



June 2008

Dear Lovers,

We are thrilled to announce World Priest Day (WPD) 2008 sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. It is a day set aside to honor and celebrate those men that have dedicated their lives to the service of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. We once again will celebrate WPD to coincide with the Serra Club's Priesthood Sunday. WPD will be celebrated on Sunday, 26 October 2008 worldwide. Please join us and thousands of other Catholics in taking a day to especially focus on affirming the priests who serve us so faithfully. Please take the time and make the effort to build a relationship with them.

We encourage the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Community to make it a priority to honor and affirm all priests (encountered or not) in your community or diocese. WPD celebrations can be as simple as sending a special card to hosting a special dinner for one or more priests you respect and want to honor. You are asked to consider creating and delivering gift baskets, candy bars, and other special gifts to the priests in your vicinity. Most important is to make and take the time to reach out in a special and giving way. And do not forget those communities of priests in Abbeys who serve us, educate us and provide spiritual guidance and love as a daily gift.

We have ideas for celebrating at our website, [wpd.wwme.org](http://wpd.wwme.org), and you can visit the Serra Club's website at [www.priestsunday.org](http://www.priestsunday.org) for ways to show our priests how much they are valued and appreciated. We also ask that you tell us of your ideas and celebrations so we can share them with others on the WPD website. For some of us supporting and caring for priests has been an ongoing and continuing experience; for others it may be a new chance to say "we love and value you" to the priests you know who enrich the Church and our lives.

This year we have added a 24 hour prayer focus to the website and encourage you or your community to use the prayers for these dedicated and serving men. The prayer vigil is included in the "WPD Celebration Starter Kit" found online at [wpd.wwme.org](http://wpd.wwme.org). This site also has other ideas including a "Blessing for a Pastor for your use."

Have a great time celebrating World Priest Day!

WPD Coordinating Team

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