

Galveston-Houston Seven Sisters Apostolate

Prayers for Priests



Litany of Prayers for Priests

By Richard Cardinal Cushing

O Almighty Eternal God our Father, look upon the face of Your Son, and for love of Him Who is the Eternal High Priest, have pity on your priests. Remember O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is in them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation.

O Jesus, Our Eternal High Priest, 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 young PRIESTS;
- for Your dying PRIESTS;
- for the souls of Your PRIESTS in Purgatory.

But above all, I commend to You:

- the PRIESTS dearest to me; Fr. _____
- the PRIEST who baptized me;
- the PRIESTS who absolved me from my sins;
- the PRIESTS at whose MASSES I assist;
- the PRIESTS who taught and instructed me about You and Your Holy Scriptures;
- the PRIESTS who helped and encouraged me to accept You as my Lord and Savior;
- and all the PRIESTS whom You sent to touch my life and those of my loved ones.

Let Us Pray For:

The Holy Father: *fill him with Your grace, Lord;*

Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops: *give them your gifts, Lord;*

Diocesan Priests: *never leave them, Lord;*

Priests in seminary work: *give them Your wisdom, Lord;*

Priests in hospital work: *give them constancy, Lord;*

Priests who are ill: *heal them, Lord;*

Priests in danger: *deliver them, Lord;*

Priests who are weak: *strengthen them, Lord;*

Priests who are poor: *relieve them, Lord;*

Priests who are zealous: *help them, Lord;*

Priests who want to love You: *enkindle their hearts, Lord;*
Priests who are sad: *console them, Lord;*
Priests who are worried: *give them peace, Lord;*
Priests who are old: *sustain them, Lord;*
Priests who are young: *impel them for your glory, Lord;*
Priests who are alone: *accompany them, Lord;*
Missionary priests: *protect them, Lord;*
Priests who are preachers: *enlighten them, Lord;*
Priests who direct souls: *instruct them, Lord;*
Parish priests: *make them perfect, Lord;*
Priests and religious who have died: *bring them to Glory, Lord;*
All the Church, militant and suffering: *Lord, have mercy.*

For all Priests:

- Give them Your wisdom, Lord.
- Give them virtues.
- Give them patience and charity.
- Give them obedience and kindness.
- Give them a burning zeal for souls.
- Give them an intense love for the Eucharist.
- Give them loyalty to the Pope and their Bishops.
- Give them respect for their dignity.
- Give them a great love for Mary.
- Give them rectitude for justice.
- Give them the gift of counsel.
- Give them strength in their labors.
- Give them peace in their sufferings.
- Give them humility and generosity.
- Let them be the light of souls.
- Let them be the salt of the earth.
- Let them practice sacrifice and self denial.
- Let them enkindle hearts with the love of Mary.
- Let them be other Christs.
- Let them be holy in body and soul.
- May they be men of prayer.
- May faith shine forth in them.
- May they be faithful to their priestly vocation.
- May their hands know only how to bless.
- May they burn with love for You and for Mary.
- May all their steps be for the glory of God.
- May the Holy Spirit possess them, and give them His gifts and fruits in abundance.

Let us pray, O God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. You are the soul and the life of the Church. Hear the prayers we offer for priests. We ask this through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, their protector and guide. Amen.

Pray St. Therese of Lisieux's Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body. Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood. Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood. Let Your holy love surround them and shield them from the world's contagion. Bless their labors with abundant fruit and may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here, and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown. **Amen.**



St. Teresa of Calcutta's Prayer for Priests

Mary, Mother of Jesus, throw your mantle of purity over our priests.
Protect them, guide them, and keep them in your heart.
Be a Mother to them, especially in times of discouragement and loneliness.
Love them and keep them belonging completely to Jesus.
Like Jesus, they, too, are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal.
Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips,
so that he is the one they offer to sinner and to all they meet.
Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother, loving them and bringing them joy.
Take special care of sick and dying priests, and the ones most tempted.
Remember how they spent their youth and old age, their entire lives serving and giving all to Jesus.
Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart.
Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate,
so full of love and humility, so that they, too, can grow in the likeness of Christ.
Dear Mary, make them humble like you, and holy like Jesus.



Saint Faustina's prayer for Priests

O My Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church; grant it love and the light of your Spirit, give power to the words of priests, so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance and return to You.

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. Amen



Prayer of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

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.

Prayer by Pope Benedict XVI

Lord Jesus Christ, eternal High Priest, you offered yourself to the Father on the altar of the cross and through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit gave your priestly people a share in your redeeming sacrifice.

Hear our prayer for the sanctification of our priests. Grant that all who are ordained to the ministerial priesthood may be ever more conformed to you, the Divine Master. May they preach the Gospel with pure heart and clear conscience. Let them be shepherds according to your own heart, single-minded in service to you and to the Church, and shining examples of a holy, simple, and joyful life.

Through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, your Mother and ours, draw all priests and the flocks entrusted to their care to the fullness of eternal life where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.





A prayer for Priests by John Cardinal O'Connor

Lord Jesus, we your people pray to You for our priests. You have given them to us for OUR needs. We pray for them in THEIR needs.

We know that You have made them priests in the likeness of your own priesthood. You have consecrated them, set them aside, anointed them, filled them with the Holy Spirit, appointed them to teach, to preach, to minister, to console, to forgive, and to feed us with Your Body and Blood.

Yet we know, too, that they are one with us and share our human weaknesses. We know too that they are tempted to sin and discouragement as are we, needing to be ministered to, as do we, to be consoled and forgiven, as do we. Indeed, we thank You for choosing them from among us, so that they understand us as we understand them, suffer with us and rejoice with us, worry with us and trust with us, share our beings, our lives, our faith.

We ask that You give them this day the gift You gave Your chosen ones on the way to Emmaus: Your presence in their hearts, Your holiness in their souls, Your joy in their spirits. And let them see You face to face in the breaking of the Eucharistic bread.

We pray to You, O Lord, through Mary the mother of all priests, for Your priests and for ours. Amen.

USCCB prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.





Catholic.org prayer for Priests

O Jesus, our great High Priest, Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father [N]. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.

In his loneliness, comfort him In his sorrows, strengthen him In his frustrations, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is needed for the work of redemption.

O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your son who is close to you because of his priestly ordination, and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs him so much.

Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength, and especially help him to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.

Amen.

PRAYER TO THE ROSA MYSTICA 1

Rosa Mystica, Immaculate Virgin, Mother of Grace, in honor of thy Divine Son, we prostrate ourselves at thy feet to implore God's mercy. We beg for help and grace, not relying on any merit of ours, but on the kindness of thy motherly heart, and confident that thou will grant our urgent requests. *Hail Mary ...*

Rosa Mystica, Mother of Jesus, Queen of the Holy Rosary and Mother of the Church, of the Mystical Body of Christ, we implore the gifts of unity and peace for the anxious world, and those graces so able to convert the souls of thy erring children. *Hail Mary...*

Rosa Mystica, Queen of the Apostles, pray that many men and women may hear Christ's call to priestly and religious vocations, and help them spread the Kingdom of Jesus Christ throughout the world by the holiness of their lives and their burning zeal for the salvation of souls. Pour out thy Heavenly grace upon us. *Hail Mary...*

