



June 2009

Dear Lovers,

In this “Year of Priesthood” (19 June 2009 to 19 June 2010), as announced by Pope Benedict XVI, Worldwide Marriage Encounter sets aside 25 October as World Priest Day. For 10 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has proclaimed World Priest Day to honor those men that have dedicated their lives to the service of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. It is an opportunity for Catholics to thank, affirm and share their love and support for priests, diocesan priests as well as priests in religious orders.

Please join thousands of other Catholics in taking a day to especially focus on celebrating the priests who serve us so faithfully. World Priest Day celebrations can be as simple as sending a special card or making phone calls to as elaborate as your creativity allows. Most important is to make and take the time to reach out in a special and affirming way and do something to acknowledge priests who provide service, education, spiritual guidance and love as a daily gift.

There are ideas for celebrating at our website, wpd.wwme.org, and you can visit the Serra Club’s website at www.priestsunday.org for ways to show 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, 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 they know.

A “World Priest Day Celebration Starter Kit” for your use can be found online at wpd.wwme.org. This site has many ideas including a “Blessing for a Pastor”.

Have a great time celebrating World Priest Day!

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