

(The following letter is being sent to all women priests of the Roman Catholic Womenpriests movement as an aid in the acceleration of gender parity, and in collaboration with women worldwide on International Women's Day. Check out this page next month for the Prayer for Vocations that is referenced in this letter.)

*International Women's Day
(March 8) is a global day celebrating
the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.
The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.*



Dear Sister Priest,

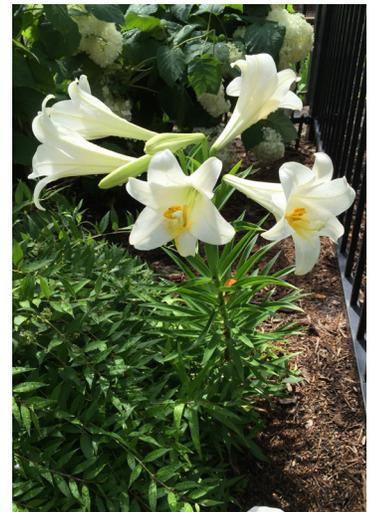
Joseph Kuciejczyk believes that, had the saintly Pope John Paul I lived through the 1970's and beyond, women priests might have indeed been sanctioned by the Church during that pontificate. Joe was especially hopeful after learning of Ludmila and the other women who had been secretly ordained in Czechoslovakia in the 70's. In 1990 he published and copyrighted a Prayer for Vocations for Women that he had written. He used the prayer as a lead-in to other prayers from around the world that the Knights of Columbus in his Chapter prayed during National Vocations Awareness Week, I believe for several years.

We're a tad late for National Vocation Awareness Week, which was in November, but we are very close to The World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which happens every year, worldwide, on Good Shepherd Sunday. This year's date for that is April 17.

And so, on this International Day of Women, I send you this very special gift from the author, one of the founding members of the Therese of Divine Peace Community, who lives and breathes the vision of the Vatican II Church; and from the Community itself, who financed the printing and mailing of these bookmarks so that you might have sufficient time for distributing them in your own communities, among your friends and colleagues, and perhaps even to your local Ordinary.

If you email me, elsiemc@sbcglobal.net, I will happily send you the file so that you might print your own copies as you see fit. I can also mail you more of the finished product, if you prefer, at cost (including postage).

Meanwhile, may these last days of Lent be days of special grace for all of us in our ministries as shepherd priests. And may the blessings of the Risen Christ continue to be manifested through the works of our hands and the words of our hearts as we celebrate the gifts of new life this Easter will most assuredly bring.



Shalom,
Rev. Elsie McGrath
Mr. Joseph Kuciejczyk
Therese of Divine Peace
Inclusive Roman Catholic Community
St. Louis, MO
March 8, 2016

