

June 2009

Dear President, Parish Council,

As Catholic laity, we share a common journey with the dedicated men who have said “Yes” to the Lord and the Church through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Pope Benedict XVI has dedicated 19 June 2009 to 19 June 2010 the “Year of the Priesthood”, a year for the Catholic Community to pray, reflect, celebrate and justly give honor to their priests.

WorldWide Marriage Encounter established World Priest Day in the year 2000 to honor priests. The focused mission and purpose is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Lord and the Church through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. It is an opportunity for Catholic people to thank, affirm and share their love and support for our priests. It is a day to rejoice in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. World Priest Day is celebrated on Sunday, 25 October 2009 to coincide with Serra Club’s Priesthood Sunday.

For ideas, please check out the World Priest Day website at wpd.wwme.org. You are specifically requested to go the “2009 WPD Celebration Starter Kit” and scroll down to pages 6, 7, 9, 12 and 14. Listed there are several ideas on how you and other parishioners can honor and affirm your parish priest. These are only suggestions and you may know of other ways your priest would feel your love and admiration.

We hope you will join in the celebration of World Priest Day and Priesthood Sunday this October by letting your priest know he is supported and cared about in some special way.

Companions in His Service,

Director, Family Life Office

