

October 26, 2008

## PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY 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 priest 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.

O Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

St. Therese of Lisieux



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Priesthood Sunday  
Serra Club of North-  
Minneapolis

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**ON THE PRIEST**  
EXTRACTS FROM THE WRITINGS  
OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

“**W**hat is the priest?  
A man who holds  
the place of God, a  
man clothed with all the  
powers of God. *Go, our Lord*  
said to the priest, *As my Father*  
*hath sent me, I also send you.*

“At the consecration the priest  
does not say, ‘This is the Body  
of our Lord.’ He says, ‘*This is*  
*my Body.*’

“**a**t sight of a spire you  
may say, ‘What is  
there? The Body of  
our Lord -- Why is it there?  
Because a priest has been  
there and has said holy Mass.  
The priest is everything, after  
God!...

When men want to destroy  
religion they begin by  
attacking the priest, because  
where the priest is no more,  
there is no more sacrifice [of  
the Mass], and where there  
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hood is the love of the heart  
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## PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

**L**ord God, Thank you for all priests. We know they do not seek or desire recognition for the Priesthood you have chosen them for, yet it is to You we wish to give thanks for calling them to guide and nourish our parish during the years of our existence. We ask You to bless them, wherever they are now, for providing the Eucharist for us - our "Food for the Journey" and for proclaiming "The Good News" with conviction and enthusiasm at St. Williams.

**G**rant them the joy experienced on their Ordination Day all the days of their lives and look kindly upon them as they strive to do Your will. Bless them abundantly, care for them tenderly and above all, let them feel the love and appreciation we have for them. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Priesthood Sunday 2006  
NCS

## PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

**L**ord God, Thank you for these men. We know they do not seek or desire recognition for the Priesthood you have chosen them for, yet it is to You we wish to give thanks for calling them to guide and nourish our parish during the years of our existence. We ask You to bless them, wherever they are now, for providing the Eucharist for us - our "Food for the Journey" and for proclaiming "The Good News" with conviction and enthusiasm at St. Williams.

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