

ST. MICHAEL PRAYER WARRIORS

DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF PRIESTS

DECEMBER 2008

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7

Seminarian Profile: Andrew Cordonnier



ANDREW CORDONNIER
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Seminarian Andrew Cordonnier is a senior at The Pontifical College Josephinum after growing up in Russia, Ohio, graduating from Russia High School and Upper Valley JVS. He is a member of St. Remy parish

where he was active member in the Youth Group. Andrew has felt the Lord 'tugging at his heart' for much of his life, though he tried to dismiss the thoughts but could never quite 'get rid of them.' A number of people have had an impact on his vocation, especially his Grandmother who often spoke about priests and held them in high regard; as well as Fr. Amberger and Fr. Baker, who preached on vocations and encouraged him in his discernment.

Prayer is an important part of his life, especially being able to have quiet time in prayer in between the rush of classes and academic work. In anticipation of ordination, he is praying the

Liturgy of the Hours (most of them!) as well as other devotions. He also knows that that there is an 'army of people' praying for him. When he returns home to his parish, he meets 'parishioners who tell me that they are praying for me, and I know they are constantly gaining the graces I need to get through my seminary training. I am forever indebted to everyone who offers up even a single prayer for me, and I always try to thank God for those people.'

When asked for any final thoughts for any young man considering the priesthood, Andrew responded 'Go for it! You will not regret it, I promise.'

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ Mass for Vocations, December 31, Midnight, St. Peter in Chains Cathedral.
- ◆ Vocation Evening, Mount St. Mary's Seminary, January 14, 2009
- ◆ Northern Call of the King Conference, January 18, 2009, St. Mary's, Piqua, Ohio
- ◆ College Day, Josephinum, February 16, 2009
- ◆ For details, see the 'Upcoming Events' page at cincinnati-vocations.org



The Holy Father Speaks

The apostles, appointed by the Lord, carried out their mission by calling other men as bishops, as priests and as deacons in order to fulfill the command of the risen Jesus who sent them forth to all people in every age.

The writings of the New Testament are unanimous in stressing that it is the same Spirit of Christ who introduces these men into the ministry through the laying on of hands which transmits the gift of the

Spirit. They are called and empowered to continue the same ministry of reconciliation, of shepherding the flock of God and of teaching.

Therefore, priests are called to prolong the presence of Christ, the one high priest, embodying his way of life and making him visible in the midst of the flock entrusted to their care. We find this clearly and precisely stated in the first letter of Peter: "I exhort the elders among you,

as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ as well as a partaker in the glory that is to be revealed. Tend the flock of God that is your charge, not by constraint but willingly, not for shameful gain but eagerly, not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd is manifested you will obtain the unfading crown of glory".

- Pope John Paul II, *Pastores Dabo Vobis* 15



**ST. MICHAEL
PRAYER WARRIORS**

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ENCOURAGING THE
YOUNG MEN AND
WOMEN OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI TO LIVE
THEIR FAITH RADICALLY
AS PRIESTS AND
RELIGIOUS OF JESUS
CHRIST FOR THE
SALVATION OF SOULS!

HOLY FATHER'S DEC PRAYER INTENTION:

THAT ESPECIALLY IN MISSION COUNTRIES, CHRISTIANS MAY SHOW WITH ACTS OF FRATERNAL LOVE THAT THE CHILD BORN IN THE STABLE AT BETHLEHEM IS THE LUMINOUS HOPE OF THE WORLD.

St. Michael Prayer Warriors is an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Vocation Office whose members agree to pray before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life for at least one hour per month. Voluntary sacrifice is also encouraged as an offering of self for the gift of vocations. The 'Prayer Warriors' newsletter is published ten times per year, and is distributed electronically to parishes, seminarians, members, and potential candidates for the seminary.

Members also agree to encourage their pastor in his own ongoing conversion, for priests remain the best recruiter of priests. For this, members will pray for their bishops and priests during their hour of adoration.

As the Master instructs us to pray for more laborers for His fields, we willingly agree to this undertaking.

To enroll for the monthly newsletter, send an email to vocations@catholiccincinnati.org or call the Vocation Office at 513-421-3131.

Prayer Intentions, December



**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE—
DECEMBER 12**

This month features the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Indian Cuauhtlatoatzin was baptized in 1525 and received the name of Juan Diego. On Dec. 9, 1531, Our Lady asked him to

request that a shrine be built at Tepeyac. The Bishop did not believe Juan Diego and asked for a sign. On Dec. 12th, Juan Diego gathered roses and took them to the Bishop. When he opened his mantle, the flowers fell on the ground and on his mantle was an image of the Lady in the apparition. In 1946, Pope Pius XII declared Our Lady of Guadalupe to be the Patroness of the Americas. The celebration was raised to the level of a solemnity and finally a liturgical feast for the entire continent.

Prayer Intentions:

- Archbishops Pilarczyk
- Archbishop Schnurr
- Pastor and Associate Pastor of your Parish
- For Seminarians during the new winter term

Outline of Prayer for Dec

- Rosary, meditation on the Joyful Mysteries
- Scripture Reading: The Nativity; Luke 2:1-20
- Meditate on the human sacrifices that were stopped with the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe and pray for the end of the holocaust of abortion.

A project for Children: Print off a picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe and color it as the story is read.

Sacrifice: Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. Consider fasting from TV or all technology during lent or vastly reducing it to 1 hour a day.

Charity: Don't forget to include your priests on your Christmas card list as well as include a gift card to a book store, gas station or local restaurant.

