

All men would become totally immersed in misery, with no one to raise them up and lead them to God, with no one to pray to Him in their name and for their welfare.

JESUS CARRIES HIS HEAVY CROSS

And carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. John 19:17

But Jesus, the sole Mediator between God and man, willed to institute the priesthood to perpetuate among us, in a visible manner, His work of mediation, salvation, and sanctification.

THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS

When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there along with the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. He cried out, "Into your hands I commend my spirit." And with these words he breathed his last. Luke 23:33, 46

The priest accompanies us at every step of our life. Soon after our birth, he welcomes us at the baptismal font; he administers the Sacraments to us.

The Glorious Mysteries

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:5-6

The priest helps us to understand divine truths, he shows us how to lead a good life, blesses our efforts, sustains our footsteps, and strengthens us in our last agony.

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS INTO HEAVEN

Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he departed from them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:50-51

The priest often works unseen and unknown, misunderstood, never sufficiently appreciated; yet his apostolic work is priceless, indispensable.

THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:2-4

Each Christian ought to be grateful for the gift of the priesthood: in the first place, we should be grateful to Jesus who instituted it, and then to those who perform its sublime duties.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

For he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant; henceforth all generations will call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. Luke 1:48-49

We must express this gratitude, not only by showing reverent respect and filial docility to God's ministers, but also by assiduously offering our prayers and good works for priestly vocations.

THE CORONATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

"Since she has been appointed by God to be the Queen of heaven and earth, and is exalted above all the choirs of angels and saints, and even stands at the right hand of her only begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, she presents our petitions in a most efficacious manner. What she asks, she obtains. Her pleas can never be unheard."

Pope Pius IX, Ineffabilis Deus

"What prayer," comments Pius XI, "can be more pleasing to the Sacred Heart of the Redeemer?... Ask, and it shall be given to you: ask for good, holy priests, and the Lord will not refuse to send them to His Church."

My Dear Jesus, You desire that we pray the Lord of the harvest that He send 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.

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

To request a PDF of this pamphlet, send an email to prayforpriests@outlook.com.

The Rosary petitions are taken from "Divine Intimacy" by Father Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D. Used with the permission of Baronius Press



***Pray the Rosary
for those men
God has called,
is calling, and
will be called
to His Holy
Priesthood***

The Joyful Mysteries

THE ANNUNCIATION

And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus." Luke 1:30-31

In the Church there are the shepherds, the priests appointed by Christ to guide souls.

THE VISITATION

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb. Then Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Luke 1:41-42

Jesus has placed all the powers given to His Church in the hands of the priests, who have been chosen by Him from among the people to become His ministers.

THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD JESUS

And while Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:6-7

"As the Father has sent Me, I also send you" (John 20:21); "He that hears you, hears Me, and he that despises you, despises Me (Luke 10:16).

THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought the child up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is prescribed in the Law of the Lord: "Every firstborn male shall be consecrated to the Lord," and to offer a sacrifice in accordance with what is stated in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Luke 2:22-24

Priestly dignity depends upon this investiture by Christ, this appointment as His representative and minister.

THE FINDING OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

When the feast of the Passover ended, the child Jesus remained in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They went a day's journey before looking for him among relatives and friends. Not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Luke 2:43-46

Priests must be thoroughly aware of the great dignity of their call if they wish to live at the height of their vocation.

The Luminous Mysteries

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS IN THE JORDAN

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:13, 16-17

"They must be holy, says St. Pius X, because they are the friends and representatives of a holy God."

THE WEDDING FEAST AT CANA

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." John 2:3-5

The faithful on their part should see and venerate Christ Himself in their priests.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." Mark 1:14-15

St. Paul, writing to the Christians of Corinth, gave them the exact meaning of his priestly authority: "For Christ, therefore, we are ambassadors, God, as it were, exhorting by us." (2 Corinthians 5:20)

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. Matthew 17:1-2

And St. Catherine of Siena cautioned her disciples to see priests only as "the dispensers of the Blood of the humble, Immaculate Lamb" and to overlook the faults which they might notice in them.

THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:26-28

A priest is a man, and therefore always remains fallible and capable of making mistakes, but this does not prevent him from being the Anointed of the Lord, marked forever with an indelible sign and having the power to consecrate the Body of Christ, to administer the sacraments, and to preach to the people in the name of God.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

THE AGONY OF JESUS IN THE GARDEN

And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground. Luke 22:41-44

Without the priesthood we would be deprived of the Holy Eucharist; we would never have the consolation of hearing, in the name of God, "Thy sins are forgiven thee" (Matthew 9:2).

THE SCOURGING OF JESUS AT THE PILLAR

Then, having said this, Pilate went out again to the Jews and said, "I find no evidence of a crime in this man. But according to your custom, I release one prisoner to you at Passover. Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" They shouted, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a thief. Then Pilate ordered that Jesus be scourged. John 18:38-40, 19:1

If there were no priests, the churches would be deserted, schools would become secularized, there would be no nuptial blessings, the dying would be deprived of final consolation, children would be abandoned to evil.

THE CROWNING OF JESUS WITH THORNS

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus inside the praetorium and stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they placed it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. Then, bending the knee before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Matthew 27:27-29