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This project is designed to gather information about the history, lives and ministry of married priests and their families. All submissions will be archived at the University of Notre Dame, for use by scholars and historians of the future.

Guidelines for submissions:

!) Your story can be told as a written document,

a) in essay form, about 4 to 6 pages, double spaced please,

b) in a play or poem or other written artistic format

c) The story should include a focus on insight into the married priest's family and community, how they have been influenced by the mission of the married priest. This can include parents and siblings, wife and children of the married priest. Anyone else who has been impacted by the married priest can be included in the narrative as well.

d) Positivity about the life-story should be shared, along with whatever negativity was part of your story. What were the rewards of the priesthood for you? Was there a particularly difficult part of your priesthood?

e) The bare bones of the story should be woven into the richer narrative. That is, we would like you to tell specifics- who- what-where-when, etc., but to flesh out these facts with insight about attitudes, emotions and nuances about your life story.

f) The writer might ask some of the following questions:

- What led to my decision to enter the seminary/ get ordained (if you were ordained)?
- What was my family of origin's situation at that time?
- What was my emotional attitude about the priesthood?
- What were the theological influences of that time?
- How did my seminary studies prepare me to face the realities of priestly life?
- What vows did I take? Which of them were positive? Which were more difficult?
- How did my feelings change and develop over my time in the priesthood?
- How do I link my later years of priesthood to my earlier years?
- Did my thoughts about my priesthood change suddenly or was the change more gradual? Why?
- Were there significant personal or global events that impacted me?
- What influence did my family have on my decisions at this time?
- How did the friendship of other priests influence me?
- How did other priest's leave-taking impact me?
- What were the circumstances under which a woman or life-partner enter my life?
- How did that person change me emotionally?

- If I could do this aspect of my life over, would I do it this way again? How would I do things differently?
- What has been the role of grace in this process? Do I believe in the direct guidance of God in my decisions?
- What is my relationship with the institutional church at this time?
- What is my concept of ministry in my life at this time?
- Am I still a priest? In what ways yes, and what ways, no?
- How do I foresee the ideal priesthood of the future?

e) Family members might ask the following questions:

- How has my partner (father, husband, brother, friend)'s priesthood impacted my life?
- What influences have I brought to his life?
- How has my family-of-origin dealt with the priest in my life?
- What influences has he brought into my life?
- How does our family differ from a non-priest's family?
- How do the children of priests view their father?
- How do the children of priests view the church?
- To what degree are the children of priests spiritual or religious? In what ways?
- Do I have regrets about how our lives have been lived? What would I have changed if I had the power to do so?
- What is my concept of my partner's ministry?
- How does that concept fit with my own personal ministry or mission?
- Is my story separate from my priest-partner's story? How?
- For divorced mates of priests: how did my partner's priesthood affect our union?
- For loved ones of deceased priests: what are the crucial elements I want people to know about this priest's legacy? What are my memories of his priesthood that stand out?

2) Your story can be told by other technical means:

- a videotaped family session in which family members discuss your priesthood
- a taped monologue in which you discuss the above questions (or others)
- a taped reading in which you ruminate about your priesthood through the poetic or theological or sociological works of others
- a facilitated taped interview, in which you respond to questions posed by another (though you can determine in advance what questions will be asked.)
- for the technologically astute, other options of your own design
- any artistic format, including musical compositions, or paintings or drawings that have a narrative component attached.

3) Legal issues: At some point in the process of collecting your story, you will be asked to sign an agreement about the uses to which this story can be put. This will likely include scholarly research, dramatic development, or a written form such as an article for Corpus Reports, a book, etc. You will also be given an option to keep your story confidential for a certain time frame. Your facilitator will discuss these options with you before your submission is finalized. All submissions will become the property of Corpus, Inc.

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