

# THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

## ~JULY 2019~

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<u>1</u> POPE FRANCIS	<u>2</u> REV. ABRAHAM GEORGE OUR PASTOR	<u>3</u> REV. PETER ALI	<u>4</u> REV. ROBERT ALTIER	<u>5</u> REV. JAKE ANDERSON	<u>6</u> REV. MICHAEL ANDERSON
<u>7</u> REV. JOSEPH ANDRADE	<u>8</u> REV. LEONARD ANDRIE	<u>9</u> REV. MICHAEL ARMS	<u>10</u> REV. DENNIS BACKER	<u>11</u> REV. ALBERT BACKMANN	<u>12</u> REV. SEBASTIEN BAKATUIN- AMINA	<u>13</u> REV. PAUL BACKER
<u>14</u> REV. NEIL BAKKER	<u>15</u> REV. THOMAS BALLUFF	<u>16</u> REV. JOSEPH BAMBENEK	<u>17</u> REV. LUIS PLAZA SEMV	<u>18</u> REV. RICHARD BANKER	<u>19</u> REV. PATRICK BARNES	<u>20</u> REV. MICHAEL BARSNESS
<u>21</u> REV. BALUFU BASEKELA	<u>22</u> VERY REV. JOHN BAUER	<u>23</u> REV. JAMES BAUER	<u>24</u> REV. RODGER BAUMAN	<u>25</u> VERY REV. MICHAEL BECKER	<u>26</u> REV. MARTIN BECKMAN	<u>27</u> REV. TERRY BEESON
<u>28</u> REV. COREY BELDEN	<u>29</u> REV. JOHN (JERRY) BERGER	<u>30</u> REV. JOHN BERGER	<u>31</u> REV. BERNARD HEBDA	For subsequent Months or extra copies call or write	Frank Renshaw 2450 Merrimac Lane N Plymouth MN 55447	Phone: 763-473-4096  Email: frenshaw@ hnoj.org

## WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

### PRAYER SUGGESTION

O 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 the souls of your priests in Purgatory. But above all, I recommend to you priests dearest to me. The priest 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; All the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way (especially...). Jesus, keep them all close to your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

FOR VOCATIONS: Father we trust you to call others to the priesthood to continue your work in our Archdiocese

A donation to help support *THE MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS* will be appreciated

# St. Bernard Church—July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Out Reach Mass at Ascension-6:15pm.	3 Mass at 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration 8:30am until 8:00pm	4 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 8:15am at St. Joseph, Waconia	5 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 7am at St. Joseph, Waconia	6 Church: Sharon Willems & Donna Cebulla. Narthex: Kooiman, Storms, Hammers.
7 Adult Choir leads singing at the 10am Mass.	8 Mass at 8am at St. Bernard	9 Out Reach Mass at Ascension-6:15pm.	10 Mass at 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration 3pm until 8pm.	11 No Mass at St. Bernard Mass at 8:15am at St. Joseph, Waconia	12 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 7am at St. Joseph, Waconia	13 Church: Jim & Carol Wickenhauser. Narthex: John Eiden Family.
14	15 Mass at 8am at St. Bernard	16 Out Reach Mass at Ascension-6:15pm.	17 Mass at 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration 3pm until 8pm.	18 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 8:15am at St. Joseph, Waconia. Ladies Lunch 11:30 at Unhinged Pizza in Waconia.	19 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 7am at St. Joseph, Waconia	20 Church: Judy Glander & Peggy Eiden. Narthex: Hammers.
21 Free Spirit Choir leads singing at the 10am Mass.	22 Mass at 8am at St. Bernard	23 Out Reach Mass at Ascension-6:15pm.	24 Mass at 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration 3pm until 8pm. Catholic United Financial rummage & Bake Sale begins at 8am until 6pm.	25 No Mass at St. Bernard. Mass at 8:15am at St. Joseph, Waconia Catholic United Financial Rummage & Bake Sale 8am to 6pm.	26 No Mass Catholic United Financial rummage & Bake Sale 8am to 3pm. BAG DAY	27 Church: Looking for a new volunteer. Narthex: Bob Symanitz & Brian Vos.
28	29 Mass at 8am at St. Bernard	30 Out Reach Mass at Ascension-6:15pm.	31 Mass at 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration 3pm until 8pm.			

