years of their priesthood may increase in the future. We pray for all priests who teach the Faith to children and adults.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Fourth Joyful Mystery

PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE

Mary and Joseph, in obedience to the Law, bring Jesus to the temple to be dedicated to God. Simeon expresses his gratitude to God for revealing the Messiah to him before he dies.

We thank God for all priests who, like Simeon, have given us decades of faithful service. We pray that they may be rewarded for their generosity and self-sacrifice. We pray also for all priests whose hearts are pierced by loneliness, depression and rejection.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer For Priests

O Jesus, Great King, Good Shepherd, Eternal Prelate, Thou hast given to Thy servants a royal priesthood, bless Thy priests. Let Thy almighty love surround them and preserve them from all evil.

Remember O Heart of Jesus, they are the object of Satan's deadliest snares. Keep them in the safe citadel of Thy Sacred Heart. There let them be sanctified.

May they be one with Thee, and one among themselves. Bless their labors with abundant fruit and may they to whom they have ministered be their joy here and hereafter their eternal recompense. Amen.



Prayer For Priests

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in [name of priest], act in him, speak in and through him.

Think Thy thoughts in his mind, love through his heart.

Give him Thine Own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always.

Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior.

Possess his soul; take over his entire personality and life.

Replace him with Thyself.

Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him.

Let him live in Thee and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of Priests, pray and intercede for [name of Priest]. Amen.



The Third Joyful Mystery

THE NATIVITY OF JESUS

Jesus is born in Bethlehem. The angels announce His birth; kings and shepherds come to adore Him.

We pray that all seminarians grow in knowledge and love of God to become holy priests. We pray especially for those who will be ordained soon, that they remain faithful all their lives to the sublime privilege of being "other Christs" among us. We pray that everyone will come to value the Eucharistic Feast and the Priesthood among God's greatest gifts to us. We pray that every priest will consider himself a member of the Holy Family, a true son of Mary and Joseph, and a brother-priest of Jesus, the great High Priest.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



The Second Joyful Mystery

THE VISITATION

Mary visits her cousin, Elizabeth, who recognizes Mary as the Living Tabernacle for their Divine Lord.

We pray especially for priests who bring Holy Communion to the sick, the shut-ins, and Viaticum to the dying. We pray for all the priests who minister to the sick in other ways, counsel, comfort and console them.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer To St. Joseph For The Church

Great St. Joseph, you were chosen by God to be the reputed father of Jesus, the chaste husband of Mary ever-Virgin, and head of the Holy Family; you were elected by the Vicar of Christ to be the heavenly Patron and Protector of the Church founded by Jesus Christ. With the greatest confidence, therefore, I ask your powerful aid in this day for the entire Church on earth. Protect in a special manner, with your true fatherly love, our Holy Father, the Pope, and all the Bishops and priests who are united to the See of St. Peter; defend all those who labor for souls in the midst of the trials and difficulties of this life; and win for all nations, unity of faith under one Shepherd.

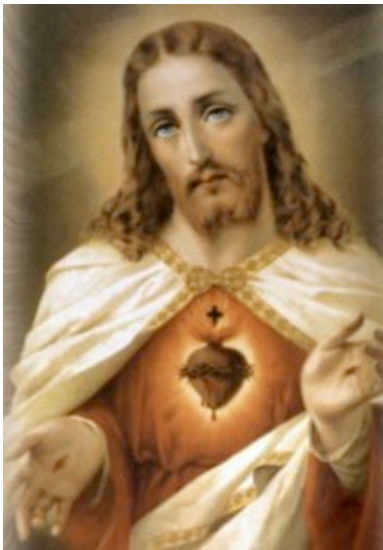
Amen.



Prayer To Unite Priests To God's Will

Jesus Christ has redeemed souls with the price of His Blood: “*For you are bought with a great price.*” [1 Cor. 6, 20] But these souls the Redeemer has entrusted to the care of priests. “Unhappy me, said St. Bernard, when he saw himself a priest, if I be negligent in taking care of this deposit; that is, of the souls whom the Redeemer considered to be more precious than His Own Blood. Seculars have to render an account of their own sins, but priests must render an account of the sins of all,” says the author of the *Imperfect Work*. And before him the apostle said: “For they watch as being to render an account of your souls.”

