

Prayer for Priests often recited by St. Therese of Lisieux

O Eternal Father, may our earth be impregnated by that ocean of love gushing forth from the opened side of Your Jesus that it may bring forth holy priests, priests who like John, the Beloved Disciple, will gather up the Precious Blood in their chalices on the altars. Send us priests who will give You to souls with that plenitude of love which the Apostle John received as a pledge of tenderness at the foot of the Cross.

May your priests protect with jealous love Your Bride, the Church, just as St. John protected Mary, Your Mother, and took her unto his own. Instructed by this tender Mother of Sorrows on Calvary, may these priests watch over Your children with the exquisite tenderness and care of a Mother. May they lead souls on to intimate union with You through Mary who, as the Gate of Heaven, is the sole dispenser of the treasures hidden in your Adorable Heart.

O Mary transfixed beneath the Cross by the sword which pierced the Heart of Your Divine Son, teach us how to please Jesus; let us run with you to His assistance when we hear His cry” ‘I thirst’...that cry which you heard at the foot of the Cross as He was expiring. Oh! Give us priests, on fire with zeal, true children of Mary, who will give Jesus to souls with the same tender care with which you carried the Infant Jesus of Bethlehem.

Mother of Sorrows! Give us a generation of priests formed at your school and imbued with the tenderness of your virginal heart.

Prayer for Vocations

We turn to you, Lord, in trust! Son of God, sent by the Father to the men and women of every time and of every part of the earth! We call upon you through Mary, your Mother and ours: may the Church not lack in vocations, especially those dedicated in a special way to your kingdom.

Jesus, only Savior of mankind! We pray to you for our brothers and sisters who have answered “yes” to your call to the priesthood, to the consecrated life and to the missions. May their lives be renewed day by day, to become a living Gospel. Merciful and holy Lord, continue to send new laborers into the harvest of your kingdom! Assist those whom you call to follow you in our day; contemplating your face, may they respond with joy to the wondrous mission that you entrust to them for the good of your People and of all men and women.

- John Paul II from the Vatican, 12 November 2003

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of Wisdom and divine love, impart Your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God’s holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God’s holy service.

EWTN

You who are God and live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.