

SAID ED April 30, 2017

The Life of a Priest

The life of a priest is enriched and nurtured with the love of the people he serves. People's prayers, kindness and support sustain our ministry and vocation. When you come to our church to participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist or when you and your children join us for faith formation, you become part of our beautiful ministry and personal history. We are so fortunate to share with you a sincere friendship that is fulfilled and cherished everyday at the table of the Eucharist. For this reason, when a family or a person suffers in our community, it also becomes our suffering. Please be assured that our silent prayers and Mass intentions are offered everyday for your particular needs.

As you might know, this is my second assignment since I became a priest almost three years ago, and I enjoy every second of it. My gratitude with all of you for making possible my presence among you goes beyond words. I am also eternally grateful with God for having the opportunity and the grace to serve in this fantastic community during my early life as Priest. It is impossible not to fall in love with the people we serve. I am sure our priests, deacons and pastoral staff would agree with me on this!

My journey toward priesthood began at the age of sixteen when I went to the college seminary in my country. Nevertheless, this journey was transformed and enriched when I came to the Diocese of Rochester to finish my studies.

The day of my ordination to the priesthood was perhaps one of the most beautiful days in my life. You my friends, made this possible! Your generosity, kindness and love fulfill Pope Francis' words: "...we are one faith, family and community." I will be serving as a priest in Rochester for the rest of my life. It is an honor to be among you as the servant of the Lord.

My constant prayers, service and ministry among you are my expression of gratitude. You supported my entire education and formation to the Priesthood through the Catholic Ministries Appeal that takes place in our parishes every year. Your contribution transforms the lives of so many people not only in our Diocese but also around the world. Your generosity transforms the lives of so many communities.

To all of you, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your kindness through our CMA enables our Diocese to extend the process of evangelization to those less fortunate. It helps a neighbor in need of food or shelter. It helps young people to find their way to God through our youth or campus ministry programs. It also allows the education of our future priests, deacons and youth leaders. Your generosity will be multiplied for blessings and help to those in need.

Blessings and Prayers,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Sergio".