Oh My Jesus, shower down from heaven your grace to keep all priests faithful and diligent in doing Your Will. Protect them from their ego and let them die to self so that they completely conform to Your Will. This we ask in Your Holy Name. Amen.



The First Joyful Mystery

THE ANNUNCIATION

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary, a virgin, that she will become the Mother of God, Word made Flesh. For all centuries to come, Jesus will become flesh in the Holy Eucharist to nourish us in a most intimate union with Him.

We pray for all priests who daily, through the words of the consecration at Mass, and through Holy Communion, bring us the Body and Blood of Christ. We pray for all future priests now being formed in the wombs of their mothers that they may be safe from physical harm, and come to Ordination as God intends. We pray for all future generations of priests. We pray also that priests may treasure the gift of celibacy.

Say 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be

Oh My Jesus forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



Prayer For Priests

O my God, poor, weak and miserable as I am, I have come to spend this hour alone with You, in reparation for the priests who have forgotten that they are Your chosen souls. Especially, Dear God, do I offer this holy hour for the priest who at this moment needs it most. In praying for consecrated souls, help me to remember my own utter weakness, misery and nothingness. Were it not for Your grace, I would be far worse than those for whom I pray.

O my God help those priests who are faithful, to remain faithful; to those who are falling, stretch forth Thy Divine hand that they may grasp it as their support. And for those unfortunate souls who have fallen, lift them up in the great ocean of Your mercy, that being engulfed therein, they may receive the grace, to return to Your great loving heart. Amen.



The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



Take Lord Receive

*Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty,
my memory, my understanding and my whole will.*

All that I am and all that I possess You have given me.

I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will.

Give me only Your love and Your grace;

with these I will be rich enough,

and will desire nothing more. Amen.

~St. Ignatius Loyola ~16th Century



Prayer To Give Priests The Heart Of Jesus

O Jesus, eternal High Priest, Good Shepherd, Font of Life, who by a special favor of Thy Most Tender Heart hast given to us, our priests in order to accomplish in us those holy ideals, with which Thy grace inspires our hearts. Let Thy mercy, we beseech Thee, come to the aid of our priests.

Grant them, O Jesus, lively faith in their works, unshakable hope in their trials and fervent charity in their intentions. May Thy word, radiant with eternal Wisdom, become through continual meditation, the never failing nourishment of their interior life; may the examples of Thy Life and Passion be renewed in their conduct and sufferings for our instruction and as a light and consolation in our sorrows.

Grant, O Lord, that our priests, free from all earthly attachments and solicitous for Thy glory alone, may persevere to their last breath in the fulfillment of duty and in purity of conscience. And when in death they deliver into Thy hands a task well done may they have in Thee, Lord Jesus, their Master on earth, the eternal reward of the crown of justice in the glory of the saints. Amen. ~Pope Pius XII



Novena Prayer For Priests

O Mary, Mother of Jesus, you were with Jesus
at the beginning of His life and mission.

You stood beside Jesus when He was lifted
on the cross and gave His life for all.

We ask you now to be with our priests,
who give themselves in service to God's people.

Intercede for them that they may grow in holiness;

proclaim God's word with courage;

celebrate the Sacraments with joy;

and be among God's people as Jesus,

the Good Shepherd, was.

We offer this prayer to God, the Father, through your intercession,

in the Name of your Son, Jesus,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



The Way Of The Cross For Priests Especially Those Who Are Suffering Persecution

An Act of Contrition

My Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast made this journey to die for me with love unutterable, and I have so many times unworthily abandoned Thee; but now I love Thee, I repent sincerely for having ever offended Thee. Pardon me, my God, and permit me to accompany Thee on this journey. Thou goest to die for love of me; I wish also my beloved Redeemer, to die for love of Thee. My Jesus, I will live and die always united to Thee.

INTENTION: O dearest Lord Jesus, I offer Thee the Way of the Cross which I am about to make for Thy honor and glory and for all Thy priests, especially those who are suffering persecution for Thy sake.

STATION I

Jesus Is Condemned To Death.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for permitting Thyself to be unjustly condemned to death for our sakes. (Pause for reflection.) By this outrage I beg of Thee to grant to all priests the grace to condemn themselves by dying to the world while they are still on earth, that it may not be necessary for Thee to condemn them when they come to die. I also beg of Thee through this indignity to aid those priests who are suffering unjust condemnation for Thy sake, that they may bear their sufferings patiently in union with Thine.



