



June 1, 2009

Dear Fellow Adorers:

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict the XVI, has declared the year, June 19, 2009 through June 19, 2010, *The Year of the Priest...* “*in order to encourage the striving for spiritual perfection of priests on which, above all, the effectiveness of their ministry depends.*”

I would like to ask our Chapel Leaders at our parishes and other institutions in the Archdiocese where Eucharistic adoration is a custom to encourage our hourly adorers to pray for priests of the Archdiocese, pray for priests they know, pray for priests who remain in their beloved memory. The Pope John Paul II Eucharistic Adoration Association is preparing a holy card with a suitable prayer for this purpose that can be obtained from our office, information can be obtained at our web-site, PJPIIea.

The Year of the Priest represents, therefore, an important opportunity to contemplate once more and with grateful awe the work of the Lord, who “*on the night he was betrayed*, willed to institute the ministerial priesthood, linking it inseparably to the Eucharist, the source and summit of life for the whole Church.

I thank each of you for your devotion this special year of grace where we honor Christ in the person of his priests anointed to serve us until He returns in glory.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago