

## GOSPEL PEARLS

# Helping priests to help us

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*As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. (Mark 1: 29-39)*

In answering God's call, priests are responsible for public worship as well as personal prayer, proclaiming the Gospel to all people, and distributing God's Grace through the Sacraments. Like Jesus, priests, too, must place this mission above all other concerns. Let us try to help our priests in terms of daily material and practical necessities so as to allow them to devote themselves entirely to their spiritual mission which is to our benefit.