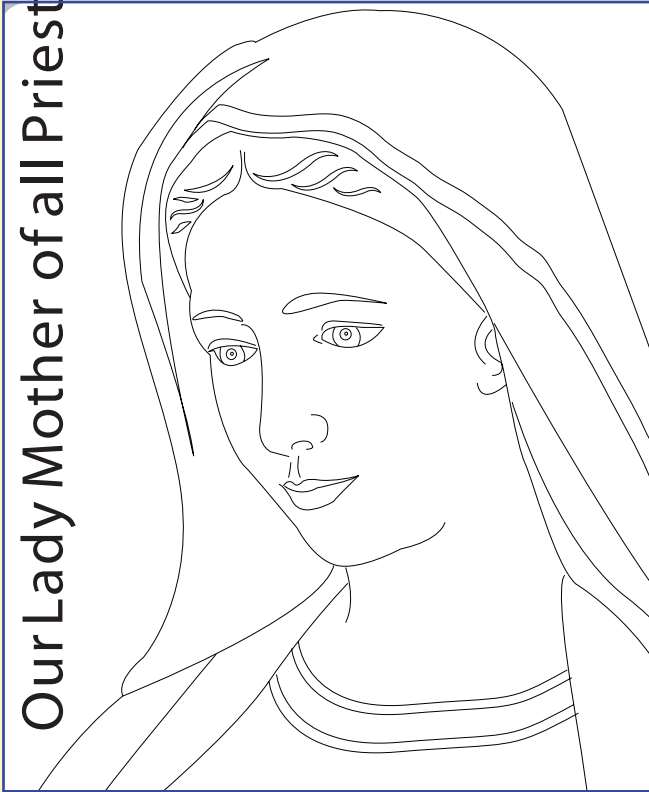


Dear Father _____

Our Lady Mother of all Priests



Thank you for being our
Priest, have a great day

From _____ Age _____

Colour in the picture of Our Lady and present it to your Priest.

A Prayer for Our Priests

You came from among us to be, for us, one who serves.
We thank you for ministering Christ to us and
helping us minister Christ to each other.

We are grateful for the many gifts you bring to our
community:

for drawing us together in worship,
for visiting us in our homes,
for comforting us in sickness,
for showing us compassion,
for blessing our marriage,
for baptising our children,
for confirming us in our calling,
for supporting us in bereavement,
for helping us to grow in faith,
for encouraging us to take the initiative,
for helping the whole community realise God's
presence among us.

For our part, we pray that we may always be attentive to
your needs and never take you for granted. You, like us,
need friendship and love, welcome and a sense of
belonging, kind words and acts of thoughtfulness.

We pray, also, for the priests who have wounded
priesthood.

May we be willing to forgive and may they be open to
healing.

Let us support one another during times of crisis.

God our Father, we ask you to bless our priests and
confirm them in their calling. Give them the gifts they
need to respond with generosity and a joyful heart.

We offer this prayer for our priest, who is our brother
and friend,

Amen

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World Day of Prayer
for Priests

www.worldpriestday.com

Annual Day of Prayer for Priests

In 2002, John Paul II established that on the solemnity of the Sacred Heart the Church will observe the World Day of prayer for the Sanctification of Priests.

We strongly encourage each and every one of the faithful to begin if not already doing so to pray for our priests, today, this day this very moment, in preparation through prayer, celebration of the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, so that May 30 2008 will be an even greater celebration of the priesthood of Jesus Christ worldwide.

Who we are

We are a group of professional Catholic Communications people, who love and cherish the priesthood of Jesus Christ, we have set up this website to facilitate the World Day of Prayer for Priests.

It is our prayer that this website may be a gateway to a deeper understanding of the priesthood of Christ as exercised by our priests, a priesthood in which, by virtue of our baptism, we all share.

We affirm our Priests

It is timely that we express our appreciation to so many priests who are indeed a daily reflection of Christ's love for his people.

We wish to express our love for our priests and provide them with the support and encouragement they deserve.

We are also encouraging people around the world to stop whatever they are doing at 3pm local time and spend a quiet moment praying in thanksgiving for our priests and contemplating the gift of priesthood.

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Together with you, we wish to thank God for our priests and pray that they may be holy and competent pastors, capable of leading even in the complex and difficult times we live in. We pray for them that their faith may not fail, that they may feel themselves surrounded by the caring love of their people and of the whole church.



The meaning of Priesthood

We wish to bring into focus the true meaning of the priesthood as the means by which Christ is present among his people. We wish to promote an understanding of the immense dignity and beauty of the vocation of the ministerial priesthood in all its fullness and variety.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart

The feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus has not been chosen without good reason. It is the feast of the humanity of God incarnate. It reveals to us the very heart of Jesus, beating with love for all people of all times. Priests are called to listen to that heartbeat and become 'other Christs' among God's people. They truly need our prayers as we need theirs.

How to celebrate this special day

- Pray for the Holy Father in a very special way, that he may have the health and strength to guide our church for many years to come.
- Attend the Holy Mass and pray for priests worldwide.
- Spend a holy hour in Eucharistic Adoration for our priests.
- We are also encouraging people around the world to stop whatever they are doing at 3pm local time which is the hour of Divine Mercy and spend a quiet moment praying in thanks giving for our priests and contemplating the gift of Priesthood.
- Pray the rosary for priests, in particularly the luminous and meditate on the Institution of the Eucharist the fifth mystery.
- Pray in a special way for priests on the missions.
- Pray to the Saints most associated with the priesthood for the protection of our priest's.
- Offer up the crosses of this your day for the priesthood.
- Invite your local priest or a priest friend to your home for a family meal.
- Mail a thank you card to a priest.
- Extend a handshake of friendship to a priest and thank him for being priest.
- Visit religious communities of priests with a gift to express your gratitude for their presence in your parish.
- Place a notice of the world day of prayer for priests in your parish newsletter.
- Have a community gathering in the local parish hall to celebrate world day of prayer for priests.
- Schools invite your priest to come and be presented with a thank you card made and coloured, and signed by the children.
- Offer to cut the grass or ask your priest is there anything he needs a helping hand with.
- Link www.worldpriestday.com to your parish website.

