

### ***Hidden Graces***

For My Own reasons, often I keep hidden the workings of My Blessing, so that it is known only in eternity; and often it appears that the Blessings have no results. But wonderful are the workings of the Blessing—for even seemingly fruitless results are still a blessing in disguise.

These are often mysteries of My Providence, which I do not wish to manifest. My blessings often produce effects unknown to the soul. Therefore, have great confidence in this outpouring of My Sacred Heart. Reflect earnestly on this favor to you, though apparent results are hidden from you.

Receive it with good will, and *with the intention to become better*; then will the Blessing penetrate *to the depths of your heart* And produce its effects. Be a child of the Blessing; then you yourself will be a Blessing for others. + + +

#### ***A PRAYER FOR MY PRIEST***

by John J. Cardinal Carberry

*Keep him I pray Thee, Dearest Lord;*

*Keep him, for he is Thine...*

*A priest whose life burns out before*

*Thy consecrated shrine*

*Keep him, for he is in the world,*

*Though from the world apart...*

*When earthly pleasures tempt, allure,*

*Shelter him in Thy heart.*

*Keep him, and comfort him, in hours*

*Of loneliness and pain...*

*When all his life of sacrifice*

*For souls, seems but in vain.*

*Keep him, and remember, Lord.*

*He has no one but Thee.*

*Yet, he has a human heart,*

*With human frailty.*

*Keep him as spotless as the Host,*

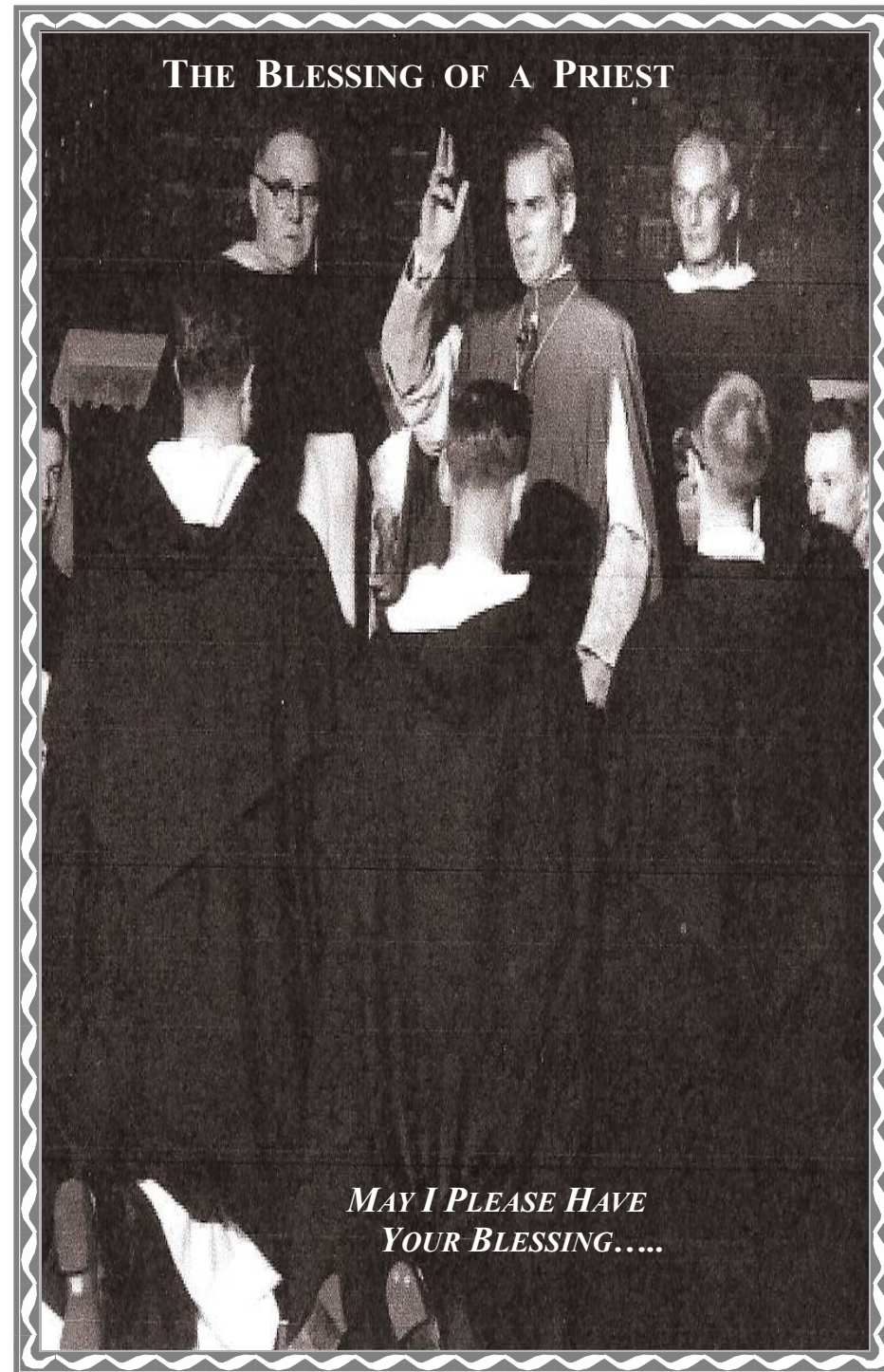
*That daily he does caress.*

*His every thought, and word, and deed,*

*Deign, Dearest Lord, to bless. + + +*

\*(excerpted from Eucharistic Vigil Guide, p.12 by Fr. Archangel M. Sica, O.F.M.)

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## THE BLESSING OF A PRIEST

*\*I once read that Our Lady told a certain saint that, because of graces being received, it is wise to kneel, as well as to be attentive and receptive, when being Blessed by a priest.*

*Here is what Jesus told Theresa Newmann:*

My dear child, I wish to teach you to receive My Blessing with fervor. Realize that something vast takes place when you receive the Blessing of My priest.

The blessing is an outpouring of My Divine holiness. Open your soul and let it become holy through the Blessing, which is a heavenly dew for the soul, through which all that you do can be made fruitful.

