

## Catholic priests are essential for our healing



Several priests help at the Alpha and Omega Mission

Jesus Christ is the great high priest, the Redeemer of our sins. The Apostles were Jesus Christ's first bishops. He gave them the authority, through the first pope, St Peter, to ordain priests in the Sacrament of Holy Orders so that they could fulfil his salvific ministry. This tradition of priestly Ordination has continued to this day. The Holy Sacraments administered by priests are God's gifts to cleanse and strengthen our souls, to bring God's love and peace into our hearts, and to help us to overcome evil.

### Meditations

*The prophesied everlasting priesthood continues today: "Thou shalt put on them the holy vestments, that they may minister to me, and that the unction of them may prosper to an everlasting priesthood." (Exodus 40:13)*

*Judas Iscariot's failure to be a bishop was prophesied: "May his days be few: and his bishopric<sup>1</sup> let another take."* (Douay-Rheims Psalms 108:8, others 109:8)

*Together with the eleven faithful Apostles, Matthias was appointed bishop in place of Judas who betrayed Jesus: "For it is written in the book of Psalms: Let their habitation become desolate, and let there be none to dwell therein. And his bishopric let another take... And they gave them lots, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles."* (Acts 1:20,26)

*"Take heed to yourselves, and to the whole flock, wherein the Holy Spirit hath placed you bishops, to rule the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."* (Acts 20:28)

*"And when they had ordained to them priests in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, in whom they believed."* (Acts 14:22)

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<sup>1</sup> "Bishopric originates from the Latin word "episcopatum", which means "episcopate" or "office of a bishop".

“Let every soul be subject to higher powers: for there is no power but from God: and those that are, are ordained of God.” (Romans 13:1)

“Let the priests that rule well, be esteemed worthy of double honour: especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.” (1 Timothy 5:17)

*Mother Mary:* “Yes, my son priests, they received all these gifts on the first day of their Ordination: for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, burying of the dead, celebrating Holy Mass and during the Consecration to turn the host into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Oh, my love for my son priests is profound. My children must respect and pray for them, even if they are wrong, committing errors and faults, pray for them and offer Mass intentions for them. Oh, they are human, fragile and tempted because the enemy, he knows that without my son priests there is no Holy Mass and no Precious Body and Blood of my Son Jesus’ sacrifice of the Holy Mass.” ([18/05/2017](#))

## Supplementary reading

- [Pray intensely for priests, bishops and holy Pope Francis who is trying to amend the decay in the Church, which is under heavy attack](#) (19/08/2020)
- [Pray for the Vatican, the pope, bishops and priests – Satan attacks them severely to stop us from receiving the Body and Blood of Christ](#) (02/07/2014)
- [Jesus Christ does not want priests to be married and ministers of the Eucharist are not his will – we must follow God's commandments](#) (29/10/2019)
- [Priests are under much attack from the enemy: they need prayers and Masses offered up for them](#) (22/10/2014)
- [We have no right to condemn anyone, especially priests: instead we should be using our energy to pray for them and the Church](#) (30/01/2018)
- [A message of love, courage, strength and gratitude to a holy priest](#) (24/05/2011)

# Catholic Priests Administer Christ's Healing Sacraments

Jesus gives his bishops authority to ordain priests in the Sacrament of Holy Orders where they receive their gifts to administer the Holy Sacraments.

The Catholic Church is the true Church of God, founded by Jesus Christ, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The Apostles were Jesus Christ's first bishops and St Peter was the first pope, an apostolic tradition that continues today.



Respect and pray for priests: they are human too and come under fierce attack from the enemy because he knows that without them, there is no Precious Body and Blood of Jesus.

The Holy Sacraments are God's gifts to cleanse and strengthen our souls, to bring God's love and peace into our hearts and to help us to overcome evil.

Jesus Christ is the great high priest, the Redeemer of our sins.

"Thou shalt put on them the holy vestments, that they may minister to me, and that the unction of them may prosper to an everlasting priesthood." (Exodus 40:13)

"And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth, it shall be loosed also in heaven." (Matthew 16:18-19)

"Take heed to yourselves, and to the whole flock, wherein the Holy Spirit hath placed you bishops, to rule the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." (Acts 20:28)

"And when they had ordained to them priests in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, in whom they believed." (Acts 14:22)

"Let every soul be subject to higher powers: for there is no power but from God: and those that are, are ordained of God." (Romans 13:1)

"Let the priests that rule well, be esteemed worthy of double honour: especially they who labour in the word and doctrine."  
(1 Timothy 5:17)

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:15)

"The heavens shall confess thy wonders, O Lord: and thy truth in the church of the saints." (Douay-Rheims Psalms 88:6, others 89:5)

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast; and hold the traditions which you have learned, whether by word, or by our epistle." (2 Thessalonians 2:14)



## The first Apostles “office of a bishop” has been removed: Matthias was chosen to replace Judas as the 12<sup>th</sup> Apostle

*“Scriptum est enim in libro Psalmorum : Fiat commoratio eorum deserta, et non sit qui inhabitet in ea : et **episcopatum** ejus accipiat alter.”* (Acts 1:20)

- DR: “For it is written in the book of Psalms: Let their habitation become desolate, and let there be none to dwell therein. And his **bishopric** let another take.”
- NIV: “For, said Peter, it is written in the Book of Psalms: ‘May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it’, and, ‘May another take his **place of leadership**.’”
- NABRE: “For it is written in the Book of Psalms: ‘Let his encampment become desolate, and may no one dwell in it.’ And: ‘May another take his **office**.’”

