

The Year for Priests—A Time to Venerate Our Spiritual Leaders

Pope Benedict XVI has declared that June 19, 2009, to June 19, 2010, is a “Year for Priests”.

In celebration of this *Year for Priests*, we are urged to remember these shepherds of God’s flock in our thoughts and prayers. Jesus Christ created the foundation of the priesthood at his last supper with His Apostles. Through the centuries, priests have served as the face of the Church, our spiritual guides and the backbone of our faith. Those with the courage to answer God’s call to the priesthood deserve our prayerful support. Please join Catholics around the world in praying for priests and those considering a life in the priesthood.

SHEPHERDS OF THE FLOCK

*Father, you sent your Son as the Good Shepherd
willing to lay down his life for the sheep.
Smiling upon all of those whom you have chosen
to lead us in the ways of your Son.
Fill their hearts with love and their lives with faith.*

*We are not an easy people to lead.
So often we are like sheep who have gone astray.
Help your shepherds to know when to be strong,
when to be gentle, when to criticize, and when to affirm,
when to say “no” and when to say “yes.”*

*Thank you for the gift of leadership of service in your church.
May all who have received it always show forth your face
and speak with your voice.*

-Sacred Heart League (adapted)

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

In thanksgiving during this Year of the Priest, we call to mind those shepherds who have served Immaculate Conception Parish over the years and ask the Father’s blessings on them.

Rev. John B. Pleus 1913-1946
Rev. A.A. Ripper 1946-1950
Rev. Paul U. Kertz 1950-1960
Rev. Gerald Kaiser 1960-1971
Rev. Fred J. Yehle 1971-1973
Rev. Richard Cronin 1973-1982
Rev. Michael Flanagan 1982-1990
Rev. Henry Reichert 1990-1996
Rev. J. James Offutt 1996-1998
Rev. Gregory Higley 1998-2002
Rev. Patrick Dolan 2002-present

Reverends...

Joseph Knecht
Henry Reichert
Jerome Sommer
Donald Lammers
George Scheer
James Wieberg
William Forst
Tom Vaughn
C.H. Patterson
Les Niemeyer
James Fuemmeler
Rob Fields
John Long
Kevin P. Clohessy
Thomas Greaney
Michael Murphy
Patrick Hoffman
Bernard Mers
Michael Quinn
Elmer Koenen
Robert Keating
John Maguire
Ron Jewell
D. Leo Cruikshank
Paul Hartley
Vincent Linnebur
Charles Pardee
J. Leon Allred
William L. Korte
Jeremiah Kennedy
Erwin R. Konrad

Henry Weismann
Patrick Pierceall
John Lamek
Louis Dorn
John Ronquest
James Niemeyer
Sean Smyth
Ignacio Medina
John MacSweeney
Mark Smith
James O'Sullivan
Joe Hoi
Donald Wallace
Thomas Hereford
J. Patrick Quinn
Gregory C. Meystrik
Donald E. Siciliano
Mark S. Smith
Timothy M. Tatro
Marion J. Makarewicz
Thomas L Alber
Brendan P. Doyle
Brendan Griffey
Benjamin E. Nwosu
Hillary Andebo
David J. Veit