



My Vocation by Father Pat

On Monday, May 13, I was preparing to head out to the annual Lexington Priests Convocation, which began later that day at St. Meinrad Benedictine Archabbey and Seminary in Southern Indiana. May 13 also happened to be the 41st anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. Just before I left, I had noon Mass. As I held the host in my hands, I had one of those simple, but awe filled moments when I realize that I am truly holding Jesus in my hand. In a unique way, I was helping Him break Himself for us. I was helping Him share Himself with others. And I thought, "I love being a priest!" I am so honored to be called by Jesus to be a priest." It is a very humbling, but very fulfilling realization! I know I'm not perfect, but I would like to share with you some of the things I love about being a priest.

- ☑ Hearing confessions
- ☑ Giving Holy Communion to children for the first time
- ☑ Helping people rediscover their faith
- ☑ Potlucks
- ☑ Singing
- ☑ Visiting homes
- ☑ Baptisms!
- ☑ Full churches
- ☑ Building community
- ☑ My brother priests
- ☑ Working as a team
- ☑ Saying Mass. Most of all, saying Mass!

The topic of the convocation that I attended was vocations! There are many single people in our parish. I want you to know how much I love my priesthood! I want you to know what a joy it is to serve God. And I want all of you to love your vocation as well. Now I invite you all to consider what qualities you would hope to find in a priest or religious. Can you think of anyone with these qualities that would make a good priest or religious?

More later.