

## Year of the Priest June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009---June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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During this jubilee year, the pope has also proclaimed St. John Vianney to be the patron saint of all the world’s priest. This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of this 19<sup>th</sup>-century saint who represents a “true example of a priest at the service of the flock of Christ”, the pope said.

The pope in his address said that the priestly ministry consists of total adherence to the ecclesial tradition of participating “in a spiritually intense new life and a new lifestyle which was inaugurated by the Lord Jesus and which the apostles made their own.”

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**For Priest**---the plenary indulgence may be received by praying lauds or vespers before the Blessed Sacrament exposed or in the tabernacle. They must also “offer themselves with a ready and generous heart for the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Penance.” They will be granted partial indulgences “every time they devoutly recite the prayers duly approved to lead a saintly life and to carry out the duties entrusted to them.”

**For the Faithful**---, the plenary indulgence may be obtained by attending Mass and offering prayers to Jesus Christ—“the supreme and eternal priest”—and praying for priest during the first and last days of the year for priest, on the first Thursday of the month or any day established by local ordinaries, as long as they have received expiation for their sins through sacramental confession. All faithful may receive partial indulgences each

time they pray five Our Fathers, Ave Maria and Gloria Patri, or any other approved prayer “in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to ask that priest maintain purity and sanctity of life.”

The elderly, sick and homebound may receive a plenary indulgence if “on the days concerned, they pray for the sanctification of priests and offer their sickness and suffering to God through Mary, Queen of the Apostles.

Let us all pray for priests. Let us all support our priests. Let us all thank our priests. Let us all pray for more priestly vocations. Most especially during this year for priest!

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