STATION II

Jesus Is Made To Bear His Cross.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for taking the rough cross upon Thy wounded shoulders and bearing it to Calvary. (Pause for reflection.) By Thy humble acceptance of the cross I beg of Thee to grant to priests the grace to accept humbly the crosses of their vocation. I ask of Thee also to grant to those priests, who are forced by Thy enemies and theirs to bear the many crosses of persecution, to follow courageously in Thy bloody footprints.



Prayer For God's Protection Of Priests

Strengthen Your priests with joy in their labors,

With patience in their sufferings,

With endurance in their struggles,

We beseech Thee, hear us.

Preserve them in love for the little ones,

In zeal for the education of youth,

In loyalty to people and country,

We beseech Thee, hear us.

Bless their words in the pulpit,

Their instructions in school,

Their admonitions in the Confessional and at the sickbed,

We beseech Thee, hear us.

Preserve them from the temptations of the wicked enemy,

From the hostile plots of unscrupulous men,

From all occasions of sin,

We beseech Thee, hear us.

Make us one with them in Faith,

Loyal in Divine service,

And Holy in life,

We beseech Thee, hear us.

Give us Holy bishops, Holy priests,

Holy missionaries,

We beseech Thee, hear us. Amen.

Our Lady Of Guadalupe Giving Roses To Juan Diego



Daily Prayer For Priests

Have you ever considered adopting in prayer a brother Priest?

"Mary Help of Christians" has suggested the following:

- †Ask Mary to assign him to you.
- †Love him like a real brother.
- †Daily pray and sacrifice for him.
- †Shield him from temptation.
- †Beg God that he avoid giving scandal.
- †Call him back to fervor.
- †Become a saint that he may become one.
- †Pray that Mary be a tender Mother to him and find him good friends.
- †Ask for a new vocation to replace him.

STATION III

Jesus Falls The First Time.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Dearest Jesus, I thank Thee for this first time when Thou didst stumble and fall beneath Thy cross. (Pause for reflection.) By the humiliation Thou didst suffer here, I beg of Thee to grant to priests the grace of avoiding all deliberate sin and, should they be so unfortunate as to fall, to rise at once and continue following after Thee. Grant also, Dearest Jesus, to those who suffer persecution for Thy sake, the grace to follow Thee unceasingly without regard to human respect.



STATION IV

Jesus Meets His Afflicted Mother.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for this heart-rending meeting on Thy journey to Calvary. (Pause for reflection.) Through the union of Thy Most Sacred Heart with the Heart of Thy Immaculate Mother I beg of Thee to give Thy priests the grace to have Mary as their most powerful aid and comfort in life and at the hour of death. Grant also, O Dearest Jesus, that Thy sweetest Mother may, in a special manner, be with those priests who are suffering persecution for Thy sake. May she comfort them in their hour of trial and darkness, as she comforted Thee on Thy way to execution.



Prayer To Saint John Vianney For Parish Priests

Your childhood dream was to be a priest, to win souls for God. You endured years of toil and humiliation to attain the priesthood. You became a priest truly after God's own heart, outstanding in humility and poverty, prayer and mortification. Totally devoted to the service of God's people. The Church has exalted you as model and patron saint of all Parish Priests, trusting that your example and prayers will help them to live up to the high dignity of their vocation to be faithful servants of God's people, to be perfect imitators of Christ the Savior Who came not to be served but to serve, to give His Life in ransom for many.

Pray that God may give to His Church today many more priests after His own heart. Pray for all the priests under your patronage, that they may be worthy representatives of Christ, the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of God's Grace in the Sacraments. May their loving devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary His Mother be the Twin Fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry.

Amen.



Prayer For The Blessed Mother's Intercession



We pray for all Bishops, that God will shower down blessings upon them. We ask you, Blessed Mother, to please intercede and guide them in the many decisions they need to make. Keep them strong and healthy Lord. Help them to put on your armor and guard them against Satan. Strengthen them to be able to discern good from evil and to fight for what God wants and not Satan's trap of what the world wants.

St. Michael protect our shepherds and keep them under the Blessed Mother's Mantle of Love. Amen.

"When the bee has gathered the dew of heaven and the earth's sweetest nectar from the flowers, it turns it into honey, then hastens to its hive. In the same way, the priest, having taken from the altar the Son of God (who is as the dew from heaven, and true son of Mary, flower of our humanity), gives him to you as delicious food." ~St. Francis de Sales

STATION V

Jesus Is Assisted By Simon Of Cyrene.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for permitting this small aid to be given Thee, even by one who was unwilling to render Thee a service. (Pause for reflection.) By the help Thou didst accept from Simon, I beseech Thee to send to Thy priests someone to advise, encourage and support them, someone to aid them in moments of suffering, when the crosses of their vocation become almost too heavy to bear alone. Give also to those priests who bear the cross of persecution and torture, the grace of a helping hand, a consoling voice, a deed of kindness, that in their most discouraged moments they may know that Thou art with them, sharing their crosses as they share Thine.



STATION VI

Veronica Wipes The Face Of Jesus.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Sweetest Lord, I thank Thee for leaving the image of Thy Most Holy and adorable Face upon Veronica's veil. (Pause for reflection.) By this most gracious reward to Veronica, I beg of Thee to grant to all priests the grace of recognizing Thy Holy Image in themselves and in those entrusted to their care. I beg of Thee also, O Most Sweet Jesus, to grant to those priests who are suffering persecution to recognize Thy Image, however disfigured, in their persecutors that they, too, may develop Thy Image in themselves by dying with a prayer of forgiveness and love for their enemies on their lips.



Adoration For All Priests

"The Catholic Church has always offered and still offers the cult of latria [adoration] to the Sacrament of the Eucharist, not only during Mass, but also outside it, reserving consecrated Hosts with the utmost care, exposing them to solemn veneration, and carrying them processionally to the joy of great crowds of the faithful. In the ancient documents of the Church, we have many testimonials of this veneration . . .

"In the course of the day, the faithful should not omit to visit the Blessed Sacrament, which according to the liturgical laws, must be kept in the churches with great reverence in a most honorable location. Such visits are a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and an acknowledgment of the Lord's Presence . . . Not only while the sacrifice is offered and the Sacrament is received, but as long as the Eucharist is kept in our Churches and Oratories, Christ is truly the Emmanuel, that is, God with us. Day and night He is in our midst, He dwells with us, full of grace and truth [John 1: 14] He restores morality, nourishes virtues, consoles the afflicted and strengthens the weak. He proposes His Own example to those who come to Him, that all may learn to be, like Himself, meek and humble of heart and seek not their own interests, but those of God.

"Anyone who approaches this august Sacrament with special devotion and endeavors to return generous love for Christ's Own infinite love, will experience and fully understand . . . how precious is the life hidden with Christ to God and how great is the value of converse with Christ; for there is nothing more consoling on earth, nothing more efficacious for advancement along the road to salvation."

STATION XIV

Jesus Is Placed In The Sepulchre.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

O Jesus, I thank Thee for the lessons Thou didst teach us in Thy life and by Thy death, and for the glorious Resurrection from this tomb to a life in Heaven, which we too hope, by Thy grace, to share one day with Thee. (Pause for reflection.) For all thy priests, O Sweetest Lord, I beg the grace, through Thy burial to keep themselves, apart from the spirit of the world, even while they live in the midst of the world, and the gift at their life's end, of final perseverance. Grant O Lord to all, and in a special manner, to those priests who have descended for Thy sake into the dark tomb of persecution, unending happiness with Thee in Heaven. May their wounds shine resplendently in Heaven. May they be united to Thee in the perfect union of the Beatific Vision - Thy promised reward to them for sharing Thy cross here on earth.

Thank Thee, Dearest Lord Jesus, for permitting, me to accompany Thee on Thy sorrowful journey to Calvary. Bless me from Thy cross and help me to love Thee more and more so that I too, may share Heaven with Thee and with all those for whom I have prayed.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be for intentions of the Holy Father.