Through the power to bless, I have given the priest the power to open the treasure of My Heart, and to pour out from It, a rain of graces on souls. *When the priest blesses, I bless. Then, a vast stream of graces from My Sacred Heart flows into a soul to its fullest capacity.*

By recollection, keep your heart open, in order not to lose the benefit of the Blessing. Through My Blessing, you receive the *grace to love, strength to endure suffering, and assistance for both body and soul.*

My holy Blessing contains all help for the necessities of mankind. Through the Blessing, you are given the strength and desire to seek good, to shun evil, and to enjoy the protection of My children against the powers of darkness.

### ***A Great Privilege***

It is a great privilege when you are permitted by Me to receive the Blessing. You cannot comprehend how much Mercy I extend through it to you. Therefore, never receive the Blessing in a “matter-of-fact” or thoughtless way. *As poor as you are before receiving the Blessing, you are rich after receiving it.*

## ***So Little Prized***

I regret that the Blessing of the Church *is so little prized and so seldom received.* Your good will is strengthened through the Blessing: your undertakings receive My special Providence; your weakness is overcome by My power; your thoughts and intentions are spiritualized; and all bad influences neutralized.

I have given My Blessing vast power. It proceeds from the unending love of My Sacred Heart.

### ***Zeal Begets Efficacy***

The Greater the zeal with which the Blessing is given *and* received, the greater its efficacy. Whether a child is blessed or the whole world simultaneously, the Blessing is far greater than a thousand words.

Reflect that God is immense—infinately immense. How small are all things in comparison to Him! It is all the same whether one or many receive the Blessing. This does not matter, for I give to each according to the measure of his or her confidence and faith.

Since I am infinitely rich in all that is good, you are permitted to receive without measure. You cannot hope for too much from My Blessing; know that all will exceed your fondest expectations.

### ***A Blessing Unites A Soul To God***

My child, protect all who give Blessings, and esteem highly what has been blessed; then you will please Me, your God.

*Know that as often as you are blessed, you are united closer to Me, sanctified anew, and healed and protected with the love of My Sacred Heart.*