

PEAK

What can the faithful do for their priests during this Year for Priests? Since the Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual lives, and we receive the Eucharist through the hands of our priests, the following acronym is very relevant: PEAK.

P- Pray. Priests need the prayers of the faithful in order that they become the men God has called them to be. We pray that all our priests become saints like their patron, St. John Vianney.

E- Encourage. Encourage young men that show the qualities that would make a good priest to at least consider the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood; let it be a viable option in their life. Considering the priesthood should be natural for all Catholic young men.

A- Affirm. Your spiritual fathers need affirmation. When you hear a good homily, witness a baptism or marriage that really touches your heart, or out of gratitude for receiving the Eucharist, write your priest a letter. Priests hear a lot of bad news; you would be amazed what one letter of affirmation can do to touch the heart and soul of your priest, and thus build him up.

K- Know. Increase your knowledge of the gift of the priesthood to the Church. The priesthood is the very core of our Church's identity. As Jesus gave his very life two thousand years ago, our priests continue to hand on to us the Body of Christ and to reach out the hand of Christ in healing and absolving our sins. Appreciate the value of celibacy that your priests have entered into.