STATION VII

Jesus Falls The Second Time.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for this second most painful fall. (Pause for reflection.) By the bruises Thou didst suffer when for the second time the cross bore Thee to the ground, I beseech Thee to grant to all priests the grace of fidelity to their duty as shepherds of souls. Let such as fall from the ideals of their state of life, O Lord, profit by Thy rising from Thy second fall, and rising, too, continue to follow after Thee. Grant also, O my Jesus, to those who are tempted to shirk their priestly duties for fear of persecution, to take courage from Thy falls and bear their crosses faithfully in union with Thee.



STATION VIII

Jesus Comforts Jerusalem's Women.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Dearest Jesus, I thank Thee for the consolation Thou didst give to these women who bewailed Thy sufferings. (Pause for reflection.) Grant, O Dearest Lord, to all Thy priests, the grace of being merciful and kind to all who need their aid. Give them patience, understanding, and sympathy with all who suffer, that their priestly hearts may reflect the virtues of Thy Own Great Heart. To those who suffer trials and torments for Thy sake, give O Lord, the grace to keep their sufferings to themselves alone, so that, in imitation of Thee, they may not permit their pains to make them unmindful of the pains of others.



STATION XIII

Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross And Placed In His Mother's Arms.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Dearest Lord, I thank Thee for resting, at Thy death as at Thy birth, in the holy arms of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. (Pause for reflection.) Dear Jesus, by the embrace which Thy Mother gave Thy tireless Body, grant that all Thy priests may so live as to merit being presented to Thee at the hour of their death, in the arms of Thy priceless Mother. O Jesus and Mary, be at the side of all those priests who are suffering for the Faith. Grant that their torments and deaths may be but the planting of the seed from which the Church shall grow stronger and holier day by day.



STATION XII

Jesus Dies On The Cross.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

My Lord and my God, I love Thee with all my heart and I thank Thee for redeeming the world by giving Thy life - Thy All - for us. (Pause for reflection.) Jesus, I beg Thee to grant to Thy priests the grace to share in Thy all-embracing charity and to be ready to sacrifice themselves in imitation of Thee in order to further Thy Kingdom upon earth. Grant, O Jesus, that those priests who are suffering persecution for Thy sake, may ever keep in mind Thy crucifixion and death. May their love for Thee and Thine for them, sustain them in their trials, that they may share with Thee, not only Thy pains and sufferings, but also the triumph of Thy Resurrection.



STATION IX

Jesus Falls The Third Time.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

I thank Thee Dear Lord Jesus, for the third time when Thy Sacred Body was pressed to the earth through the weight of Thy sufferings. (Pause for reflection.) By Thy fearless courage in rising from this third most painful fall, grant O Jesus, to all Thy priests, the grace to be faithful to their vocations forever, and to those who have turned their backs on Thee, give them humility to return to Thee, rising from their fall, assured that Thou wilt receive them once again into Thy friendship. I beg especially, O Blessed Jesus, the grace of fortitude for those priests who live in danger of persecution. Give them the courage to adhere to Thee regardless of threats or violence; keep them for Thyself alone, and move the hearts of the apostates to rise from their defection and once more take up their crosses and follow after Thee.



STATION X

Jesus Is Stripped Of His Garments.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

O Dearest Lord, I thank Thee for the shame and humiliation which Thou didst endure when Thou didst permit Thyself to be stripped of Thy clothing on Calvary. (Pause for reflection.) My Purest Jesus, by this great indignity, I beseech Thee to give to Thy priests, great purity of heart and intention in serving Thee, and likewise the grace and courage to strip themselves of all things which are in any way displeasing to Thee. Look in pity, also, on those priests, who, like Thee, are stripped of all their possessions and whose dignity and sanctity of person are disregarded by their persecutors. Help them, O loving Jesus, to unite their humiliations to Thee.



STATION XI

Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross.

We adore Thee, O Christ, and we praise Thee, because by Thy holy Cross, Thou hast redeemed the World.

Dearest Lord Jesus, I thank Thee for giving Thyself into the hands of Thy executioners to be crucified and for the example of heroic patience which Thou didst give us in Thy terrible agony. (Pause for reflection.) I beg of Thee, my sweetest Lord, by Thy great pain, to grant to all of Thy priests the grace of patience in time of trial and adversity. Especially to those chosen sons of Thine who share in the fullest sense in Thy crucifixion grant, O Lord, the grace to unite their spiritual, mental, and physical sufferings to Thine on the cross.

