

Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations

To:Bulletin Editors, Deacons, Directors/Coordinators of Religious Education, Knights of<br/>Columbus, Parish Vocation Committee Members, Principals, Secretaries, Youth Ministers

From: Fr. Guillermo (Mémo) Hernández) Fr. Mémo Director of Vocations

**Date:** August 24, 2023

## Subject: Priesthood Sunday – September 24, 2023

*The Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations invites you to celebrate Priesthood Sunday on September 24, 2023.* The lay faithful of each parish, school or other ministry can show their appreciation in their own special way for the priests at your parish.

We thank our Lord for the institution and gift of the priesthood. Let us celebrate this gift and pray for our priests and for our seminarians who are in formation. For more information on how you can celebrate our priests, you can visit <u>https://serraus.org/priesthood-sunday/</u>(you will find a flyer with more information at this site).

You may join us to pray the online Rosary for vocations that will occur on the following dates:

- Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

If you would like to participate, lead a decade or if you have any questions, you can contact Genevieve at: <u>dmccvocations@gmail.com</u>. All are welcome!

Please continue praying for all priests as they, are in need of your prayers and support. Pray as well so that more young men may be open to listen to the voice of Christ who calls them.

Bulletin Editors: Please include the following prayer for priests in your bulletin for Priesthood Sunday:

## Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen (https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-priests)

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ." — St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests.