

July 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 For the souls of our deceased FOP members	2 For prayer requests received	3 For our Holy Father, Pope Francis
Rev. 4 John Theodore, CSSP Port-of-Spain	Rev. 5 John Dreher Providence	Rev. 6 Robert Giardina Providence	Rev. 7 Wilfred Gregoire Providence	Rev. 8 Michael Kelley Providence	Rev. 9 Roland Lepire Providence	Rev. 10 Michael Roy Providence
Rev. 11 Gerry Sabourin Providence	Rev. 12 Terry Brenon San Angelo	Rev. 13 Robert Bush San Angelo	Rev. 14 Bernard Gully San Angelo	Rev. 15 Santiago Udayar San Angelo	Rev. 16 William McCarthy Sioux City	Rev. 17 Edward Burian Sioux Falls
Rev. 18 John Helmueller Sioux Falls	Rev. 19 Joseph Vogel Sioux Falls	Rev. 20 Richard Baumberger Sioux Falls	Rev. 21 Charles Duman Sioux Falls	Rev. 22 Rodney Farke Sioux Falls	Rev. 23 Edward Pierce Sioux Falls	Rev. 24 John Rasmussen Sioux Falls
Rev. 25 Joseph Short Sioux Falls	Rev. 26 Gregory Frankman Sioux Falls	Rev. 27 Roger Geditz Sioux Falls	Rev. 28 Randy Phillips Sioux Falls	Rev. 29 Jerome Ranek Sioux Falls	Rev. 30 Peter Kirchner St Cloud	Rev. 31 Gerald Mischke St Cloud

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name of priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own disposition and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (.....). Amen.

Fraternity of Priests, Inc.
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Email: contact@fraternityofpriests.org
<http://www.fraternityofpriests.org>

Please cut and return this form with your donation.

Do you know anyone who would like to receive our Newsletter? (Please print legibly)

Name _____

Street _____

City, State and Zip _____

The Fraternity of Priests pledge of financial accountability: We take very seriously the trust you put in us when you send a gift. We stand accountable before God and you to honor that trust. We pledge: To use your gift care-fully and wisely, and not to ask for money that is not needed.

This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests.

Dear Fr. Von DeKosia,

_____ \$ Other \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10



"To gather priests to Christ and to one another to proclaim..."

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

Oremus Pro Invicem

By Fr. John Kiley - Boston Fraternity

“Oremus pro invicem.” “Let us pray for each other.” This was a familiar phrase in the life of many Catholic priests in recent times but not so common today. It was a customary way priests took leave of each other after a meeting or after spending some time with a brother priest. How often this phrase was a mere formality or how often it was taken seriously and led to real prayer only the Lord knows. Praying and interceding for priests is essential and so necessary today as priests embrace their ministry in difficult and challenging times both in the world and in the Church. I invite our priests to reflect with me on this theme and perhaps let it serve as an examination of conscience and lead to a deeper commitment to pray and intercede regularly for each other. I invite our lay supporters to persevere in your prayer for priests or to make a commitment to begin.

On December 8, 2015 Pope Francis called the Church to celebrate a Year of Mercy. During that year, many Catholics learned for the first time or were reminded of what our faith calls “the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy”. One of these spiritual works of mercy is “to pray for the living and the dead”.

There are certainly many forms of prayer and ways of praying

and a particularly important one is intercessory prayer. In intercessory prayer, we are joining our prayer with that of Jesus who constantly prays and intercedes for us in the presence of His heavenly Father. The Bible, the inspired word of God, provides us with many examples of intercession. In the Book of Genesis, we witness Abraham interceding and even bargaining with the Lord God to spare the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. In Exodus, we see Moses as a model intercessor frequently pleading with God on behalf of the people he was called to lead from Egypt to the Promised Land, as they frequently tested God and fell into idolatry. Jesus Himself teaches us “Ask and you will receive” (Matthew 7:7). As we read in the Gospel of John chapter 17, Jesus at that final meal with his disciples interceded for them and for all those who would come to faith in Him throughout the ages. He was interceding for each of us. Intercessory prayer for the living and the dead is both a privilege and a responsibility given to us as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Practically what are some of the ways we can intercede for priests?

1.) Daily Prayer: Each month this newsletter prints a daily calendar indicating a priest to lift up to the Lord in prayer on a particular day. I call this “the priest of the day”. I

urge our priests and lay supporters to bring this newsletter each day to your prayer time. Do not settle for just praying the suggested printed prayer but also pray for that priest at Mass and at other times throughout the day. Many dioceses also print a list of priests for daily prayer. That is certainly true in my own archdiocese, the Archdiocese of Boston. Each day I remember a fraternity priest and a priest of my archdiocese in prayer. While I do pray the suggested prayer, I need to work at being more committed to praying for these priests throughout the day.

2.) Eucharistic Adoration: If you are fortunate to have a parish that has perpetual adoration or at least adoration on a regular basis, spending some time each week in the Eucharistic Presence of Jesus specifically interceding for priests can bring about wonderful graces for priests and for the Church. There are groups of priests that join in a weekly hour of eucharistic adoration in the early hours of the morning interceding for the bishops and priests of their dioceses. This nocturnal adoration is recommended and encouraged in the popular book *In Sinu Jesu*. “(T)he prayer of adoration at night has the power and efficacy of that prayer made with fasting that I recommended to My apostles as the means of expelling

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Dear Fraternity Brothers and Friends of the Priesthood

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One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank you!

Fraternity Financial Report

Monthly Budget:

\$4,750.00

Actual Donations:

\$858.00

Budget Deficit:

(\$3,892.00)

Current as of
April 30, 2021.

