

## PRAYER CRUSADE FOR PRIESTS

### AN APOSTOLATE OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X

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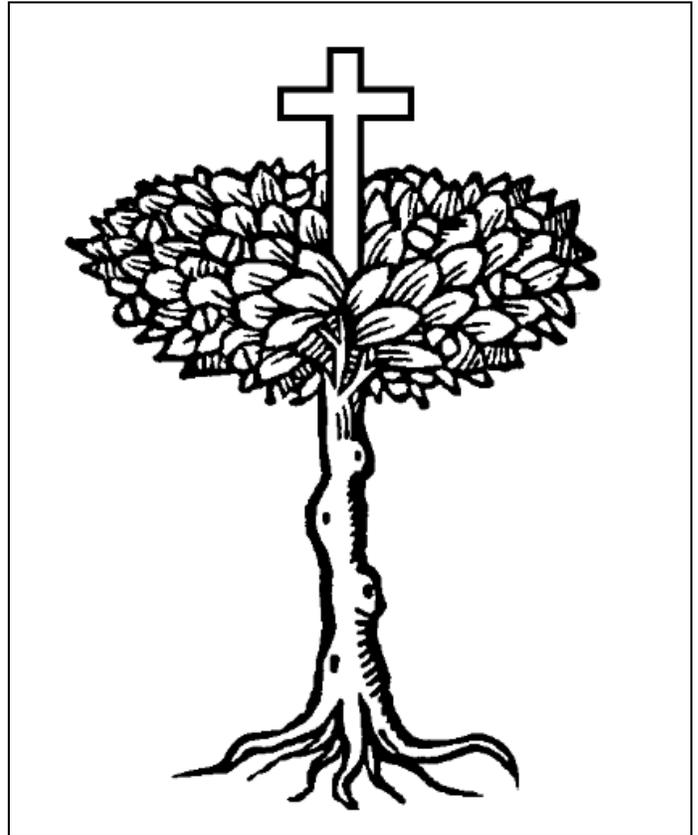
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Dear Crusader,

Greetings in Our Lord and Blessed Lady! Our last letter came to you about three or four months ago. If you have received this second letter in the mail then you are enrolled as an official member of the Prayer Crusade for Priests. I would first like to thank all of you for your efforts in the Crusade, for the letters, and for sending in copies of prayers for the Priests' prayer collection. Someday we will make a new prayerbook.

The Prayer Crusade for Priests is a common labour of our Catholic community. Amongst all the laity out there who love the priesthood and who support the Society of Saint Pius X, we are the elite. We are "chosen from amongst men," as Saint Paul states it, to pray for priests; God chooses us, we have only to comply with His inspirations. But we *are* complying; *we* are the league of God's chosen ones whose job is to pray and sacrifice for the *alter Christi*. The laity in general certainly have a responsibility to pray for their priests – but this is a loose calling and a responsibility often forgotten. Our duty however, is clear. We have promised ourselves to this work. We have made the oblation – a promise which is made to God through the Secretary of the institution (whoever that may be). This promise is the glue and value of the PCP.



When a person prays alone, he is free to adjust his prayers according to his fancy when and how he likes. He can change his prayers and his self-imposed obligations and has no constrictions. But when you make the promise of the PCP, your work for God is directed by an agent *outside* yourself – you bind yourself to a will and to decisions that do not proceed from you. This enables you to gain a special and particular *merit* which would be otherwise unobtainable.

But there is more. All 600 of us are committed in the same way: God looks at our unity of intention and blesses not only each of us individually, but also collectively as a single body (a union that is derived from being members of the Mystical Body). Stronger members of the PCP supply for the weaker members; and each individual's prayer is multiplied by the number of members (like with the Rosary) on account of the unity of intention. If the PCP pleases God, God grants special graces to priests; the PCP is strengthened, and each individual soul is also strengthened. We gain merits individually for our work, and we gain exclusive merits from participation in the work of the whole. It is like getting something for nothing.

When we pray for the priests, we are taking part in their vocation, we are participating in their priesthood - adding a little vigor to their works, strengthening them against the pitfalls that surround the Church, keeping him fresh and zealous, bequesting receptiveness for the flock. And we accomplish all this with our little efforts.

The PCP is designed so that we can accomplish much with little. Although our daily prayers don't take long, our intentions are always with us. Our simple obligations are able to be fulfilled in our own time, which makes it easy to keep them no matter how busy we are or where we go. The hardest thing we have to do is make the Holy Hour on First Thursdays, and to say the same PCP prayers even if we grow tired of them (therein lies one of the sacrifices).

In a secondary manner, the PCP Secretary is able to keep track of all the priests and members. He pulls all the efforts together into one. He can notify when priests die or when new ones are found, and can assign new priests as needed.

## PRAYER OF FATHER MATEO

Sacred Heart of Jesus hear my humble prayer in behalf of your priests.

I pray for your faithful and fervent priests,  
for your unfaithful and tepid priests,  
for your priests who labour at home and abroad;  
for your tempted priests,  
for your lonely and desolate priests;  
for your young priests,  
for your dying priests,  
and for the souls of your priests in purgatory.

Merciful Heart of Jesus, remembering that they are weak and frail human beings, give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope and a burning love. I ask that in their loneliness you comfort them, in their sorrow you strengthen them, and in their frustration you show them that it is through suffering that the soul is purified. Loving Heart of Jesus, keep them close to your Sacred Heart and bless them abundantly in time and eternity. Amen.

Also as an institution, it is possible to "recruit" new members. You can't really join many people to a personal prayer, but you can to a communal prayer. For this, you are welcome to photocopy and distribute the PCP pamphlet which you received in the last mailing. Don't hesitate to let me know your questions or regards.

Presently, we have 638 Crusaders praying for 568 priests. Most of the priests are SSPX priests, many are priests who are friendly to Tradition, and the remainder are priests out there who need our prayers amidst the fray of the Conciliar barrage and the world. Remember that you pray for them in *secret*: they don't know who you are!

For the rest, if you have not received a Holy Hour book or the Prayers for Priests booklet, do let me know and I will send you one. Also, thanks to all of you who have contributed to the printing and mailing costs - as you know, there are no dues nor

fees whatsoever (the remaining balance is covered by the District House), but whatever you contribute is appreciated.

God bless you all and our apostolate.

• Your Brother in Jesus & Mary,

Brother Gabriel-Marie  
Secretary