



Special Edition

Reflections on the Luminous Mysteries by Seminarians of the Rochester, NY, Diocese

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The First Luminous Mystery, The Baptism of our Lord

At the waters of the river Jordan, the voice of the Father testified to the priestly vocation of Christ, our supreme high priest. Each Christian by virtue of his baptismal grace is called to participate in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, yet God calls some of the baptized to participate in the priesthood of Christ in a unique way. When Christian men sincerely answer the call they received in the sacrament of baptism, they place themselves in a position to hear and respond to the call to the sacrament of holy orders. Let us pray that all Catholic

men, especially the young, might give earnest heed to their baptismal vocation that many of them might receive the graces necessary to hear and give heed to the priestly vocation. —*David Tedesche*



The Second Luminous Mystery, The Miracle at the Wedding Feast of Cana

Our Lord Jesus performed the first of his public miracles at the request of his Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was in honor of her request that He first manifested His glory at a wedding feast. Let us honor, love, and invoke her whose prayers are all powerful with her Son that the Church, the Bride of Christ, might be renewed in virginal purity and prepared for the final Wedding Feast of the Lamb, the Day when He returns in glory. Let us pray the

Mother of Jesus, who is the spiritual mother and support of every priest, that young Catholic men would be so in love with God and with the Church that they would leave all behind to follow the priestly vocation to help the Church prepare for the final manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ at his second coming. —*David Tedesche*



The Third Luminous Mystery, Our Lord's Proclamation of the Kingdom

During His earthly ministry Jesus Christ taught all who would listen – and still today he calls men to be teachers. Jesus Christ forgave the sins of many people - and still today calls men to participate in the ministry of reconciliation. He cast out demons - and still today calls men to fight against the powers of Hell. He had compassion on the multitudes, who were like sheep without a shepherd, and still today calls men to be shepherds of His flock. He was a man of prayer, often withdrawing to a quiet place to speak to His Father,

and he taught his disciples to pray, saying: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." *As his disciples, let us obey His command and pray the Father that He would send us many holy priests.* —*Peter Mottola*



The Fourth Luminous Mystery, the Transfiguration

“Our Lord met Moses on the Mount of Transfiguration. They talked about His “exodus” soon to take place. Moses had led the first exodus, passing through the Red Sea, and then providing the people of Israel with miraculous bread in the wilderness. Jesus is now the new Moses, leading his Church out of the slavery of sin through the waters of baptism and providing them with the miraculous bread of the Eucharist as they travel through the wilderness of this world to the promised land of their eternal destiny in the world to come.”

(Steven Ray, *This Rock Magazine*) Let us beseech God the Father to effectively call many young men into the priesthood that the Church might have ministers of these sacraments of salvation. —*Zachary Enes*



The Fifth Luminous Mystery, the Institution of the Most Holy Eucharist.

“Let the whole of mankind tremble, the whole world shake and the heavens exult when Christ, the Son of the living God, is on the altar in the hands of a priest. O admirable heights and sublime lowliness! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! That the Lord of the universe, God and the Son of God, so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under the little form of bread! Look, brothers, at the humility of God and pour out your hearts before Him! Humble yourselves, as well, that you may be exalted by Him. There-

fore, hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves so that He Who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally.” These are the beautiful words of St. Francis of Assisi. We all know that God’s love can only be repaid by love alone. Let us pray, therefore, that young men may so be inspired by the love that God shows us in the holy sacrament of the altar that they might return His love by dedicating themselves totally to Him by entering the ministry of the altar. —*Zachary Enes*

“In service to one, in service to all”

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