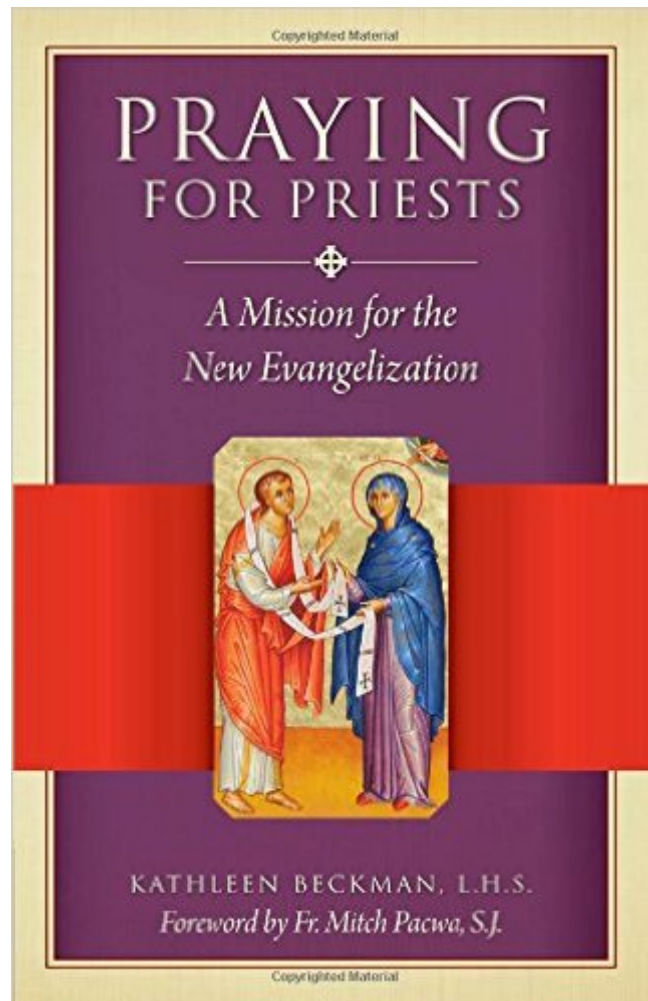


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Praying For Priests: A Mission For The New Evangelization



Synopsis

History has taught us the power of intercessory prayer, and nobody is in more need of our prayers than Catholic priests battling on the front lines for the salvation of souls. Priests are called to fight evil, but they cannot fight it alone. As attacks on the priesthood intensify, you have a vital role to play in supporting priestly renewal and vocations. Those men who have answered God's call depend upon you to wield the most powerful weapon against the evil one: prayer. Celebrated retreat master and author Kathleen Beckman offers Church-approved ways in which you can contribute to the welfare of the Church. Priests, seminarians, consecrated religious, and laypeople will all benefit from insights into the indispensability of the Catholic priesthood, the mission of praying for priests in the context of the New Evangelization, testimonies of spiritual mothers and priests, and scriptural rosaries dedicated to priests, vocations, and reparation. Although both men and women are responsible for priestly renewal, Kathleen explains the special vocation of spiritual motherhood of priests. This vocation is embedded with graces that enable women to work together with Our Lady and the Holy Spirit for the sanctification of priests. Holier priests lead to a holier Church. Because prayer is a source of grace and the mother of all virtues, you can call down showers of graces upon the priesthood. The Church and her priests need your prayers now more than ever, and here you'll find your special calling from God that must be fulfilled for the salvation of souls.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Sophia Institute Press (July 15, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1622822110

ISBN-13: 978-1622822119

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.9 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #178,140 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Clergy](#) #99 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Roman Catholicism](#) #330 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Evangelism](#)

Customer Reviews

Kathleen Beckman's book delves into this universal obligation among Catholics to pray for

priests. If the priests are holy, so will be the Church and vice-versa. The author offers in the Appendices a Reflection On Sanctification based on the Anima Christi prayer; a Scriptural Examination of Conscience for Priests and Laity; Seven Holy Hours for Priestly Virtue; a Litany for Receiving and Giving Forgiveness; Spiritual Exercise on Surrender; and, For Priests and Bishops to do: A Litany of Reparation for Offenses Against the Laity (yes, no one is getting a pass here)! There is a Litany for Offenses Against the Priesthood; a Reflection on Marian Consecration; For Priests Who Have Died; Self-Offering and Suffering for Priests; a section of Testimonies from Today's Priests; a section explaining the Foundation For Priests; the Holy Rosary: A School of Prayer which includes a scriptural rosary for priests with reflections for all 20 mysteries and more. . . Highlighted is the role of Spiritual Maternity for priests. But if you'll check out the web site given in the book, www.foundationforpriests.org, this is much bigger and one that is inviting men as well to Spiritual Paternity for priests in this worldwide movement. On this site you can subscribe and receive suggestions how to support the clergy by establishing Vianney Cenacles of two or more in your home or parish. . . or simply by praying and sacrificing daily, privately. Praying For Priests: A Mission For the New Evangelization, addresses this mission as coming from the request of the Congregation for the clergy. The chief way is to pray the Rosary daily and Eucharistic Adoration for the sanctification of priests.

In an article, "The Value of Prayer and Sacrifice for Priests," Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J., such a well-known and good priest and the author of *The Catholic Catechism: A Contemporary Catechism of the Teachings of the Catholic Church* wrote the following (I'm sure with a good deal of self-reflection): "Why do priests need special graces from God? They need special graces because they have extraordinary responsibilities before God. They are to be more than ordinarily holy, more generous, more zealous, more patient. In a word, those who are responsible for Christ's presence on earth they are to be, of all people, most Christ-like. They are to be patterns of what Christ wants all of us to be. Count all of the grave crises in the Church over the centuries. Every single one of them, somehow at heart, was due to the fact that priests had failed the people of God." "As long as I live, I will never forget the retreat of the late Fr. Daniel Lord gave us scholastics before our ordination. He recalled the episode of a conversation that Pope Pius had with Fr. Edmond Walsh, then of Georgetown who had just returned from a mission in Russia, where millions were starving because of the treachery of their Communist overlords. After the famine had abated, Fr. Lord was told to meet with the Holy Father. Late into the night Pope and Jesuit were in conversation over the conditions of the Church in that day. And the Pope asked Fr. Walsh who do you think are the

greatest trials to the Church? Are they the persecutors, the Neros and Attilas, the Communists? The Pope answered his own question. No, they are unfaithful priests.

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