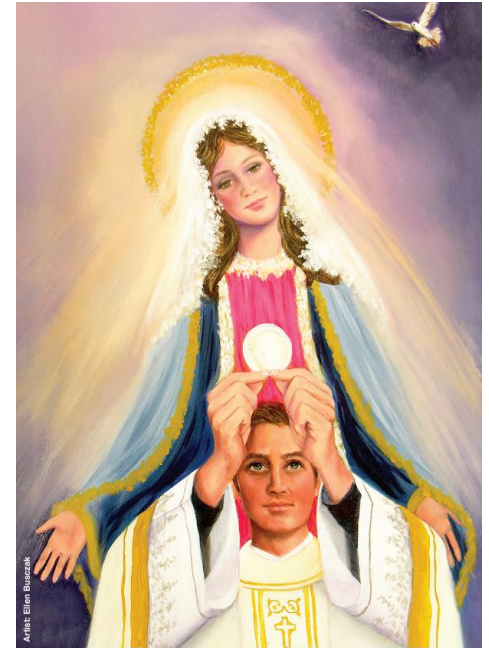


Spiritual Motherhood and Adoration Cenacles

Pray For My Priest – Archdiocese of Philadelphia

With the permission of Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., D.D. and the cooperation of Monsignor Daniel J. Sullivan, Vicar for Clergy, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will become part of the ministry of *Spiritual Motherhood and Adoration Cenacles* begun by the apostolate *Pray For My Priest*. The national details of this ministry are available at <http://prayformypriest.org>. All Philadelphia forms may be obtained at <http://www.stmariagoretti.net/smg youthgroup.html>. Below are a few highlights of this ministry:

- ✦ It is our goal to ensure that all priests, religious and diocesan, active and retired, and eventually all seminarians, be matched with a spiritual mother, a woman of prayer, who will raise her priestly son up to God unceasingly in prayer and sacrifice. Additionally this Spiritual Motherhood will be mystically enhanced with the formation of Eucharistic Adoration Cenacles, comprised of all of the lay faithful who will also lift up priests and seminarians in prayer to God, through a weekly hour of Adoration.
- ✦ “With the Blessed Virgin Mary as our model, we seek to provide each priest in our archdiocese with a *Spiritual Mother*, who will commit to anonymously adopt him and pray for him and his vocation as long as she lives. In the spirit of holy detachment, the spiritual mother knows who her priestly son is; however, he will not know her identity until her death. Throughout her life, the spiritual mother will have a hidden, spiritual connection with her priestly son, as Mary had with Jesus. “*Through prayer, including regular Eucharistic Adoration, and by uniting their sacrifices from ordinary life to Jesus on the Cross, the women become a pleasing fragrance to Christ and a spiritual power house for the Church and priesthood.*” (Gannon Kaufmann, Mary. "Understanding the Vocation of Spiritual Motherhood of Priests." *Incarnate Institute*. 27 Dec 2011.)
- ✦ She will be advised if her priestly son is moved or dies so that in the case of his death she would pray for his soul and may attend his funeral.
- ✦ Spiritual motherhood can be practiced by a woman of mature faith of any age and in any position in life who is willing to make the lifelong commitment.
- ✦ Adoration Cenacles allow for participation of both men and women in this important movement for strengthening of priests at this time. The Adoration Cenacles for Priests involve the faithful coming together in prayer for one hour in front of the Eucharist specifically for sanctification and fortification of priests.



✦ **The Philadelphia Spiritual Mother Commitment Form can be found at <http://www.stmariagoretti.net/smg youthgroup.html>.**

Below are a few excerpts:

I, _____, commit to spiritually adopt a priest in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As a Spiritual Mother, I promise, to the best of my ability to make this a “vocation within a vocation” whereby on a daily basis I include my priest son in all of my prayers, sacrifices and ordinary works for his sanctification and fortification. I promise to accept the son randomly chosen for me by the Holy Spirit. I promise to send him each year a card on his birthday and on the anniversary of his ordination reminding him of my lifelong commitment to him..... I promise to utilize my “spiritual mother bracelet” as a reminder to me of my commitment to my priest son.....

✦ A special prayer for Priest in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will be offered daily:

“May My Spiritual Son, Father _____, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit, have clean hands and a pure heart to shepherd your people. May you give him Holy Boldness to proclaim the Gospel in truth and the courage and wisdom to live out his call to the Priesthood in faithfulness and humility. May Mary, Mother of The Church, be his constant intercessor before Her own Son and High Priest, Jesus. May I forever remain faithful in my prayer support and sacrifices for Father _____. Amen

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at marichar@comcast.net or 215-721-0199 EXT 217.

May God bless and keep you,

Maria Carmel Richardson
Committee Chair

Leadership Committee Members:

Claire Boyle, Kathy Blum, Gloria Domino, Rosemary Doyle, Donna Frisch, Pam Kendig, Christina Librone Eatherly, Dianne Linden, Helene LaRosa, Kathleen McCarthy, Kathy Popiny, Linda Purcell, Helene Rinkus, Pat Shovlin

To adopt a priest in Philadelphia, go to <http://stmariagoretti.net/spiritual-motherhood/> print the Spiritual Mother Commitment Form and mail to the address listed on the form.