

FRIDAY: A Prayer for Seminarians

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, we offer You through Your Immaculate Mother Mary, Your own Precious Blood, in all the Masses throughout the world, as petition for graces for all seminarians, Your future priests, especially for the seminarians of the Diocese of Phoenix.

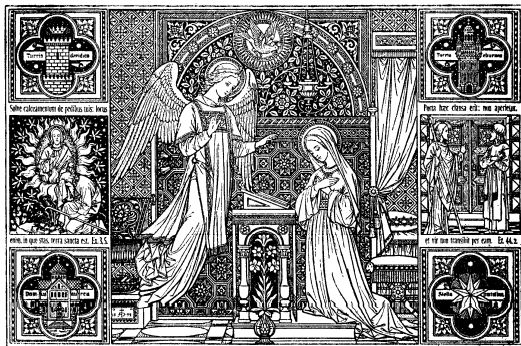
Give them humility, meekness, prudence, and a burning zeal for soul. Fill their hearts with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to know and love the Church, that they may always and everywhere speak, act, and think with her, the glorious spouse of Christ. Teach them generosity and detachment from worldly goods; but above all, teach them to know You and to love You. Good Shepherd of Souls, hear this our prayer for saintly priests. Amen.

SATURDAY: Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood

Mary, humble servant of God Most High, the Son to whom you gave birth has made you the servant of humanity. Your life was a humble and generous service.

Let the young people of the third millennium look to you, young daughter of Israel, who have known the agitation of a young heart when faced with the plan of the Eternal God.

Make them able to accept the invitation of your Son to give their lives wholly for the glory of God. Make them understand that to serve God satisfies the heart, and that only in the service of God and of his kingdom do we realize ourselves in accordance with the divine plan, and life becomes a hymn of glory to the Most Holy Trinity. Amen. (Pope John Paul II)



DAILY PRAYERS for the YEAR OF THE PRIEST

June 19, 2009 – June 19, 2010



The centrality of Christ brings with it the correct appreciation of the ministerial priesthood, without which there would be neither the Eucharist, nor even the mission nor the Church herself. – Pope Benedict XVI

SUNDAY: Prayer for Pope Benedict XVI

Lord Jesus, shelter our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, under the protection of Thy Sacred Heart. Be Thou his light, his strength, and his consolation.

O God, the Pastor and Ruler of all the faithful, look down, in Your mercy, upon Your servant Pope Benedict XVI, whom You have appointed to preside over Your Church; and grant, we beseech You, that both by word and example, he may edify all those under his charge; so that with the flock entrusted to him, he may arrive at length unto life everlasting. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

MONDAY: Prayer for Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted

God, eternal shepherd, You tend Your Church in many ways and rule us with love. You have chosen Your servant, Bishop Thomas Olmsted, to be a shepherd of Your flock.

Give him a spirit of courage and right judgment, a spirit of knowledge and love. By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care, may he build Your Church as a sign of salvation for the world. Amen.

TUESDAY: Prayer for the Diocesan Priests of Phoenix

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. (St. Faustina)



WEDNESDAY: Prayer for Missionary Priests and Religious Order Priests

O Jesus, by Thy most loving Heart, I implore Thee to inflame with zeal for Thy Love and glory all the priests of the world, all missionaries, religious order priests, and all those whose office it is to preach Thy Word, that, on fire with holy zeal, they may snatch souls from the devil and lead them into the shelter of Thy Heart, where for ever they may glorify Thee.

THURSDAY: Prayer for Wayward Priests

Lord Jesus Christ,

as You gazed down from the Cross in Your bitter agony upon the beloved and faithful Apostle, St. John, Your anguish was increased by the desertion of the traitor and the other Apostles. In spite of this desertion Your love embraced them and all those consecrated men who would forsake You.

We, therefore confidently beseech You now to rain abundant grace on shepherds who have gone astray. Where there is present groping uncertainty, let there be light; Where there is present overshadowing gloom, let there be joy; Where there is present mounting struggle, let there be peace.

Guide, O Lord, the straying shepherds back to the fold, and assist them to walk surely and lovingly in Your sight, for only in union with You will the shepherd find true light, joy and peace.

Give to all priests inspiration in time of doubt, patience in time of adversity, fortitude in time of weakness, that with Your love ever pressing them on, they may lead others ever closer to You. Amen.