

A Priest is an Icon of Christ.

A Catholic priest is the one that is portraying the face of Jesus Christ to the people. A priest can be a secular or a religious. They perform the same sacrifice in the Mass. They become the good Shepherd like Jesus, leading the people to God. They celebrate the Holy Eucharist sacrificing various needs of the people to God. They pray a lot and administer the sacraments to the people. They are always a public figure. Everything they do is to portray the face of Christ to the people. People look at the priest, and they imitate what the priest is doing because he is their spiritual father. St John Vianey once said, "The Priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ"

As a seminarians aspiring to become a priest, what kind of priest do I want to show to the people in the future? Am I ready to give my entire life to the Lord for the good of the people? What kind of image of Jesus do I want present to the people? Is it a good image or a bad image? Everything I do must be configured to Christ.

All this needs preparation, Preparation starts today, though it is not easy to portray the image of Christ and to live a holy life. We must try our best to live it out because it is not a laik blo wanwan. The ministerial priesthood is for Christ, and it is sacred. Because we are human, we fall sometimes, but we must remember that Jesus is the one who invites us to follow him. We must always ask him to help us along to fulfill his mission here on earth when we are in a bad situation.

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