

From Your Pastor

June 19, 2009 – June 19, 2010 ~ *The Year of the Priest* ~ *Church Teaching on Priesthood, II*

Pope Benedict XVI has designated this year “The Year of the Priest” and has named St. John Vianney the universal patron of all priests. Following is an excerpt from paragraph 2 of the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests (1965).

2. “The Lord Jesus, “whom the Father has sent into the world (Jn 10:36) has made his whole Mystical Body a sharer in the anointing of the Spirit with which he himself is anointed. In him all the faithful are made a holy and royal priesthood; they offer spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ, and they proclaim the perfections of him who has called them out of darkness into his marvelous light. Therefore, there is no member who does not have a part in the mission of the whole Body; but each one ought to hallow Jesus in his heart, and in the spirit of prophecy bear witness to Jesus.

“The same Lord, however, has established ministers among his faithful to unite them together in one body in which, “not all the members have the same function” (Rom 12:4). These ministers in the society of the faithful are able by the sacred power of orders to offer sacrifice and to forgive sins, and they perform their priestly office publicly for men in the name of Christ. Therefore, having sent the apostles just as he himself had been sent by the Father, Christ, through the apostles themselves, made their successors, the bishops, sharers in his consecration and mission. The office of their ministry has been handed down, in a lesser degree indeed, to the priests. Established in the order of the priesthood they can be co-workers of the episcopal order for the proper fulfillment of the apostolic mission entrusted to priests by Christ.

“The office of priests, since it is connected with the episcopal order, also, in its own degree, shares the authority by which Christ builds up, sanctifies and rules his Body. Wherefore the priesthood, while indeed it presupposes the sacraments of Christian initiation, is conferred by that special sacrament; through it priests, by the anointing of the Holy Spirit,

are signed with a special character and are conformed to Christ the Priest in such a way that they can act in the person of Christ the Head.

“In the measure in which they participate in the office of the apostles, God gives priests a special grace to be ministers of Christ among the people. They perform the sacred duty of preaching the Gospel, so that the offering of the people can be made acceptable and sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Through the apostolic proclamation of the Gospel, the People of God are called together and assembled. All belonging to this people, since they have been sanctified by the Holy Spirit, can offer themselves as “a sacrifice, living, holy, pleasing to God” (Rom 12:1). Through the ministry of the priests, the spiritual sacrifice of the faithful is made perfect in union with the sacrifice of Christ. He is the only mediator who in the name of the whole Church is offered sacramentally in the Eucharist and in an unbloody manner until the Lord himself comes. The ministry of priests is directed to this goal and is perfected in it. Their ministry, which begins with the evangelical proclamation, derives its power and force from the sacrifice of Christ. Its aim is that “the entire commonwealth of the redeemed and the society of the saints be offered to God through the High Priest who offered himself also for us in his passion that we might be the body of so great a Head.”

“The purpose, therefore, which priests pursue in their ministry and by their life is to procure the glory of God the Father in Christ. That glory consists in this—that men working freely and with a grateful spirit receive the work of God made perfect in Christ and then manifest it in their whole lives. Hence, priests, while engaging in prayer and adoration, or preaching the word, or offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice and administering the other sacraments, or performing other works of the ministry for men, devote all this energy to the increase of the glory of God and to man’s progress in the divine life...”



God bless each of you.

Mrs. Fay

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Prayers Are Requested for those who are ill, for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life; for married couples and for families; for the safe return home of the men and women in our military services; for the prayers listed in our book of intentions; and for the repose of the souls of Juana Torres, Richard Chandler and the deceased members of our parish, our families and our benefactors.

2009 Catholic Appeal Reminder – *Responding to God's Grace, Renewing Our Church.* If you have not yet contributed to the Catholic Appeal, it is never too late to make a pledge. Every gift matters. Pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church. Thank you!

We Welcome into our community of faith Jeffrey Lopera Cataño, Edwin Ariel Juarez Carrillo, Aiden Thomas Membreno, Jeliany Herrera, and Anailys Guerrero who were baptized in our church. We extend congratulations to their families.

Theology on Tap will meet on Thursday, August 20 at 7:00 pm in the Greenbriar. The guest speaker will be Keeley Wray. She will speak on the topic “Christian Community”. Please come and join us.

Please Remember the St. Vincent de Paul Boxes as you leave Mass today. Thank you! We now have a collection bin behind the school for clothing donations. Next meeting will be Tuesday August 25 at 7:00pm in the rectory.

St. Columbkille School has seats available in Grades K1 through 8. For more information call the school at 617-254-3110.

Fr. Agustin Anda will be hosting a trip *In the Steps of St. Paul* to Greece and the Greek Islands for 11 days beginning November 10, 2009. The trip includes a 3-day cruise to the Greek Isles and Turkey where a visit will be made to Ephesus where the Blessed Mother lived with St. John. The cost of the trip is \$2399 from Boston. Please call Fr. Anda for more information.

The Next Brighton Center Walking Tour, sponsored by the Brighton-Allston Historical Society, will take place on Saturday, August 22, 2009 from 1 to 3 pm, beginning inside the Brighton-Allston Heritage Museum. Pre-registration is strongly advised. Please call the Museum at 617-635-1436. A \$5 fee is payable at the time of the tour, which will go to the support of the Brighton-Allston Heritage Museum.

Project Rachel Fall Retreats – Do you know someone who is carrying grief and sorrow over past abortions? Project Rachel is the post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church to help those dealing with the pain of abortion. Project Rachel will offer "Come to the Waters" post abortion healing retreats on Saturdays, September 19 and November 21. For more information and registration for the date of your choice, contact Project Rachel at help@projectrachelboston.com or 508-651-3100.

