**Prayer for Priests by Pope Benedict** XVI

Lord Jesus Christ, eternal High Priest,

You offered yourself to the Father on the altar of the Cross   
and through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit   
gave Your priestly people a share in Your redeeming sacrifice.   
Hear our prayer for the sanctification of our priests.   
Grant that all who are ordained to the ministerial priesthood   
may be ever more conformed to You, the Divine Master.   
May they preach the Gospel with pure heart and clear conscience.  
Let them be shepherds according to Your own Heart,   
single-minded in service to You and to the Church   
and shining examples of a holy, simple and joyful life.   
Through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Your Mother and ours,  
draw all priests and the flocks entrusted to their care   
to the fullness of eternal life where you live and reign   
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,   
one God, forever and ever. Amen.