# CONNECT! SUNDAY REFLECTION

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time | For Sunday, June 30th, 2019

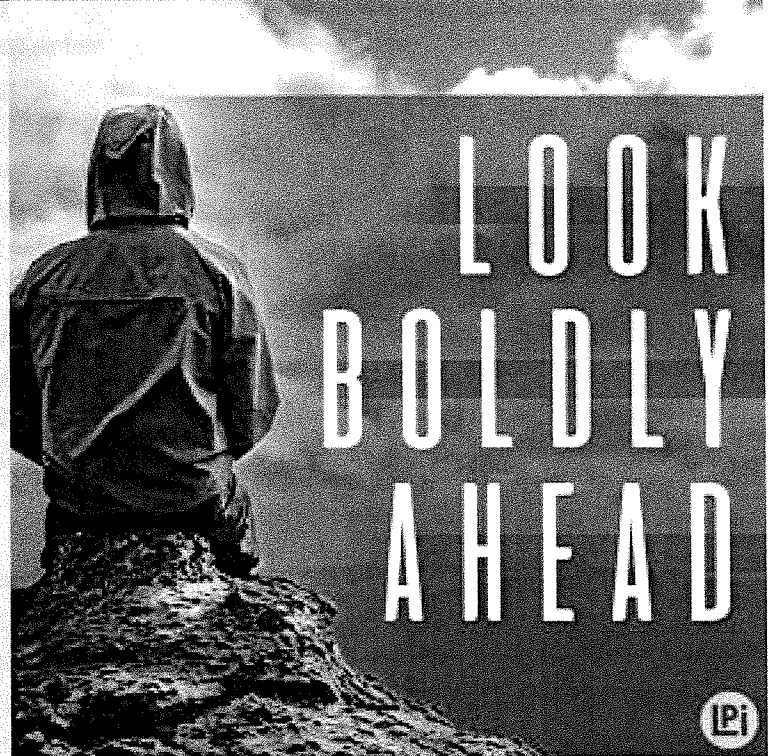
## Honor the Past, Embrace the Future

*Written by Douglas Sousa, S.T.L*

**1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21**

**Galatians 5:1, 13-18**

**Luke 9:51-62**



June is a time of transition for dioceses throughout the country. The newly ordained receive their first assignments, and pastors announce their retirements. In the process, parishes lose their beloved pastors. It is a painful experience. However, we understand that priests are ordained to serve the whole diocese, not just our individual parish. So, we say our tearful goodbyes and welcome our new pastor.

In my parish, we have experienced much transition over the past eight years. Our pastor of 15 years suddenly passed away in 2012. Since then, we have had two administrators and one pastor. Now, we are entering a collaborative with two other parishes, sharing a pastor and assistant. Many parishioners question why this is necessary. Others have left the parish for one with a more convenient Mass schedule. All are feeling bereaved that our parish will not be the same.

This Sunday's Gospel speaks to the challenges my parish and others throughout the country face dealing with a shortage of priests and declining Mass attendance.

Jesus says, "Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head." Jesus was homeless. Many of us who have had our parishes closed or merged also have a sense of homelessness. The places where we were baptized, confirmed, and married no longer exist. The Mass schedules we had built our weekends around are now changed. It can be disorienting and dismaying.

Like the second and third people who approach Jesus, we want to look back. We celebrate all the priests who sacrificed to build up our parish. We remember countless parishioners who gave their time and money to support it. We acknowledge all the good that was done. We want to go back to the way we were. But it just isn't possible. Those days are gone.

Jesus' words, though harsh, are also fitting. "Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." and "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." It is good for us to honor our sacred past. However, Jesus does not want us to be stuck in our nostalgia. As a Church, we need to move forward and embrace the challenges that lie ahead of us. That requires conversion.

In the past, we have treated our parishes like convenience stores. Like the Dunkin' Donuts on every corner, parishes were there for people to get their needs met and then move along. We were spending more time raising money than raising consciences.

To meet the challenges of the present, we cannot be stuck in the past. If we are to go out and proclaim the kingdom, we cannot be just maintaining buildings. Like Jesus, we need to be on the move — not just catering to those who come to us but going out to those on the fringes of our society. And, like Jesus, we have to accept that many won't be willing to make the changes needed to take that long journey. While we want to be sensitive, we cannot let them hold us back.

My home parish was founded to serve the needs of Portuguese immigrants. The building is meant to represent the ships that Portuguese explorers used to discover new lands. In this time of transition, we, like our ancestors, are called to leave the safety of our home port and bring the Gospel into the world. That is true for the whole Church which, as the Barque of St. Peter, is called by Jesus to go out into the deep — resisting the temptation to enshrine the past so that we can evangelize the present.

*Douglas Sousa, S.T.L.*

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

You have called us to a mission.

You send us into a hurting world

to bring the Good News.

Too often we are afraid.

We want to hold onto

what is comfortable and predictable.

We want to be with people

who are just like us,

rather than reach out

to the poor and marginalized.

Give us the freedom of your Spirit

so that we can serve one another out of love.

Let us know the joy of breaking out of our comfort zone  
to find you at work in the most unexpected places.

Amen.