

INTENTIONAL PRESBYTERATES I - RETREAT MODEL

INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTS AND PRESBYTERATES



Saint Meinrad
Seminary & School of Theology



“CLAIMING OUR COMMON SENSE OF PURPOSE AS DIOCESAN PRIESTS”

A Retreat Model

This retreat model is based upon the themes found in “Intentional Presbyterates I – Assembly Model.” Designed to serve the needs of your diocesan presbyterate, this retreat is provided by Fr. J. Ronald Knott, director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates, a

program of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. The retreat introduces the concept of presbyteral unity as a formation issue beyond that of individual priests. To schedule Fr. J. Ronald Knott for your presbyteral retreat, contact Saint Meinrad’s Institute for Priests and Presbyterates.



Shepherds of Christ’s flock ought to:

- (a) make the ministry given to them the principal means of their sanctification, reproducing in themselves the holiness of the things they handle
- (b) lead the Church to holiness through their own example
- (c) preserve the bond of priestly fraternity
- (d) find their sanctification through their attachment to, and collaboration with, their bishop.

Lumen Gentium, V

TYPICAL CONFERENCES

1. The Spiritual Leadership of Priests in the Universal Call to Holiness
2. Stages in Spiritual Growth: Where are You and Where are the People You Lead?
3. Influencing People to Move from Where They are to Deeper and Deeper Discipleship
4. The Character of a Pastor in Exercising Authority
5. A Spirituality for Diocesan Priests and Those Who Work with Them
6. The Radical Communitarian Dimension of Ordained Ministry
7. The Great Scandal of Presbyteral Polarization
8. What is Required of Individual Priests for Building Presbyteral Unity?
9. What is Required of Others for Building the Unity of the Presbyterate?

The main reason for a unified presbyterate is to offer better quality pastoral ministry to the People of God. Having this event covered in the diocesan paper, with pictures, could be an opportunity to educate the laity on the presbyterate's efforts of ongoing formation.

TESTIMONIALS

The unique perspective and emphasis you placed on unity within the presbyterate, and between the priests and their bishop, were of particular importance to me and to my priests as we continue to strive in our priestly / presbyteral identity. Many commented that you helped them understand the theological roots for priestly fraternity; some remarked that your talk helped them become more aware of their responsibility to care for [their] brothers in the priesthood.

Sean Cardinal O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston

Your words were well thought out and clear. Your ideas encouraged us to build fraternity in a presbyterate with increasing numbers of priests working and living alone. Finally, your humor helped to keep things from getting too heavy. Afterward, attendees remained behind for a half hour continuing at their tables the discussion you started despite the fact that fresh coffee and donuts were available in the vestibule!

Francis Cardinal George, OMI, Archdiocese of Chicago

What a wonderful retreat the presbyterate of the Diocese of Knoxville experienced this past week with you! ...you were right on target with what we hoped this retreat would be. You helped us to recall again that as priests we are called to be men of communion and that this call is not an option. Your leadership during our retreat was a concrete example of priesthood lived in communion.

Bishop Richard F. Stika, Diocese of Knoxville



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