

Spiritually Report – September 2025

Many of you, if not all of you, have had prayers offered for you on numerous occasions for various reasons. Maybe it was your birthday or anniversary, or when you had a hospitalization or procedure done, maybe it was when you had a big decision to make and you asked someone to pray for you for a good outcome, or maybe someone prayed for you just because they thought about you. Whatever the reason for the payers, you welcomed them and expressed your thankfulness for them saying, “Yes, I needed them, they helped me tremendously, thank you so very much for thinking of me.”

There is a program in our diocese in which we pray individually for someone, not just anyone, but a specific priest in the Lincoln Diocese. Priests are on the front lines and need our prayers constantly. The evil one is trying his hardest to deter each priest away from his vocation. For he knows – No Priest, No Eucharist! When you pray for a priest, it lifts him up and gives him strength. It lets him know that someone cares about him and, more importantly, WHAT he does matters. A priest has God work through him in Persona Christi, a Latin term meaning “in the person of Christ”.

The Adopt-A-Priest program in our diocese has PCCW’s pray for and remember priests throughout the year and on special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries. When you acknowledge a priest with a card or note, it encourages them. You may not know the full outcome of your kind gestures, and that’s okay. The priest will be honored and grateful you took the time to recognize him and his office.

We are very blessed to have 175 ordained clergy in our diocese. Now imagine if all of our 135 PCCW’s throughout our diocese prayed for 1 or 2 clergy throughout the year. The graces would flow more abundantly to our priests, PCCW’s, deaneries, and throughout our Lincoln Diocese. God will not be outdone in generosity!

Is God calling you or your PCCW to step up and “Adopt-A-Priest”? Pray about it, listen for God’s answer, and follow.

Prayer for a Priest

O Jesus, our great High Priest, Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father [N].

Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.

In his loneliness, comfort him

In his sorrows, strengthen him

In his frustrations, point out to him that it is through suffering that the soul

is purified,
and show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is
needed for the work of redemption.
O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your son who is
close to you because of his priestly ordination,
and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of
Christ in a world which needs him so much.
Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength, and especially help him to live
and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.
Amen