

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

In ages past, whenever a grievous scandal happens in the life of Holy Mother Church, our Lord calls men and women to a higher degree of sanctity to prove His love for His Church. Now, more than ever, our Lord still calls us to a life of holiness, so that He can bring about the healing that He desires for us individually and His Church.

Recently, many faithful members of the laity have asked how they can contribute for the healing of priests from all the recent scandals. It is very difficult to ignore the voice of the Lord speaking through the laity who loves the priesthood and priests. We must do something to respond to the Lord and to these faithful men and women. On August 22, the Feast day of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a group of about forty laity came together at the Chapel of St. Rita in Rockford, in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, to begin a new Army of Adorers, “Adorers of the Royal High Priest.” With this, we are hoping to invite you to be an adorer and intercessor for priests. This is a personal invitation. The group has no canonical status at this time. But we must begin praying for priests now and invoking our Merciful High Priest, Jesus Christ to have mercy on us. The Lord needs a family and an army to join hand in hand in prayer with the rest of the Mystical Body to fight the evil that harms His Church and His priests.

Please let me know if you are interested to be a part of this spiritual family of adorers and intercessors for priests. All the necessary information (oblation form, prayers, and contact sheet) are available in the parish office. When someone discerns that the Lord is calling them to this form of intentional prayer and adoration in union with many other members of the lay faithful, an “oblation” is made individually in the presence of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Please keep a copy for yourself (to renew on Good Friday every year) and then leave a copy at the parish office, along with your personal contact sheet; this is necessary so we can keep everyone in the loop on future “once a year” opportunities to pray together or other Adorer Army updates. May God continue to sustain us all with His abundant grace during this purification of the Church!

United with the Priests of the Confraternity of the Merciful Heart of Jesus,
Fr. John

ADORERS OF THE ROYAL HIGH PRIEST
(A spiritual family of adorers and intercessors for priests.)

- The Adorers of the Royal High Priest is a spiritual family associated with the Confraternity of Jesus Our Merciful Priest. It is composed of faithful lay men and women and consecrated religious dedicated to Eucharistic adoration and acts of reparation for priests.
- A person who is called to be an intercessor for priests and desires to be a member of the Adorers of the Royal High Priest must be a Catholic who desires to live a deeper union with God through the sacraments, fidelity to one's particular vocation in life, a desire to live a virtuous life and to intercede for priests through their prayers.
- A person who desires to become an Adorer of the Royal High Priest, must make a private Act of Oblation to the Royal High Priest before the Blessed Sacrament and sends the signed copy to the priest-in-charge of the Confraternity of Jesus Our Merciful Priest.
- The Act of Oblation is to be renewed every Good Friday in imitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Beloved Disciple, St. John and the other disciples who remained at the Foot of the Cross despite its scandal.
- An adorer is to make a Eucharistic Holy Hour of Reparation for Priests every Thursday (or another day of the week if Thursday is difficult for one's vocation and work) and pray every day a Prayer for Priests and the Chaplet of Reparation for Priests.
- An adorer is to keep a healthy friendship with priests but not to burden them with lengthy conversations and unnecessary correspondence so as to avoid any unnecessary attachments.
- The Adorers of the Royal High Priest supports each other through prayer and friendship and are united with their common love to Christ the High Priest and His priests.
- Every member enjoys the spiritual benefit of being a part of a spiritual family of priests, consecrated religious and faithful laity. The prayer of every member is also a sign of continuous intercession for each other as members of the Mystical Body of Christ.
- A once a year gathering is determined for the spiritual enrichment and fraternal support of the members.
- May God who has begun this good work in us bring it to completion in the Day of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.