

Catechism of the Crisis in the Catholic Church “VIII The Catholic Priesthood”

74) What is the Catholic priest?

The Catholic priest is the minister on earth of the great eternal priest, Jesus Christ, the only mediator (*pontiff*: bridge-builder) between God and men. By his sacerdotal ordination, he participates in His powers. He alone is able validly to celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass, to forgive sins, to bless and to consecrate. The priest is therefore not first and foremost the president of an assembly; he possesses faculties the simple faithful do not. For it was to the Apostles alone and not to all the disciples that Christ said: “Do this in memory of me” (Lk. 22:19).

- **Where is a definition of priesthood to be found?**

The Epistle to the Hebrews teaches: “For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in the things that appertain to God, that he may offer up gifts and sacrifices for sins” (Heb. 5:1).

- **What does this definition show?**

This definition shows that the priest is taken from among men and thus set apart to be consecrated to God; he is ordained for men and thus entrusted with a public function: the relations of the faithful with God; he is consecrated as one who offers sacrifice.

- **So the priest is essentially a mediator?**

Yes, the priest is essentially a *mediator*, an intermediary, between God and the faithful. (It is absurd to claim, as Luther did, that all the faithful are priests!)

- **What is the priest’s most important function?**

The priest is above all the man of sacrifice, as the Epistle to the Hebrews says. Now, there is only one efficacious sacrifice in the New Testament: that of our Lord Jesus Christ, which the priest as minister may offer in His name by celebrating Mass. The priest is first of all the man of the Mass.

- **Where is this truth expressed?**

In the Ordination rite, the bishop says to the newly ordained priest when he gives him the chalice and the paten: “Receive the power to offer to God the sacrifice and to celebrate Mass for the living and the dead” (Roman Pontifical).

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Confessions:

Sundays: 7:30-7:50am; 9:50-10:20am
Thursdays: 10:30-10:50am
First Fridays: 6:30-6:50pm
Saturdays: 8:30-8:50am

Liturgical Offices		Second Collection PARISH	
Sunday 11th February: Quinquagesima Sunday, (II cl) <i>Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes</i>			
8:00 am	Low Mass ACI: J Mezzano ACII: K Pepping		
10:30 am	Sung Mass		
5:30 pm	Vespers, Rosary and Benediction		
Monday 12th February : The 7 Holy Founders of the Servite Order, C, (III cl)			
7:15 am	Low Mass		
8:45 am	Benediction		
Tuesday 13th February: Feria, (IV cl)			
7:15 am	Low Mass		
6:00 pm	Rosary and Benediction followed by Mass		
Wednesday 14th February: ASH WEDNESDAY, (I cl) Obligatory Fast & Abstinence			
5:30 am	Blessing and Imposition of Ashes followed by Low Mass		
7:15 am	Low Mass		
8:50 am	Sung Mass		
7:00 pm	Low Mass		
Thursday 15th February: Feria in Lent, (III cl) Ss Faustinus & Jovita, MM			
7:15 am	Low Mass		
10:00 am	Holy Hour		
11:00 am	Low Mass		
Friday 16th February: Feria in Lent, (III cl)			
7:15 am	Low Mass		
6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by Low Mass		
Saturday 17th February: Feria in Lent, (III cl)			
7:15 am	Low Mass		
9:00 am	Low Mass followed by Novena to the Infant of Prague		
Sunday 18th February: First Sunday in Lent, (I cl)			
8:00 am	Low Mass ACI: M. Massoud (Mass at La Perouse)		
10:30 am	Sung Mass		
5:30 pm	Vespers, Rosary and Benediction		
Altar Servers' Roster – Sung Mass 10:30am, 18th February 2018			
MCI:	S. Pepping	ACII:	K. Pepping
TH:	J. Pepping	CB:	A. Amituanai
BB:	N. Didic	TB:	X. Frost
ACI:	M. Didic	TB:	Z. Ulberg

Parish Help	
Cleaning Roster: Saturday 17th February: M. McLeod	
Morning Tea: Sunday 18th February:	
8:00am	Coffee – N/a La Perouse
10:30am	Melisa and Ramona Amituanai Coffee – Monque
Announcements	

In your charity please pray for the souls of:

Patricia Harriette Richards; Alida Peek; Catherine Ellen Leslie; Ida Prasalek; Marion Veronica Ashelford; Nora Doreen Doohan; Patrick Fox

Other Mass Centres Next Sunday 18th February, 2018		
Singleton: 10:00 am		

Friday Catechism: Classes for adults on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 8:20 pm.

Sunday Catechism: Classes today at 9:30am. No classes next week, Sunday 18th, due to the Mass at **La Perouse**.

Blessed Palms: Please return your blessed palms to the box in the hall, so they can be burnt to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday, 14th February.

All-Day Adoration: On Ash Wednesday, 14th February, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8:50 am Sung Mass until just before the 7:00 pm Mass for the intentions indicated by the Superior General of the Society of St Pius X.

40 Hours Devotion: In reparation for the offenses of the Mardi Gras will take place from the evening of Friday 23rd February to Sunday 25th February. Please sign up in the hall: there should always be at least two people present before Our Lord.

Altar Servers and Handmaids: Saturday 17th February.

La Perouse Sunday: Please note well that the 8.00 am Mass next Sunday, 18th February, will be said at La Perouse, Anzac Parade, La Perouse, 2036; in front of the Museum. There will only be the 10.30 am Sung Mass at Rockdale.