

April 22, 2011

Please insert this information (long or short form) in your Sunday Bulletin.

*****Insert for May 1*****



CALL TO CONVERSION AND HOLINESS

Special Need for Priestly Vocations in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Where does the priest come from?

Long Form

In the Old Testament, we read of Melchizedek, who is considered a “figure” or “type” of Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. He is a mysterious man, seeming to have no origin that we know of. While this is a wonderful image for the Son of God, “having neither beginning nor end,” priests who are called to exercise the ministry of Jesus certainly have a definite beginning because they are called from our midst.

The mystery of God calling a young man to follow Him as a priest is a divine mystery, which can never be fully understood. However, according to God’s plan, there are also human factors that can cooperate with God in the fulfillment of that plan: a home, in which the priesthood is esteemed, along with the good example of joyful, faithful priests, have been shown to be the greatest human instruments of this mysterious call.

You are invited to read Cardinal Rigali’s Pastoral Letter that can be found on the home page of the Archdiocese – www.archphila.org.

Short Form

The mystery of God calling a young man to follow Him as a priest is a divine mystery, which can never be fully understood. However, according to God’s plan, there are also human factors that can cooperate with God in the fulfillment of that plan: a home, in which the priesthood is esteemed, along with the good example of joyful, faithful priests, have been shown to be the greatest human instruments of this mysterious call.

You are invited to read Cardinal Rigali’s Pastoral Letter that can be found on the home page of the Archdiocese – www.archphila.org.