



St Joseph's Catholic Church

NEW MALDEN

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Prayers for Priests

The Year for Priests

June 2009 – June 2010

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI has inaugurated a *Year for Priests* to run from June 2009 until Jun 2010, beginning of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, June 19th 2009. The year marks the 150th anniversary of the death of St John Vianney, the 'Cure d'Ars'. The purpose of the year, declares the Pope, "*is to encourage priests in striving for spiritual perfection on which, above all, the effectiveness of their ministry depends*".

During this time we encourage you to pray for your priests, especially on the First Friday of every month (dedicated to the Sacred Heart) and during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The priest holds the key to the treasures of heaven: it is he who opens the door: he is the steward of the good Lord; the administrator of his goods ... The priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you.

St John Vianney

The Diocesan Daily Prayer for Priests

Heavenly Father, grant that our priests may be strengthened and healed by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate. May the Word they proclaim give them courage and wisdom. We pray that all those whom they seek to serve may see in them the love and care of Jesus, our eternal High Priest, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer for Vocations

Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to enter the Priesthood or the Religious Life may have the generosity to answer your call, so that all who seek your help may always find it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Seminary Students

Lord, look kindly on the many young men who are training for the priesthood throughout your Holy Church. Fill their hearts with the grace of perseverance and courage, so that they may reach their goal of ordination, and continue the work of the Apostles on our world today. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Priests who have died

Grant, we beseech you, O Lord, that the souls of those who served you in the sacred priesthood during this life on earth, may find eternal joy in the glories of heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.