Back in 2009, when Pope Benedict declared a year for priests, MAGNIFICAT put out a little companion book for the year. In it, it had Stations of the Cross, a Novena for Priests, and other wonderful resources. Over the years, I have often gone back to this little book to be refreshed in my priesthood.

One of the beautiful excerpts it includes is from the Servant of God Catherine de Hueck Doherty. I want to share this with you now, for I believe she still has words for us today:

“We the laity have a heart that is hungry for God. O priest of God, give us that knowledge of God which came to you when you were alone with him in his immense silence... Make it short. Make it simple. Talk to us about our hunger and your hunger and tell us that he who speaks through you can heal us and assuage this hunger. We will respond and come to you because you are Christ, especially when you preach the Word, his word. You can heal us and you can assuage our hunger. Eloquence is not important. Sincerity is, truth is, and yourself speaking the truth... Your role is to show us the tenderness of Christ, his compassion, and his mercy. This is what will protect the Church. This is what will bring about its rebirth. Nothing else will... Only God’s truth as is comes through you, as you yourself have agonized over it, prayed over it, gone into the darkness of faith and come out with joy... We all want to be holy in the accepted moral sense, but Christ is not a moralist – Christ is God! He doesn’t love us because we are good; he loves us because he is good. We know this very well be we forget it all the time. A Christian believes in the mercy of God. So, you can give us mercy because you have the power of that mercy, and our guilty feelings will disappear.”

(Catherine de Hueck Doherty, quoted in Magnificat Year for Priests Companion p. 56)

This call of Catherine Doherty is back to the basics – God created us with an insatiable hunger for Him!

That’s what we’re all looking for. That’s what we all need. That’s why we’re priests – to help others find the banquet that corresponds to our deepest hunger!

On the back of one of my Sacred Heart prayer cards is this quote from St. Augustine: “To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement.” As we move through this month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, do we realize how we are to fall in love with God, to hunger for Him? This is the heart of the matter. As we continue to encounter God in the chapel, we are invited to share our encounter with our people, encouraging them to encounter Him there, too. As we find our hunger filled only with our Lord in the Eucharist, we are called to invite all our people to this Feast – the greatest sign of the true feast: The Wedding Feast of the Lamb.

Grace and Peace,



Fr. Von DeRosia

Editor’s Note: Please send articles, comments, and photos to the our editor, Fr. Bob Carr, via e-mail to editor@fraternityofpriests.org. Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted.



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demons from the souls whom they torture and oppress. For this reason, the demons fear and hate adoration made at night, while the angels rejoice over it and place themselves at the service of the soul who desires to do it.” (November 12, 2012, p.240)

3.) Extended Intercession: In the early days of the charismatic renewal within the Catholic Church, Father George Kosicki CSB along with others established the Bethany House of Intercession in the Diocese of Providence Rhode Island at the former minor seminary. For several years, priests from the United States and worldwide would come to Bethany House to spend a few days or a longer period interceding for the spiritual renewal of the Catholic Priesthood. I had the opportunity to spend several days there in the mid-1970s. When a priest arrived at Bethany House a small group of priests would welcome him and pray over him that during his visit he “repent of self-concern and be concerned for the Church”.

It was amazing and at times miraculous to see the graces and healings granted to priests as they put aside their own concerns and needs and reached out in prayer interceding for others. When we strive to die to self, the Lord has a way of getting into our minds and hearts more deeply through the power of the Holy Spirit. In our own times of interceding for priests, we should place our own needs on the back burner and reach out to Jesus in faith and trust praying for others. Like Bethany house are the Intercessions for Priests that have been held each

summer during the month of August in Ireland. Priests from all over the world gather to intercede for their brother priests. (COVID-19 curtailed this last summer.) Similar places of intercession have also been established in other countries.

cf. www.intercessionforpriests.org This website also includes wonderful suggestions for prayer. We thank God for Sr. Briege McKenna and Father Kevin Scallon, now deceased, who established these places of intercessory prayer.

4.) Praying for the Dead: As we commit or recommit ourselves to praying regularly for priests, keep in mind that the works of mercy include praying for the deceased. During my time in the seminary, we were told several times that “there was nothing deader than a dead priest”. What was meant by this rather stark statement? People tend to neglect to pray for the deceased priests who served in their parishes or were part of their lives. Sometimes it is simply forgetfulness, but other times it can be the erroneous belief that priests who have died did not need their prayers. With the recent scandals in the priesthood, we should realize more than ever that priests need prayers while they are alive and certainly when God has called them forth from this life.

A good practice for priests is to look at the Ordo for your diocese or archdiocese each morning and remember at Mass and in your daily prayer those priests whose anniversaries of death are indicated. The Prayer of the Faithful at Mass could also mention them. At one of our annual retreats in my archdiocese the regional bishop who organizes the retreat always reads aloud at

Night Prayer the names of the priests whose anniversary took place that day. I also have a priest friend who is not serving in a parish. Most every day at Mass he offers Mass for a particular deceased priest. What a wonderful ministry for all priests to embrace on days when we celebrate a Mass that has no required intention.

You will be receiving and hopefully reading this newsletter during June, the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The priesthood is an awesome gift to the Church and to the world that comes straight from the loving and merciful heart of our Lord and Savior. Priests, oremus pro invicem. Laymen and women, pray for the priests who love and serve you. We need your prayers.

Oh 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 (deacon) 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, the bishop who Confirmed me, (the bishop who Ordained me), and all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way. Oh Jesus, keep me and all priests close to your heart and bless them abundantly in time and eternity. Amen.

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____

