

## **A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS**

By St. Therese of Lisieux

O Jesus, eternal Priest,  
keep your priests within the shelter  
of Your Sacred Heart,  
where none may touch them.  
Keep unstained their anointed hands,  
which daily touch Your Sacred Body.  
Keep unsullied their lips,  
daily purpled with you Precious Blood.  
Keep pure and unearthly their hearts,  
sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood.  
Let your holy love surround them and  
shield them from the world's contagion.  
Bless their labors with abundant fruit and  
may the souls to whom they minister  
be their joy and consolation  
here and in heaven their beautiful  
and everlasting crown.  
Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR DEACONS**

Lord Jesus Christ, servant of all,  
send your spirit upon our deacons  
as they serve your church.  
Give them eyes to see the needs of your people.  
Give them a discerning mind to know your truth.  
Give them a generous spirit  
when they are tired but needed.  
Give them a humble heart  
when their work goes unnoticed.  
Give them peace of mind in obedience and service.  
Give them health of body so they  
may serve with strength.  
Make them fertile ground for your inspiration  
and love.  
Comfort them when they question themselves  
and their ministry.  
Grant them grace as they age  
so they may share your wisdom.  
Make their heart like yours  
so they may love your people.  
Amen.