The Legion of Mary meets on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the rectory. Interested parishioners are welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and apostolic works.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Mondays, August 17, 24 & 31 7:00-9:00 pm – Catechist Training in the rectory

Monday, August 17, 7:00-8:00 pm - Choir rehearsal for the 9:30 Mass

Sundays, August 16 & 30, 9:30 am - Family Masses

Thursdays, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, 7:00 pm – Theology on Tap at the Greenbriar

PARISH GIVING

Parish Offertory (Aug. 8 – Aug. 9): \$4,558

Catholic Relief Services (Aug. 8 – Aug. 9): \$789

Catholic Appeal (to date): \$37,893

St. Vincent de Paul (Aug. 8 – Aug. 9): \$117.25

Thank You for Your Generosity

**From an Address on the Nature of Priesthood - I
by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Oct. 1, 1990)**

Jesus gave His power to the Apostles in such a way that He made their ministry, as it were, a continuation of His own mission. "He who receives you receives me" (Mt 10:40)...The continuity between the mission of Jesus and that of the apostles is...illustrated with great clarity in the Fourth Gospel: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (Jn 20:21: cf. 13:20; 17:18)... "The Son can do nothing of His own accord" (Jn 5:19-30). "Apart from Me you can do nothing" (Jn 15:5).

This "nothing" which the disciples share with Jesus expresses at one and the same time both the power and the infirmity of the apostolic ministry. By themselves, of their own strength, they can do none of those things which apostles must do. How could they of their own accord say, "I forgive you your sins"? How could they say, "This is my body"? How could they perform the imposition of hands and say, "Receive the Holy Spirit"? None of those things which constitute apostolic activity are done by one's own authority. But this expropriation of their very powers constitutes a mode of communion with Jesus, who is wholly from the Father, with Him all things and nothing without Him. Their own "nihil posse," their own inability to do anything, draws them into a community of mission with Jesus. Such a ministry, in which a man does and gives through a divine communication what he could never do and give on his own is called by the tradition of the Church a "sacrament."

If Church usage calls ordination to the ministry of priesthood a "sacrament", the following is meant: This man is in no way performing functions for which he is highly qualified by his own natural ability nor is he doing the things that please him most and that are most profitable. On the contrary, the one who receives the sacrament is sent to give what he cannot give of his own strength; he is sent to act in the person of another, to be his living instrument. For this reason no human being can declare himself a priest; for this reason, too, no community can promote a person to this ministry by its own decree. Only from the sacrament, which belongs to God, can priesthood be received. Mission can only be received from the one who sends, from Christ in His sacrament, through which a person becomes the voice and the hands of Christ in the world.

AUGUST 16, 2009

A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

We thank you, God our Father,
for those who have responded
to your call to priestly ministry.
Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf:

Fill your priests
with the sure knowledge of your love.
Open their hearts to the power
and consolation of the Holy Spirit.
Lead them to new depths of union with your Son.
Increase in them profound faith
in the Sacraments they celebrate
as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests,
may inspire us to strive for holiness
by the power of their example,
as men of prayer who ponder your word
and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother,
guard with your maternal care these chosen ones,
so dear to the Heart of your Son.
Intercede for our priests that,
offering the Sacrifice of your Son,
they may be conformed more each day
to the image of your Son,
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Celebrant: *St. John Vianney, universal patron of priests.*

R.: *Pray for us and our priests.*

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ORACIÓN POR NUESTROS SACERDOTES

Te damos gracias, Dios nuestro Padre,
por aquellos que han respondido
a tu llamado para el ministerio sacerdotal.
Acepta esta oración que ofrecemos en su nombre.

Llena a tus sacerdotes
con la seguridad de conocer tu amor.
Abre sus corazones al poder
y consuelo del Espíritu Santo,
condúcelos a nuevas profundidades
de unión con tu Hijo.

Llénalos de profunda fe
en los sacramentos que ellos celebran,
que nos alientan, nos fortalecen y nos sanan.

Señor Jesucristo, haz que estos tus sacerdotes,
puedan inspirarnos a luchar por la santidad
con el poder de su ejemplo,
como hombres de oración que escuchan tu palabra
y siguen tu voluntad.

O María, Madre de Cristo y madre nuestra,
protege con tu cuidado maternal a estos llamados
tan queridos al Corazón de tu Hijo.

Intercede para que nuestros sacerdotes,
que al ofrecer el sacrificio de tu Hijo,
puedan parecerse cada día más a tu Hijo,
nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo. Amén

Celebr.: *San Juan Vianney, patrón universal de los sacerdotes.*

R.: *Ora por nosotros y por nuestros sacerdotes*

AUGUST 16, 2009

Masses for the Week

4:00 pm Margaret Gasper, 16th Ann.
7:30 am *Missa pro Populo*
9:30 am Josephine Cedrone, 2nd Ann.
11:15 am Joseph Connell, 17th Ann.
12:45 pm Justina Cadena Brabo, 41st Ann.
5:00 pm Bernard J. Kennedy, 21st Ann.

Mon. 7:00 am Alan Temple, Mem.
Tue. 7:00 am Ferdinando Pacitto, 54th Ann.
Wed. 7:00 am Daniel Tempesta, 20th Ann.
Thu. 7:00 am The Giovanni Tramontozzi Family, Mem
Fri. 7:00 am Helen Cellucci, 25th Ann.
Sat. 7:00 am Louis Leone, 79th Ann.

Sunday, August 23 – 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

(Sat.) 4:00 pm Msgr. John A. Broderick, 9th Ann.
7:30 am Joaquin Gutierrez, Mem.
9:30 am *Missa pro Populo*
11:15 am Virginia T. Deary, 1st Ann.
12:45 pm Pompello Gurra, Mem.
5:00 pm Michael Pollard, 14th Ann.

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Comments:
