



BISHOP OF STEUBENVILLE

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March 19, 2018

Dear Parent(s)

As we quickly approach Holy Week and Holy Thursday, I wish to thank you for your son, (Priest's name). On Holy Thursday we celebrate the birthday of the sacramental priesthood of Jesus Christ. Fittingly, I thank you for enabling the people of God to gaze upon the Kingdom of God as your son celebrates the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Furthermore, your son stands in the person of Jesus Christ at the Sacrament of Penance, lifting the weight of sin off of those who approach him for God's forgiveness. Jesus Christ has bestowed upon his Church, and specifically his priests, to share his presence in both the Word and in the sacraments, thereby strengthening our brothers and sisters in grace.

As the parent of (Priest's name) you have had a direct role in the preparation and formation of your son to be a distributor of God's grace. May your Holy Week be a most blessed one as we gaze upon the face of Jesus and prepare to celebrate his Easter Resurrection. With prayerful best wishes and entrusting you to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, patroness of the Diocese of Steubenville, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Jeffrey M. Monforton
Bishop of Steubenville

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