*“Fiant dies ejus pauci, et episcopatum ejus accipiat alter.”* (Psalms 109:8, DR: 108:8)

- DR: “May his days be few: and his **bishopric** let another take.”
- NIV: “May his days be few; may another take his **place of leadership**.”
- NABRE: “May his days be few; may another take his **office**.”

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**Episcopatum** is directly translated as “episcopate”, which means “office of a bishop” or “bishopric”.

## The instruction for bishops to rule the Church of God has been removed

*“Attendite vobis, et universo gregi, in quo vos Spiritus Sanctus posuit **episcopos regere ecclesiam Dei**, quam acquisivit sanguine suo.”* (Acts 20:28)

- DR: “Take heed to yourselves, and to the whole flock, wherein the Holy Spirit hath placed you **bishops, to rule the church of God**, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”
- NIV: “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.”
- NABRE: “Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock of which the Holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, in which you tend the church of God that he acquired with his own blood.”

## God's call for bishops to be humble, gentle, sober, just and continent has been changed to something else

*“Oportet enim **episcopum** sine crimine esse, sicut Dei dispensatorem : **non superbum**, non iracundum, non vinolentum, non percussorem, non turpis lucri cupidum : sed hospitem, **benignum, sobrium, justum, sanctum, continentem.**” (Titus 1:7-8)*

- DR: “For a **bishop** must be without crime, as the steward of God: **not proud**, not subject to anger, not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre: But given to hospitality, **gentle, sober, just**, holy, **continent...**”
- NIV: “Since an overseer manages God’s household, he must be blameless – not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.”
- NABRE: “For a **bishop** as God’s steward must be blameless, **not arrogant**, not irritable, not a drunkard, not aggressive, not greedy for sordid gain, but hospitable, a lover of goodness, temperate, **just**, holy, and self-controlled.”



## The Sacrament of Ordination for priests has been removed

*“Et cum **constituissent** illis per singulas ecclesias **presbyteros**, et orassent cum jejunationibus, commendaverunt eos Domino, in quem crediderunt.”* (Acts 14:22 | 23)

- DR: “And when they had **ordained to them priests** in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, in whom they believed.”
- NIV: “Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.”
- NABRE: “They appointed presbyters for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith.”

## The definition of a holy priest has been changed

*“Qui bene praesunt **presbyteri**, duplici honore digni habeantur : **maxime qui laborant in verbo et doctrina.**”*  
(1 Timothy 5:17)

- DR: “Let the **priests** that rule well, be esteemed worthy of double honour: **especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.**”
- NIV: “The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.”
- NABRE: “Presbyters who preside well deserve double honor, especially those who toil in preaching and teaching.”

## The authority of an ordained priest or bishop to forgive and absolve sins “in the person of Christ” has been removed

*“Cui autem aliquid donastis, et ego: nam et ego quod donavi, si quid donavi, propter vos in **persona Christi**,”* (2 Corinthians 2:10)

- DR: “And to whom you have pardoned any thing, I also. For, what I have pardoned, if I have pardoned any thing, for your sakes have I done it in the **person of Christ.**”
- NIV: “Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake,”
- NABRE: “Whomever you forgive anything, so do I. For indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, has been for you in the presence of Christ,”

## God's prophecy of an everlasting priesthood with holy vestments has been obscured

***“indues sanctis vestibus, ut ministrent mihi, et unctio eorum in sacerdotium sempiternum proficiat.”*** (Exodus 40:13)

- DR: **“Thou shalt put on them the holy vestments, that they may minister to me, and that the unction of them may prosper to an everlasting priesthood.”**
- NIV: “Then dress Aaron in the sacred garments, anoint him and consecrate him so he may serve me as priest.”
- NABRE: “Clothe Aaron with the sacred vestments and anoint him, thus consecrating him as my priest.”

## A “sister” in Christ has conveniently being replaced with a “wife” – an attack on God’s desire for priests to be celibate

*“numquid non habemus **potestatem mulierem sororem** circumducendi **sicut et ceteri Apostoli, et fratres Domini, et Cephas?**” (1 Corinthians 9:5)*

- DR: “Have we not power to carry about a **woman, a sister, as well as** the rest of the apostles, and the **brethren** of the Lord, and Cephas?”
- NIV: “Don’t we have the right to take a believing wife along with us, as do the other apostles and the Lord’s brothers and Cephas?”
- NABRE: “Do we not have the right to take along a Christian wife, as do the rest of the apostles, and the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?”

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Here St Paul is referring to brothers and sisters in Christ who accompanied the Apostles, not their wives!

In 1 Corinthians 7:8, St Paul makes it clear he is not married and had no desire to be married: *“But I say to the unmarried, and to the widows: It is good for them if they so continue, even as I.”*