



Letter to be published or read in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Las Vegas Seminary and Clergy Education and Development Collection. This Second Collection to be taken on the weekend of July 22 and 23, 2023

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Las Vegas' annual second collection for Seminary and Clergy Education and Development takes place on the weekend of July 22 and 23, 2023. This collection supplements the ongoing education of our priests. It also helps offset the cost of tuition, housing and the education of our seminarians.

Our Archdiocese is blessed to have priests who give so generously of their lives to the service of the Church and its people. They celebrate Mass on Sundays and during the week, hear confessions, anoint the sick, baptize, celebrate marriages, and pray for the dead. Our priests preach the Word of God from the pulpit and teach it in classroom settings. They also listen to their people's joys and sorrows and promote works of charity.

I am so very happy to report that this year's seminary class for the Archdiocese of Las Vegas has a total of *ten* men studying for the priesthood! Five of the seminarians are studying at Mount Angel Seminary in Saint Benedict, Oregon, four at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California, and one at the University of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois.

This past June, I ordained Fr. Jacob Knee, a former Episcopalian priest to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Las Vegas under a special Pastoral Provision recently affirmed by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012.

Your continued support of this collection conveys your appreciation of our priests and seminarians. I ask that you keep them in your prayers.

Assuring you of my prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+George Leo Thomas".

+George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.
Archbishop of Las Vegas

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